

# EMMAVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENT



### Emmaville's Nativity 2020

What a fabulous time a group of children from each cohort had on Monday as they performed in the 2020 Emmaville Christmas 'alternative' Nativity. We have Mrs Lawrence to thank for the script with a few additions thrown in by the teachers and the children. Mr Saddington was the Camera man (an extremely important position to have) and we even had real donkeys as part of the performance. Not sure who was more thrilled by the appearance of the donkeys, staff or children? They were certainly a great success. I would like to assure you all that the Health and Safety Inspector (Saffah from North America) made sure that a thorough risk assessment was in place before the shooting of the performance, and she was hot on the heels of all of the actors as the production was made. She certainly had us on our best behaviour making sure that we **ALL** followed the rules and that there was regular use of hand gel! You can view the video on the website, in the December News section.

Avril Armstrong

Date: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December '20

Dear Parents & Carers,

As I write this note to you, we are heading towards the last few days of the autumn term, and what a challenging term it has been. Despite it being challenging, we have still managed to have some good times with the children and I have said it before and I will say it again, your children have been incredible! It is an absolute pleasure to come to work each day knowing that we have children within our school who appreciate everything that is done for them. They have shown amazing resilience throughout the pandemic, and I think that we should all praise them for this. As parents, you must feel extremely proud of your little ones.

So far, all of the Christmas treats have been received very well by the children and although this year we were unable to visit a theatre to watch a pantomime, I think they still had fun watching the Sleeping Beauty production that was streamed to the classrooms. You should by now have received the link from Miss McPherson, this will allow you to enjoy watching the performance at home with your families, but please be assured that I do not steal biscuits (well, most of the time I don't)! More will be revealed as you watch the Sleeping Beauty performance.

I would like to thank my staff for responding so positively to all the suggestions that I have made for the Christmas events. I think they have been very patient with me as I have bounced into school declaring, 'I have had a good idea that I think the children would enjoy.' Yes, and one of the suggestions involved dressing up as Panto characters! Mr Saddington initially protested at dressing as Fairy Nuff, but with a little gentle persuasion we convinced him that we needed a character from the Sleeping Beauty show, and what a well-dressed character he was; in fact, I think I would like to borrow his tutu!

### **Emmaville Family COVID Christmas**

Many thanks to Lisa Wilson (Mum of Freddie and Delilah) for planning and organising the video that was produced and filmed in the children's homes. I thought that it was a brilliant idea and enjoyed watching the joy on the faces of those who participated. You can view the video if you go onto the Emmaville website and click on the News tab. It has been posted in the December section.

### **Attendance**

Due to the pandemic, I think that it would be extremely unfair to award attendance certificates and achievement prizes for the autumn and spring term. I would like to congratulate you all on your children's attendance as it has been an extremely testing time for families but your support has been amazing.

### **The People's Kitchen**

We are delighted that so many of you have donated to this worthwhile charity, the response has been fantastic. Many, many thanks, I am sure the People's Kitchen will be blown away by your generosity. The total raised so far is £696.00

### **Family Festive Sing-a-Long**

The winners have been chosen and the following families can look forward to their Friday evening movie night package:

Gateshead - Thomas and Grace's family  
Newcastle - Rowan and Orla's family  
England - Elijah and Zachary's family  
Scotland - Amelia and her family  
Northern Ireland - Millie, Logan and Kaitlyn's family  
Wales - Caspian, Aryana, Mina and Kamran's family  
Northern Europe - Charlotte and Alice's family  
Southern Europe - Cara and Amelia's family  
Africa - Ava and Oscar's family  
Asia - Noah, Leo and their dog.  
Antarctica - Reuben and his mum  
Oceania - Alex and her mum  
North America - Neve and Charlie's family  
South America - Natalie and her family



Congratulations to you all, thank you for participating in the festive fun and we hope you enjoy your treat.

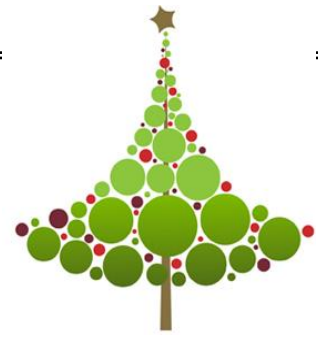
### **Community Spirit**

The Cooperative shop in Crawcrook have invited the children of Emmaville to participate in several art activities throughout this term. All the artwork produced by the children has been displayed in the Coop windows and, in return for the beautiful artwork, the children have received gifts. We really appreciate the way in which the Cooperative shop has encouraged the children to bring a ray of sunshine to the community through the varied art projects, such an excellent way of showing the children how they can contribute to the community in which they live.



