



School Newsletter 3

November 2015

www.waterthorpeinfantschool.co.uk



Dear Parents/Carers,

We had a busy run up to half term and the children enjoyed events such as the Harvest festival and the discos. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of these.

Our School Council conference at Rothervalley was a great event and the children enjoyed the opportunity to work on team building tasks with pupils from other schools. Photos of this event, and of the Active Travel circus performance, can be viewed on our Family of Schools website at www.westfieldfamily.org

Your comments, as always, are welcomed and I would be happy to see you at any time if you want to catch me in the playground or call in at the office to make an appointment. If you do have any concerns or worries please have a word with your child's teacher as I know that they will do their best to help and to put your mind at rest.

Helen Stokes, (Headteacher).

Senior leadership team



Mrs Helen Stokes
Headteacher



Mrs Caryn Moffatt
Foundation Stage
Leader



Mrs Shelly Appleby
Key Stage 1 Leader



Mrs Helen Towers
Special Needs
Co-ordinator

This is the **School** version of the September Newsletter.

F2: Red Base

Y1: Blue Base

Y2: Yellow and Green Base

To help you in seeing which items you may need to take action on a list is below:

Actions for you to take:

- Please send your child with some suitable gifts for our bags on Charity day (11th November).
- Please pay any outstanding pantomime amounts before 20th November.
- Please look out for the after-school club letter and return it to school.
- Please try to pay for all clubs in advance and ensure that your child attends regularly.
- Please complete Parentview www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk.
- Please book an appointment, for parent's evening on 12th November, with your child's classteacher.
- Please complete the e-safety forms at Parent's Evening.
- Please return the RE workshop slip to let us know if you will be attending the workshop on 26th November at 2p.m.
- Please return the SEAL workshop slip to let us know if you will be attending the workshop on Wednesday 18th November at 9:15a.m.
- Please come to school in non-uniform, pyjamas or superhero costume on Children in Need Day ~ 13th November.
- Please send any unwanted gifts or prize donations to the office for our Christmas Draw.
- Please return the slip at the end of the Newsletter if your child will be bringing their own sandwiches or having a school sandwich lunch on Christmas dinner day (9th December).

Items for action

Charity Day 11th November ~ 'Bags of Human Kindness'

Every year we have a day where we help children to think about others who are less fortunate than themselves. We use this opportunity to support a charity. This year we are linking with Mosborough Church to support the many refugee children who are in camps escaping terrible situations in their home countries. We are making 'Bags of Basic Human Kindness'. These are like PE bags but they will contain items that a young child may need when away from home. We will think about the things that we take on holiday when we are away from home. A list of ideas is below:

- Socks
- Gloves
- underwear
- sunglasses
- Soft toys
- Simple games
- Picture books
- Skipping rope



- Toothpaste and toothbrush
- Soap and flannel
- Sudacreme
- Anything else you can think of!

We will start the day with an assembly where Reverend Sue from Mosborough Church will talk to children and parents about refugees and how we can help them. Following this children will take part in classroom activities which will include 'shelter building' as we know that building dens is something our children love to do. At 2:35p.m. we will come together and children will show some of the things they have been doing. At this time they will also bring in the gifts they have brought from home for us to put in the bags.

We will then put together bags for boys and girls of different ages and will deliver them to Mosborough church to be sent away for children who face an uncertain future and possibly a hard winter ahead.

Please send your child with some suitable gifts for our bags on Charity day.

Pantomime

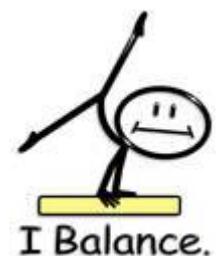
On 3rd December we are taking all the children to Rotherham Theatre to see the Cinderella Pantomime. The cost of this trip is £12.00. Please note that children will need to be at school for 8:45a.m.



Please pay any outstanding amounts before 20th November.

