



Head of School Newsletter

Spring Term 2 2017

Welcome - This half term has been a mixture of all sorts. As always, the children have been working extremely hard across the curriculum. We have enjoyed fundraising together with a joke or two and have even found time for a sponsored run. There have been internal and external visits from the Vikings to farms and we left with a bang after our day of science.



Fundraising - Thank you for your support with comic relief we raised an amazing £640.31.

Assemblies -

Date	Title	Aims	Religious and citizenship links	British Fundamental Values
Monday 6 th March	Open the Book - The Lost Coin	To help pupils learn that we are all important especially to God.	To help pupils to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life.	To promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
Monday 13 th March	Sport Relief	To learn about the importance of charity and understand that you can make a positive difference through your efforts.	To think about and care for others.	To engage pupils in activities to help their school community and to prepare them for life in modern Britain.
Monday 20 th March	Open the Book - The Lost Son	To help pupils learn that even when we do wrong, we are still loved, especially by God.	To help pupils to acquire an understanding of, and respect for, their own and other cultures and ways of life.	To promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
Monday 27 th March	Keeping safe on the internet	To think about how our actions online affects our lives offline.	To help children to think about how they can do things online to really create something positive.	To promote fundamental British values of democracy and to prepare them for life in modern Britain.

Sporting achievements - This half term had a kick-start with our 'Go Run for Fun' fundraising event. It was fabulous to see so many children dressed up and taking part with enthusiasm! Thank you for your support for this event; we raised £162.60. Following the October cross country competition, four of our pupils formed part of the Darlington team for the Tees Valley competition on Wednesday 5th April. A huge congratulations to James Wilson, Emilia Hallett, Emma Carter and Max Banham for representing the school and showing a fantastic effort. It has also been our year 5 and 6 swimming gala events this half term. Well done to everyone who competed and a special mention to Lucy Wray and Derek Warwick who successfully went through to the Tees Valley finals as part of the Darlington team on Wednesday 5th April. Our netball coaching has continued to be a success - many thanks to Mrs Jones and Mrs Hughes for their excellent coaching throughout the year. It is the High Five Netball Tournament at Polam Hall today so we wish the team the best of luck and look forward to hearing all about the competition.

Miss Mackintosh, PE Subject Lead

Performances - Parents were treated to another wonderful singing performance, led by the talented Emily Smith. KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2 performed separately with the girls' choir showcasing their talents in all three sessions. This will be the last performance of this kind for the year as Emily's talents will be focused on supporting Years 5 and 6 in their summer production of Shakespeare. Watch this space...



Science Day - We finished the Spring term with a whole school Science Day on Friday 7th April. 'Love Science' came in to run a series of hands-on, practical science workshops which gave all of the children the opportunity to take part in some exciting investigative activities: from creating crystals and crazy catapults to making Archimedes screws and slippery slime!



Special thank you to Miss Williamson and Mrs Passman for organising the event. The children thoroughly enjoyed their experiences. For more photos please see our Facebook page.

Extra-curricular activities - Please see the table of after school activities that are currently on offer:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Meeting place	Pick -up
Art Club			3.20 - 4.30			Art Room	Reception
Board Games Club	3.20 - 4.20					Hall	Reception
Choir				3.20 - 4.20		Hall	Reception
Cricket	3.20 - 4.20						Rear Gates
French Club		3.20 - 4.20				Hall	Reception
Gardening Club		3.20 - 4.20				Hall	Rear Gates
MGFA					3.20 - 4.30		Rear Gates
Street Dance				3.20 - 4.30		Hall	Reception

Attendance - Thank you, our attendance as a whole school is 97.1% which is higher than last year's overall figure of 96.2% but slightly lower than last term (97.2%).

This term we are celebrating two awards; bronze (for one term of full attendance) and silver (for two terms of full attendance).

Bronze - Congratulations to the children below who have attended school every day since January. As a reward they were awarded their bronze attendance certificate in our celebration assembly and received a sticker and pencil:



Foundation: Samuel Ayre, Liam Gamble, Sam Griffiths, Jasmine Khan, Lexi Russell, Thomas Orton, Isabella Laidler, Chloe Graham and Tinashe Kushamba.

Year 1 - Lexi Bowerbank, Charles Ranson, Ethan Walker, Charlie Russell, Aiden Goat, James I'Anson, George Metcalfe, Lena Kazmierska, Jay-Ryan Bartlett, William Brownbridge, and Daniel Forster.

Year 2 -Chloe Pollard, David Carter, Tendai Kushamba, Daniel Laidler and Nicole Clayton.

Year 3 - Jenna McCready, Thomas Adamson, Edward Ranson, Kirsty Warwick, Austin Stockdale, Luke Slater, Isobel Dryden, Daniel I'Anson, Hollie Jackson, Idin Mirsamadi, Joshua Taylor and Liam Davies.

