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As November draws to a close, we are looking forward to the beginning of Advent and we welcomed Mr Kelsey into school to talk to the children about 'waiting' and 'anticipation' making links to Advent and Christmas. Mr Kelsey is going to lead our Christmas church service on 18th December in Lowick and has suggested that parents might want to do one or more of the readings so that these are shared more widely in our school community. If you feel you would like to take part in our service by reading one of the bible readings linked to the Christmas story please get in touch with me.

Congratulations to all the children in Class 2 for taking part so successfully in the skipping festival at the Swan Centre on Wednesday. Their skipping skills had developed brilliantly over the past few weeks so it was a good opportunity for them to demonstrate what they could do. A lot of children earned certificates and also had a very enjoyable time. Our thanks to Mrs Turner for organising this event.



We would like to thank you for your attendance at our parents evening last week. It was good to see so many parents taking an active interest in their child's learning and development. This is the longest term - it seems like a long time since the summer certainly – and so we do see a good amount of progress over the weeks and it is great to be able to share this with you. In particular, the children's writing seems to be coming on in leaps and bounds, especially the handwriting using the new scheme. Well done to the children for being so enthusiastic about this!

Year 4s are taking part in a transition event at Norham First School next Tuesday (3rd December). They will be going over there for 11.30am so that they can have lunch and playtime together before doing Christmas crafts. Therefore, **Year 4 children will need a packed lunch** or a grab and go from Margaret on that day. They will be back before the end of the school day at 3pm.

Our first Christmas performance is on Friday 6th December at 2pm. As we will be in the Village Hall, there will be no parents assembly on that date. We hope to see you at this performance or the evening performance on the following Monday (9th December at 5.30pm).

Mrs Strangeways has started her Eco club – this is going very well and the children have already looked at the recycling bins and thought about how we can save electricity by switching off lights when we don't need them on. I look forward to seeing what they do next...

Rebecca

Christingle Service - Holy Island



On Sunday 15 December at 10.45am, there will be a Christingle service at St Mary's Church, Holy Island. Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning - the orange represents the world, the red ribbon symbolises the love and blood of Christ, the sweets represent all of God's creation, and the lit candle represents Jesus's light in the world, bringing hope to people living in darkness. Do come and take part (along with your teddies who will be having their Christingle Christmas party too!). This will be a more informal and fun service for all ages – from 0 to 100!

Spellings

Year 1	Plurals—adding 'es' to words Eg catches, matches, witches, watches
Year 2	Adding 'es' to nouns and verbs ending in 'y'. The 'y' is changed to 'i' before 'es' is added Eg flies, tries, replies, copies, babies, carries
Year 3	Suffix exceptions. If the root word ends with 'le' the 'le' is changed to 'ly' Eg gently, simply, humbly, nobly
Year 4	The suffix 'ous' <u>rule 4</u> If there is an 'i' sound, before the 'ous' it is usually spelt as 'i' but some words have 'e' Eg serious, obvious, hideous, spontaneous

Plea from the PTA

we would be very grateful for donations for a Christmas Hamper. Please can items be in school by Wednesday 4th December. Raffle tickets will be sold at the Nativity performances and the winner will be drawn at the Monday evening performance.



Please can all Leek Club forms be handed in by Monday 2nd December—thank you.

After School Clubs Next Week

Monday:	Skipping Club with Mrs Turner
Tuesday	Cooking Club with Mrs Edmison & Margaret
Wednesday:	Football Club with Mr Croser
Thursday:	Eco Club with Mrs Strangeways

Christmas Lunch

Margaret will be serving Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 18th December - see the attached letter and booking form. Please return all forms no later than Friday 6th December. Thank you



Dates for your Diary

Friday 29th Nov	Celebration Assembly at 2.40pm
Tuesday 3rd Dec	Year 4 Transition Day at Norham—packed lunch needed
Friday 6th Dec	Christmas Lunch orders to be in Afternoon Nativity Performance at 2.00pm at the Village Hall (Please note there is no Celebration Assembly)
Monday 9th Dec	Evening Nativity Performance at 5.30pm at the Village Hall
Friday 13th Dec	Holy Island Coffee Afternoon - please note change of date Celebration Assembly at Lowick School at 2.40pm
Tuesday 17th Dec	Whole School trip to see Aladdin at the Maltings, Party Lunch and Party Afternoon
Wed 18th Dec	Church Service at 11.00am at Lowick Church followed by Christmas Lunch at 12 noon (no swimming lesson)
Friday 20th Dec	Celebration Assembly at 1.15pm (please note the earlier time) School stops for Christmas holidays
Monday 6th Jan	Staff Training Day
Tuesday 7th Jan	School restarts for the Spring Term