After-School Clubs

After Christmas we will start new club registers. A letter for you to apply will be sent out shortly. You must reapply if you want your child to go to a club in January ~ This helps us to maintain an accurate register so that teachers know who is going to a club; it also makes it fair to children who haven't had a place the previous term.



Please note that we will charge if your child has a place in a club and does not attend, unless they are ill.

- Please look out for the club letter and return it to school.
- Please try to pay for all clubs in advance and ensure that your child attends regularly.

We need your opinion...!



Parent view is one of the ways OFSTED and school collect views about a variety of different aspects of school life. The website you need is:

www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk

Even if you have completed Parentview previously please do log your views again for the school year 2015/2016.

Parent's Evening 12th November 3:15pm to 7pm

This is an opportunity to meet with your child's teacher, and/or key worker, to find out about their progress in school. You will also learn how you can support your child's learning at home and in school.

On Parent's evening we will leave some activities, for children to play with, in the school hall but please ensure that someone is there to supervise your child. Please can we also ask that children do not get out PE equipment, musical instruments or Breakfast club toys (which are kept in library drawers) and that they only play with the toys that we have put out.

Please book an appointment with your child's classteacher.

E-Safety information

On Parent's evening there will be an e-safety display in the entrance to school. Please can all parents collect, from the entrance table, an 'acceptable use' and 'photo' form to sign on the evening and leave with the classteacher when you see them.

Please complete the e-safety forms at Parent's Evening.

Family Workshop 26th November 2p.m.

Our family workshop for Religious Education (RE) will be held on Thursday 26th November at 2p.m. in the school hall. At the workshop you will find out how we teach RE in school and you will be able to take part in an activity with your child. The children will explore & create their own 'special place' to represent their own thinking space. You will also be given a booklet that tells you about RE at Waterthorpe. You are welcome to bring younger children with you.



Please return the RE workshop reply slip at the end of this newsletter.

Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) Family Workshop: Anti-Bullying theme

Our next SEAL Family workshop will be held on Wednesday 18th November at 9:15a.m. in the school hall. Parents of children in school are invited to attend. At the workshop you will find out how we teach the 'Anti-Bullying' SEAL theme in school and you will be able to take part in an activity with your child. You are welcome to bring younger children with you.



Please return the SEAL workshop reply slip at the end of this newsletter.

Feedback from families attending last year's SEAL Family Workshop on 'Anti-bullying':

- "Exciting, learnt that I am different. Enjoyed working with my mum."
- "Very informative for children, easy to understand and fun!"

- "I learnt that bullying is really bad."
- "It was fantastic to talk to my child about bullying and seeing his enthusiasm for talking about what he is good at. Also seeing his understanding about bullying. Thank you."
- "It was great to work with my children and help them understand the meaning of bullying in an interesting way."
- "... enjoyed the activities. I found it helpful when talking to him about bullying."
- "Very good workshop; we both enjoyed it!"

Children in Need day Friday 13th November

Friday 13th is Children in Need day. As we have a different charity day in the same week we are not expecting families to donate to both charities. We do want children to have the opportunity to join in with this national event though so we will have a non-uniform day on 13th. Children may wish to come to school in their own clothes, their pyjamas (Emmanuel are having a pyjama day) or dressed as a superhero. If you would like to give a small donation we will collect these and forward them to the Children in Need charity.



Please come to school in non-uniform, pyjamas or superhero costume on 13th November.

Christmas Draw 17th December

We will be holding our popular Christmas Draw again this year. This is to raise funds towards the Christmas presents we purchase for all children. Two books of tickets will be sent home with your child in a couple of weeks. We have a wide range of prizes, many donated by local businesses. Tickets are 20p each or £1 for a book. We would welcome donations of any unwanted unused gifts you have to add to our prize list.

Please send any unwanted gifts or prize donations to the office for our Christmas Draw.