Year 4 -Emma Carter, Freddie Hall, Holly McCready, Ellie-Grace Gent, Oliver Porter and Scarlett Jones.

Year 5 -Summer Atkins, Anna Shield, Ruby Dodgin, James Horniman, Jake Hutchinson, Jessie Walker and Lucy Wray.

Year 6 -, George Hall, Millie Jackson, Lucy Ward, Bailey Exley-Leonard, Derek Warwick, Freddie Clendenning, Noah Jenkinson and Emma Hughes.

Silver - Congratulations to the children below who have who have attended school every day since September. As a reward they were awarded their silver attendance certificate in our celebration assembly and received a sticker and pin badge:



Foundation: Emira Bakan, Joshua Learoyd, Wilfred Forrest, Henry Jones, Toby Paylor and Betsy Scanlan.

Year 1 - Zoe Baines, Brooke Bohanan Wilson, Daniel Brindle and Sam Edwards.

Year 2 - Grace Airey, Apo Bakan, Louis Flynn, Oliver King, Iris Lawley, William Leigh and Finley Smith.

Year 3 - Anthony Clayton, Boston French, Josie Johnson, Megan Jones and Dylan Watson.

Year 4 - Oliver Leigh, Dylan McBride, Anna Porter, Finlay Scarr, Matthew Stansfield and Matthew Wilson.

Year 5 - Sam Daal, Hannah Dryden, James Akers, Emilia Hallett, Aaron Learoyd, Eve Longstaff Sanchez and Skye Smith.

Year 6 - Ryan Allinson, Jessica Gibson and Will Snowden.

We look forward to celebrating those children with a 100% attendance at the end of the summer term. We have gold medals ready and there will also be a surprise gift.

Dates for your diary: School will reopen on Monday 24th April 2017

SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR EASTER ON FRIDAY 7TH APRIL			
SCHOOL RE-OPENS TO CHILDREN ON MONDAY 24TH APRIL			
Swimming – Dolphin Centre	Year 4 Children	26.04.17 For Half Term	12.30 – 14.30
SCHOOL CLOSED PD DAY (POLLING DAY) – THURSDAY 4TH MAY			
SATS Week	Year 6 Children	08.05.17 – 11.05.17	4 days
PTA Disco	Whole School Children	19.5.17	15.00 – 17.00
SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR HALF TERM HOLIDAY ON FRIDAY 26TH MAY			
SCHOOL RE-OPENS TO CHILDREN ON MONDAY 5TH JUNE			
Swimming – Dolphin Centre	Year 3 Children	07.06.17 For Half Term	12.30 – 14.30
September 2017 Foundation children Information Evening for Parents	2017 Foundation Parents	08.06.17	17.00 – 18.00
Class and Team Photos	Whole School Children	21.06.17	All Day
Y6 Transition Days to Hurworth Comprehensive	Y6 Children	29/30. 06.17	All Day
Induction mornings for 2017 Foundation children	2017 Foundation Children	29/30. 06.17	All Day
Transition days for whole school	Whole school Children	29/30. 06.17	All Day
Sports day	Whole school Children	07.07.17	All Day
Key Stage 2 Tennis Tournament	Key Stage 2 Children	04.07.17	13.30 – 15.00
Musical Evening	Key Stage 2 Children	05.07.17	18.00 – 19.30
End of Year Reports	Whole School Children	10.07.17	15.15
Key Stage 2 Performance	Key Stage 2 Parents	TBC	18.00 - 20.00
Y6 Leavers' Assembly	Year 6 Parents	20.07.17	09.30 – 10.30
Governors' Celebration Assembly	Whole School and Governors	21.07.17	09.15 – 10.15
SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR SUMMER HOLIDAY ON FRIDAY 21ST JULY			

Please be aware that this calendar of events now contains some additional and amended dates and times.

Safeguarding -

I wanted to update you on how we keep you children safe every day. Children are taught how to keep themselves safe every day through aspects of the curriculum whether it is through making choices about healthy eating and keeping active, playing safely or the risks that we have in and out of school for example the internet and stranger danger. The internet is ever changing along with mobile devices and there are constantly new apps that the children are using that can put them at risk. All classes will be holding an assembly to share their understanding of how to keep themselves safe on-line:

- Foundation - 21st June at 2.45
- Year 1 - 4th July at 2.45
- Year 2 - 28th June at 2.45
- Year 3 - 3rd July at 2.45
- Year 4 - 19th June at 2.45
- Year 5 - 26th June at 2.45
- Year 6 - 5th July at 2.45

Finally - I want to say a huge thank you for all your kind messages of support regarding the kidney donor operation. It is a privilege to be able to embark on something that is truly life changing for my family and myself. I will miss our school family lots but hopefully I will have a smooth and quick recovery and I'll see you all in June. We hope you have a wonderful Easter with family and friends. Whatever your plans, have a super holiday.
Best wishes,
Alison Maddison