### Who has been Elfing around?

The Year 1 children were thrilled to receive a visit from the Ryton Towers Elves. The special visitors were greeted with great enthusiasm and were kind enough to bring treats for the children. In return, the children presented the Elves with tins of shortbread biscuits for their residents to enjoy. Thank you to the staff for organising this treat for the children as it was a lovely thing for them to participate in.



Miss Kenyon and the School Council have dropped off tins of shortbread to Addison Court and to Lindisfarne residential homes, just a little treat from them to let the residents know that they haven't been forgotten as we have been unable to visit them this Christmas because of the restrictions.

### Arrangements for the return to school in January

There will be no changes to the drop off and collection of children in January, the current arrangements will remain in place. School lunches will continue to be served in the classrooms, the only children who will be eating in the hall will be the Reception and Year 1 pupils. Arrangements for the breakfast and after school club will also remain as they currently are. We will not be having any outside providers in school and we have made the decision that swimming lessons will not commence in the spring term. All the procedures will be reviewed throughout the spring term; however, we know that you will all understand why we must currently plan with caution.

### A special visitor from the North Pole

Under normal circumstances Santa Claus always manages to find the time to visit, this year, however, it just wasn't possible for him to visit our lovely children in person. However, as he is so fond of the Emmaville children he took the time out of his busy schedule to send the children a message from his home in the North Pole.

The children want me to **Thank you Santa** as it was so lovely to see you.

### Weekly Prize Draw

The luck prize winners this week are: Jake's (Southern Europe) family, Molly and Ethan's (South America and Wales) family and Eden and Luke's (Newcastle and Purple Poppies) family.

### Feliz Navidad

We had a little bit of fun this week with the children as we all (within our bubbles) lip-synched and danced to the Feliz Navidad Christmas Carol, which Miss McPherson videoed (oh yes, that can be viewed on the website too)!

Finally, in the words of the Feliz Navidad Carol,

I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas

I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas

I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas

From the bottom of my heart.

Here is hoping that 2021 is a much better year for us all and we shall look forward to welcoming the children and their families back to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Very best wishes,

Avril Armstrong and the Emmaville Team







### School Attendance Week Ending 11.12.20

Year 6	
North America	93.0%
South America	95.6%
Year 5	
Antarctica	95.6%
Oceania	100%
Year 4	
Africa	97.5%
Asia	97.5%
Year 3	
Northern Europe	97.9%
Southern Europe	91.3%
Year 2	
Northern Ireland	99.7%
Wales	100%
Year 1	
England	99.3%
Scotland	99.3%
EYFS	
Gateshead	99.3%
Newcastle	98.1%
Crawcrook	97.7%

Congratulations to  
Oceania and Wales  
for 100% attendance last week.

Whole school  
attendance  
97.7%

			
Angel	Baltic	Sage	Tyne
2574	2679	2496	2437

### Last Week's House Points

### Angel Award

Congratulation to Christopher, Daniel and his family for their Angel Award from Liz Twist, Member of Parliament for Blaydon.

The family have been fundraising for Young Lives Vs Cancer: Click Sargent. We are all very proud of the boys from Emmaville and their family.



# Stars of the Week



Head Teacher - Bobby (South America)  
For his Elf Haiku poem that I enjoyed reading.

North America - Ronin  
For excellent improvement in maths.

South America - Sam  
For excellent discussion ideas in lessons.

Antarctica - Harvey  
For always working extremely hard and having great enthusiasm in his work. He is doing great!

Oceania - Kyle  
For being such a supportive and kind partner.

Africa - Thomas  
For his fantastic progress with his handwriting.

Asia - Rose  
For being a delightful, hardworking, caring member of the class.

Northern Europe - Lydia  
For being an absolute superstar of a pupil at all times!

Southern Europe - Jasmine  
For a super positive attitude the whole time! Well done!

Northern Ireland - Noah  
For his continuous hard work in all that he does.

Wales - Harrison  
For working so so hard.

England - The full class  
For their amazing work learning sign language to 'Jingle Bells'.

Scotland - Florence  
For her lovely manners and her kind friendships with others.

Gateshead - Alice  
For her fantastic story map.

Newcastle - Eden  
For fantastic maths and brilliant Makaton signing.

Crawcrook Nursery - The whole class  
For having such an amazing term.

School Cook (Lisa Kirton) - Ivy (Asia)  
For her beautiful manners at lunchtime.