Christmas Dinner 9th December

Christmas dinner day will be on 9th December. This will be a traditional turkey dinner with icecream for dessert. There will be no jacket potatoes on this day. If your child will be bringing sandwiches, or wants to order a school sandwich, please return the slip at the end of this newsletter and return it to the office by 1st December. This pre-ordering is to help the kitchens with ordering the correct amount of food. We will order a Christmas dinner for anyone who does not return the slip.

Please return the slip at the end of the Newsletter if your child will be bringing their own sandwiches or having a school sandwich lunch on Christmas dinner day (9th December).

Items for information:

Assemblies and workshops coming up ~ Families are invited to join us in the school hall:

11th November 9:15a.m. and 2:40p.m. Charity Day Assemblies

18th November 9:15a.m.

SEAL Family workshop 9:15a.m. in hall ~ All school Families welcome

19th November 9:15a.m.

Blue Base class assembly

26th November 9:15a.m.

Green Base Class Assembly

26th November 2p.m.

R.E. Family Workshop for Blue/Yellow/Green Base

Taking children home from school

Please can we remind parents that they **must not** take home another parent's child without prior arrangement or speaking to the class teacher.

Sometimes a parent regularly collects a child from school to help out another parent but they should only do this when explicitly arranged. If a parent hasn't turned up to collect their child the class teacher will need to ring them and check whether it is alright for another person to bring their child home.

Tesco School Uniform

The Tesco website is available for uniform orders. You can access this by the website address www.clothingattesco/icat/embschoolwear. Once on the site you need to choose under 'find your school - local authority' - Sheffield and then Waterthorpe NI School from the drop down list and follow the website instructions from there. The school receives a 5% commission for any uniform sold. Any queries please do not hesitate to pop into the school office to discuss. Mrs Jones who works on Thursdays is our member of staff responsible for uniform.



Bike-it sessions

Well done to all the children who joined the cycle skills sessions in October. The children worked really hard and enjoyed the session. A special well done to Oscar Selwood who was learning to ride his bike safely without stabilisers. Oscar rode his bike across the playground on his own.



Kid's Club

On 20th October Kid's Club was inspected by Ofsted. The club was judged to be 'Good' in all areas. Ofsted said "Staff provide a calm and relaxed learning environment for children to play in. Children behave well and they have good relationships with staff and other children." The full report will be available on the Ofsted website by going to the following link:

<http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/CARE/300838>

All bookings and payments for Kid's Club must be made in advance at the school office.
The new club phone number is: 0114 247 3123 (between 3pm and 6pm)
To contact the club during the school day please call Waterthorpe School: 0114 248 4943



Parents, do you need extra shopping time, or care for your child while you are at work?

Kids, fancy a fun, friendly place to play after School?



COME TO WATERTHORPE KIDS CLUB!

- We run from 3-6pm on School Days, for £7.50 per child, per session (subject to a one off £2.00 registration fee per family).
- We plan lots of fun activities, both inside and out, with lots to make and do!
- We offer yummy, nutritious snacks!
- We provide safe, Ofsted registered care with kind friendly staff.

If you are interested please call in to Emmanuel Community Rooms, 111, Lewis or Kezia, or call Sue on **0114 247 3123**.



Breakfast Club

We offer childcare at our breakfast club from 7:55a.m. This includes a nutritional breakfast and a range of activities. The price of this is £3.50 per day. Children from nursery or school may attend but places must be booked in advance.

ECO group/School Council News

We have been awarded the Fairtrade award 'Fairachiever' which recognises that our school is a Fairtrade school. Our Green flag has also been renewed for a further 2 years. These awards recognise the excellent work in school where we teach children about how they can grow up to look after their world and the people in it.



