

# HFS Newsletter February 2019

## Facebook

We have a new facebook page – HexhamFirst. Please like this page. We are finding that facebook is a great way to keep parents informed about school events. Thank you for your support in liking our pages and leaving positive comments about the children who make our school so great.



## Early Years Outdoor Area

Thank you again for all of the donations on our go fund me page so far to support the improvements being made in our Early Years outdoor area.

Our page is:

[www.gofundme.com/hexhamfirstschoolarlyyearsoutdoorarea](http://www.gofundme.com/hexhamfirstschoolarlyyearsoutdoorarea)

As you may already be aware, we are having some major work done in our outdoor area to improve our Early Years provision. You should be in for a lovely surprise when you return from the half term holiday. Photos to follow.

**Hexham First School – happy, healthy and aiming high**



## TESCO Bags of Help

Tesco in Hexham have chosen Hexham First School's Outdoor Area as one of their chosen projects for the next two months. Starting on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March, if you shop at Tesco you can vote for us using your shopping token. We will be competing with two other projects and although all three projects receive a donation from Tesco, it would be amazing if we could win and receive the largest amount. This will run until Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April and we will find out by the end of May how much money we will receive.

**[Please vote for Hexham First!](#)**

## Times Tables Rock Stars!

The hard work is paying off for Year 3 and 4 who have continued to play and practice their times tables facts. Key Stage 2 are looking forward to receiving their new certificates. Keep playing the studio game and you might be ready to move to a new Rock star status!

## Attendance

Our whole school attendance is 95.7% so far this school year. We have a school target in mind to reach 97%. Thank you for your efforts to make sure that your child or children are ready for the school day ahead. Having a good night's sleep, eating breakfast and coming into school with equipment such as reading books, homework and PE kits help us enormously.

### School Development Targets

This year we are working on improving 5 key areas. Our targets are:

- 1) Maths – to adopt a whole school approach to mastery
- 2) Reading – to cultivate a love for reading
- 3) Technology – to ensure that staff have a secure understanding of the computing curriculum
- 4) Family learning – to promote other learning opportunities in school
- 5) Humanities – to learn key skills through having memorable learning experiences

### Gymnastics

Our gymnastics sessions have been going really well in school and we selected a group of gymnasts to perform their routine to a panel of judges at the Wentworth. I am proud to announce that this incredible group of children came second place in a competition with 19 schools in total. What an amazing achievement. Special thanks to Mr Dowson, our PE teacher, Mrs Keith who attended the competition with them and practiced in any space she could find and 'Team Leotard' (so many members of staff got involved to make sure that they really looked the part).



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### Dates for the diary:

#### February

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February** – Poetry Assembly, 9:15am.

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February** – Valentine's Day non-uniform. Break up for half term.

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February** – Back to school from half term holiday.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February** – Year 3 trip to Great North Museum.

#### March

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March** – Cake Stall after school (Early Years).

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March** – Book Fair in school.

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March** – Reception class heights and weights checks.

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March** – Chocolate Bingo, 6pm

#### April

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April** – Year 2 – 4 out of school for Easter activities at Hexham Abbey and the Trinity. There will be an Easter Service at the end of the day. Parents welcome. Times to be confirmed.

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April** – Early Years and Year 1 farm trip.

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April** – School closes for Easter holidays.

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April** – Back to school after Easter holidays.

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April** – Royal Institute Science Show, 6pm. Families welcome. Ticket information to follow.