Our new School Council for this year are:

Y2W - Mia Saeed, Zack Moulster, Amelia Ferguson and Freddie Thorpe:



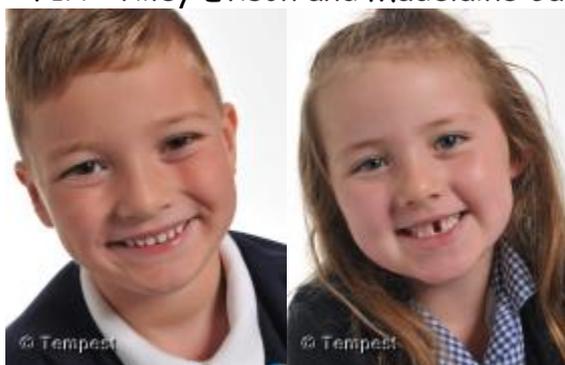
Y2H - Macy Allott, Aaron Adlington, Sophie Hines and Radek Celt:



Y1R - Maisie Hartley and Mason Taylor:



Y1A - Riley Evison and Madelaine Cartwright:



Sports Spotlight.

Welcome to Waterthorpe Sports Spotlight. This part of the newsletter aims to shine a light on our fantastic PE and Sports Provision in school.

During the first half term children in Miss Wilson's class have been coached each week by a coach/first team player from the Sheffield Eagles Rugby League team. They have been learning the basic skills of rugby through fun games and activities. This links well with the Rugby World cup which many children have been watching on the television over the last few weeks.



Children in Year One have enjoyed a six week block of games and activities run by the FA skills program. During these sessions ball skills, team work, balance and co-ordination skills were promoted and developed. All the children had a great time.

After school clubs continue to be popular. At present we are running two sports clubs; rugby on Tuesdays night and gymnastics on Fridays. Children also have access to Karate on Thursdays. Both Nick Gill (Sheffield Eagles coach) and Jade (Gymnastics Specialist), as well as Carl and Kara (Karate instructors), have all commented on how well the children have been developing their skills.

Thank you for your continued support with sports in school.

Sports Spotlight will be back in the next newsletter.

Mrs C Robertson.

Harvest Festival gifts

Thank you to everyone who contributed gifts to our Harvest Festival. We donated the gifts of food to 35 pensioners living in Beckton bungalows. The residents were delighted to receive the gifts and we received many thank you cards from grateful residents.



Fire and Lock down drills

In order to ensure that all children and staff know what to do, if an emergency did occur, we regularly practise exiting the building quickly when the fire alarm goes off as well as locking all doors and staying in a safe place when the Lock-down alarm goes off.



The children are always calm and sensible when we have a Fire or Lock-down drill. This half term we have a Lock-down drill planned for 13th November at 11:30a.m. This will take about 10 minutes so please try to avoid ringing the school at this time as we will not necessarily be able to answer the phone. Please can children, arriving for Nursery dinners, be in Nursery by 11:25a.m. at the latest. Thank you.

Westfield Family of Schools

This can be found at www.westfieldfamily.org. There is lots of useful information on the website and links to each school's individual website. Please have a look. There is a link on our school website to the Family of Schools website.





A Christmas Fayre is being held at Westfield School, for all schools in our Family, on Sunday 29th November at 10-3pm. Everyone is invited. Along with other schools, we will be running a home-made cake sale at the event and would welcome donations of homemade baking. Please send these into school on Friday 27th November. Thank you.

Carol Service

Our Family of Schools is holding a Carol Service at Crystal Peaks on 17th December at 6p.m. We will be singing outside the entrance door opposite the petrol station (near the Red carpark).



A group of children from Waterthorpe will be singing at the event. These children have been selected by our singing teacher. Please join us for the event.

Stepping Stones Playgroup ~ Places for 2 year old children

The Stepping Stones Playgroup, that runs in the community rooms, has places for children over 2 years old on Monday, Tuesday and, from November, Thursday mornings 9a.m. to 11:30a.m. The cost is currently £9.25 per session, which includes a snack. If you would like more information, or to apply for a place, please call Diana on 0780 1349756 or Angela on 07787 518778. Stepping Stones are able to take children on the free 2 year FEL (Free Early Learning) places.



Information about free places for 2 year olds can be found following this link:

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/education/information-for-parentscarers/care-support/childcare/parents/earlylearning/2-year-early-learning.html>

School Meal News

A new menu started this half term. This is published in the main entrance each week and a copy has been sent for you to look at with your child. A copy of the menu is also on the school website and is on the drop down list under the 'parents' tab at the top of the home page. If you are ever unsure about what is for dinner please call the office and they will be happy to help.



There is a change to the menu and sandwiches are now served on a tray and children are able to choose vegetables, potatoes, salad and the dessert to accompany their sandwiches. Each day there is also the option of a jacket potato with filling.

Children tell their teacher each morning, when the register is done, what their choice is. There is no need for parents to come to the school office. The only exception to this is the vegetarian menu. This must be pre-ordered and parents should let the office know on a Monday if their child requires this option any day.

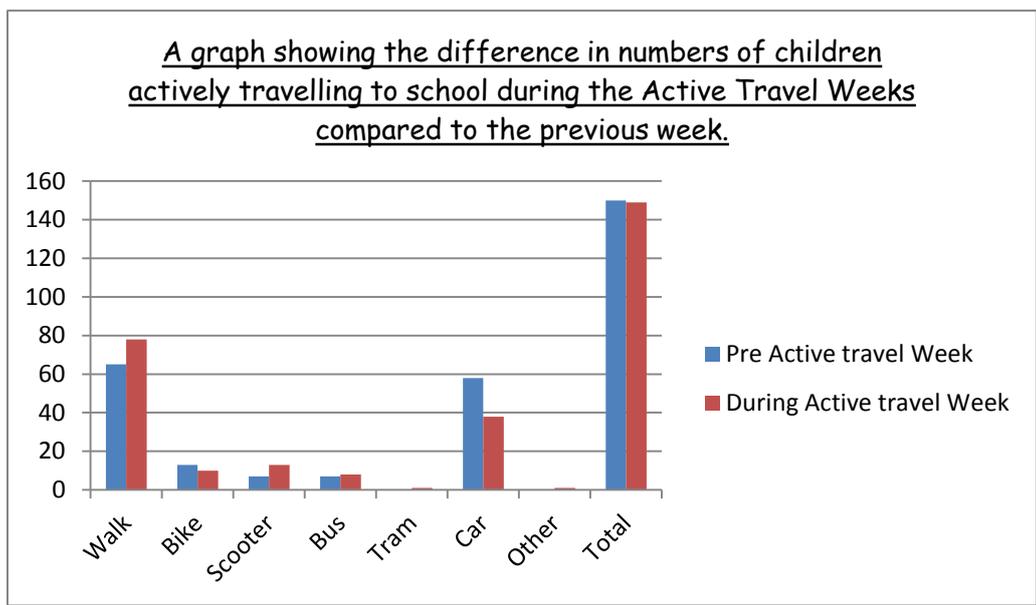
All dinners must be ordered before 10a.m. so if your child is arriving late it is important that you ring school to order a meal or we will not be able to provide them with one. School meals are free to all children in Infant Schools. Nursery children still have to pay for their meal unless eligible for free school meals and attending for a full day.

10 day Active Travel Challenge



Thank you to everyone for their efforts during the 10 day Active Challenge. Badges have been given out to the children who came to school in active ways 9 or more days during the challenge.

Before and during the challenge we did a hands-up survey and the following chart shows that there was an increase in the number of children traveling actively to school and a decrease in children travelling all the way to school in their car.



Attendance

We have noticed an improvement in attendance and punctuality thanks to the efforts made by families to ensure that children are in school as much as possible. Thank you to everyone for working with us to give children the best opportunities for a good education.

Each half term we look at the attendance of each child and if it is below 95% they go on our monitoring list. Where we see continued low attendance we are more concerned and families will receive letters and may be invited to a meeting. Referrals may be made to the Attendance Officer. When attendance improves children are sent praise letters.

This term we have had a lot of children with 100% attendance. A letter has been sent, to all these children praising them for excellent attendance. Children achieving 100% attendance for the **whole** of the Autumn term (up to Christmas) will receive a swimming pass to use at one of the venues (Ponds Forge, Hillsborough Leisure Centre, Concord Sports Centre, Heeley Swimming Pool and Springs Leisure Centre). Children achieving 100% attendance in the Spring and Summer term combined will receive a free ice skating pass to be used in the six week holidays at IceSheffield!

All children who have attendance above 95%, in a half term, get entered into our prize draw to win a prize. Winners for last half term were Jacob Holmes and Cohen James who both won a colouring set.

After the end of each full term we will send out our colour coded attendance letters so that you will be able to see whether your child's attendance is on track:

- Red: Below 90% (classified by the government as persistent absentees)
- Orange: below 95%
- Green: above 95%

Coats

The weather has turned much cooler now and it is important that all children bring a warm coat to wear at playtimes. Please ensure that names are in all items of clothing as children often leave things around school.



Outside classroom

Please can we request that children do not get things out or make a mess in the covered 'outside classroom', by Blue and Yellow Bases, in the morning and after school. Thank you.

Attached to this newsletter/sent out separately:

- RE Family Workshop invite
- SEAL Family workshop invite
- Christmas dinner slip for children wanting to order or bring their own sandwiches

Diary Dates 2015 ~ 2016

Nov	11 th	Charity Day
	12 th	Parent's Evening 3:15p.m. to 7p.m.
	13 th	Children in Need Day
	16 th	Anti-bullying Week
	18 th	SEAL Family workshop 9:15a.m. in hall ~ All school Families welcome
	19 th	Blue Base class assembly 9:15a.m. in hall ~ families welcome
	26 th	Green Base Class Assembly 9:15a.m. in hall ~ families welcome
	26 th	R.E. Family Workshop 2p.m. in hall ~ Blue/Yellow/Green Base families
Dec	3 rd	Pantomime For children in school (Cinderella) ~ School starts 8:30a.m
	8 th	Art Family Workshop 5:30p.m. in hall ~ everyone welcome
	9 th	Christmas dinner day
	11 th	Red Base Nativity Assembly in school Hall 10a.m.
	15 th	Y1/Y2 Nativity 2p.m. in church (no younger children please)
	16 th	Y1/Y2 Nativity 10a.m. in church (Crèche provided ~ please book)
	17 th	Nursery parties in Community Rooms (Normal Nursery closed today)
	17 th	School Christmas Party 1:15p..m.
	17 th	Christmas Draw
	18 th	Nursery Nativity in Church 9:30a.m.

	18 th	No Nursery sessions today
	18 th	School breaks up for Christmas at end of day (Games/Toy day)
Jan	4 th	Return to school
	4 th	Clubs start this week
	13 th	Literacy Family workshop 3:15p.m. in hall ~ Blue/Yellow/Green Base families
	21 st	SEAL Family workshop 9:15a.m. in hall ~ All school Families welcome
	28 th	Yellow Base Class Assembly 9:15a.m. in hall ~ families welcome
Feb	4 th	Safer Internet Day ~ Family Workshops at 5:30p.m. (Westfield School)
	5 th	Half term
	15 th	Return to school
	18 th	Class Assembly Green Base 9:15a.m. in hall ~ families welcome
	22 nd	Fair Trade Fortnight
	23 rd	Fair Trade Family Workshop 9:15a.m. in hall ~ All school Families welcome
	25 th	Class Assembly Red Base 9:15a.m. in hall ~ families welcome
	29 th	SEAL Family Workshop 9:15a.m. in hall ~ All school Families welcome
Mar	3 rd	World Book Day
	7 th	Humanities Family workshop 3:15p.m. in hall ~ Blue/Yellow/Green Base families
	9 th	Individual reports out today
	10 th	Blue Base Class Assembly 9:15a.m. in hall ~ families welcome
	10 th	3:15p.m. to 7p.m. Parent's Evening
	15 th	Easter Garden Assembly 9:15 in hall (families welcome)
	16 th	Easter Bonnet Parade & Easter Draw (Children only)
	17 th	No Merit and Birthday Assembly. WW2 Day in Emmanuel (our children invited)
	18 th	INSET DAY ~ School closed to children
	18 th	Easter holidays
Apr	4 th	Return to school
	6 th	Science Family Workshop 9:15a.m. in hall ~ Blue/Yellow/Green Base families
	21 st	SEAL Family Workshop 9:15a.m. in hall ~ All school Families welcome
	27 th	Maths Family Workshop 5:30p.m. ~ All school families welcome
	29 th	INSET DAY ~ School closed to children
May	2 nd	May Day Bank Holiday
	12 th	Class Assembly Blue Base 9:15a.m. in hall ~ families welcome
	13 th	1:30p.m. PE Family workshop ~ All families welcome
	19 th	Sponsored event
	26 th	Class Assembly Red Base 9:15a.m. in hall ~ families welcome
	27 th	Break up for Half term
June	6 th	INSET DAY ~ No children in school
	13 th	Arts Week
	17 th	Arts sharing assembly 9:15a.m. (No merit and birthday)
	21 st	SEAL Family Workshop 9:15a.m. in hall ~ All school Families welcome
	29 th	Technology Family Workshop 9:15a.m. in hall ~ All families welcome
July	5 th	Sports Morning

- 6th Class Swap day for transition (Y2 to Emmanuel)
- 7th Parent's evening: Individual consultations 3:15 p.m. to 7p.m
- 11th Nursery Consultation Day ~ Nursery closed to children
- 12th Y2 Leaver's performance for Families 9:15a.m. in hall
- 13th End of year Awards assembly 9:15a.m. in hall (Families welcome)
- 14th Y2 Fancy Dress Party 1:15p.m.
- 15th Final Merit and Birthday Assembly
- 19th **Break up for Summer Holidays**

Your feedback and comments:



Religious Education (RE)

Family Workshop

26th November 2p.m.



Dear parents, carers and families,

Please join us for our Religious Education (RE) Family Workshop on Thursday 26th November at 2p.m. in the school hall. This workshop is for families of children in Blue, Yellow and Green bases.

At the workshop you will find out how we teach RE in school and you will be able to take part in an activity with your child. The children will explore & create their own 'special place' to represent their own thinking space.

You will be given a booklet that tells you about RE at Waterthorpe. You are welcome to bring younger children with you.

The workshop will last for approximately 1 hour and children will return to their classrooms at 3p.m. ready for you to collect at the end of the school day or for them to attend their after-school clubs.

Please return the attached slip to let us know that you will be attending.



Child/children's names:.....

Number of **younger** children attending the workshop with you:.....

Number of adults attending the workshop:.....

I will be attending the workshop on 26th November at 2p.m.

Signed:
(parent/carer)

Family SEAL Workshop

Dear Mum/Dad/Carer

You are invited to the family SEAL workshop 'Say no to bullying' on Wednesday 18th November at 9.15am - 10.15am. During this workshop we will be able to do an activity together.

Love from Your child

What is SEAL?

Social Emotional Aspects of Learning

It builds on work already in place in school and focuses on five social and emotional aspects of learning: self-awareness, managing feelings, motivation, empathy and social skills.

SEAL is what so many of you have been waiting for. If young people feel good about themselves, have skills to cope with their lives and get on with each other, with good teaching, they will achieve their potential. SEAL can support us getting there.



I will be attending the family SEAL workshop on Wednesday 18th November.

Parent Name

Child's Name Class.....

.....

I would like my other children in Emmanuel to join the workshop. (We will collect the children for you.)

Name:..... Class:.....

.....

Christmas Dinner Day 9th December

Child's name..... Class:.....

Please tick and return if your child does not want a cooked Christmas dinner.

My child will be bringing their own sandwiches.

My child would like to order sandwiches.