



NEWSLETTER

8th November 2024

A message from our school leaders:

Our youngest children began the week as Superheroes as they dressed to impress in our intra-school multi skills event. Our sports coach, Ben, was delighted with children's effort, skill and most importantly their brilliant teamwork shown throughout the morning.

We are delighted to announce, that, following consultation with our School Council that we will be supporting Children in Need on Friday 15th November (next Friday). See out School Council news on the last page for further details about the event.

We have received a lovely card to thank us for our food bank donations. The message reads, *'Once again, we want to thank you for your generous donation to the Foodbank at The Well, from your Harvest Festival. Your support enables us to feed the many who come to us for help every week. We can only do it because of your kindness and generosity every year. So, a big thank you once again'*.

Reminders and Messages

- Please remember to bring water bottles into school every day.
- A reminder that we are a **'NUT FREE'** school.
- **POLITE REMINDER:** We are unable to read or answer messages which are sent through Class Dojo. If you need to contact teachers, please telephone or make an appointment at the office.
- Our friends at the Family Hub are offering lots of free courses and help for parents of children of all ages, such as the 'parenting when separated' online course (leaflet attached). More information to follow next week.



Parenting Together

New 2.5 hour friendly and informal workshop

Helping parents and/or friends and family who help bring up your child:

- Think about how you deal with disagreements in relationships
- Manage family stress and improve communication
- Enjoy parenting together

To find out more or to book your place call/text/whatsapp 07917474856 or email EPEC@durham.gov.uk

Online and face-to-face courses running monthly



Useful Online Safety Links

- [NSPCC](#)
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)
- [Childline](#)



BE SMART ONLINE

S SAFE Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too. Keep them safe to keep yourself safe.

M MEET Meeting up with someone you only know online, even a friend of a friend, can be dangerous as this person is still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information or for photos/videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on www.thinkuknow.co.uk.

A ACCEPTING Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, photos) as you never know where they may lead to or they may contain viruses. Do not accept something if you are unsure of who the person is or what they've sent you.

R RELIABLE You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. To find reliable information compare at least three different websites, check to books and talk to someone about what you have found.

T TELL Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. This could be if you or someone you know is being bullied online. There are lots of people who will be able to help you like your teachers, parents, carers or contact Childline - 0800 11 11 or www.childline.org.uk

BE SMART WITH A HEART
Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online.

WWW.CHILDNET.COM

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

~THIS WEEKS ATTENDANCE~

Reception	100.0%
Year 1+2	96.3%
Year 3+4	98.9%
Year 5+6	96.1%



NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?



EYFS – Miss Anderson and Mrs Dobson

NURSERY

The story in nursery this week has been, 'Star in a Jar', which tells the story a child who finds a star. Nursery children have enjoyed drawing colourful stars, sticking stars in a jar and counting them, and also have made their own 'stars in a jar'.

Over the October half term holiday, the nursery classroom has had a new smart board installed - the children have loved mark making on their new board!

RECEPTION

This week our reception pupils have learnt all about Bonfire night, Guy Fawkes and staying safe around bonfires and fireworks. The children have enjoyed painting fireworks, using their fine motor skills to create fireworks on peg boards, and use coloured sticks to copy firework patterns.

In maths, we have been learning to use propositional language correctly. We have used a teddy and table to demonstrate the teddy being on, beside, behind, in front of and under the table.

Our story of the week has been, 'Where the Wild Things Are'. The children have loved learning about Max's journey to the Wild Things and creating their own Wild Thing mask!

We have also learnt about Remembrance Day and its importance, this week. We have painted poppies to make a wreath that will be displayed locally.

Another lovely week. Well done Reception!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y1/2 – Mrs Garnett and Mrs Aislabie

On our return to school this week, Year 1+2 noticed that there was a giant beanstalk in their classroom. The children told Mrs Garnett that it was from Jack and the Beanstalk, so we decided to read the story, watch a video clip and act the story out. We have some very scary giants in our class!

On Monday, everyone looked fantastic in their superhero outfits for our Multi Skills Intra-School Festival with Ben. Ben set up the hall with a range of different activities for the children to take part in, to develop their co-ordination, throwing, balancing and moving in a range of ways.

Our maths theme this week, has been subtraction. The children in Year 1 have been completing subtraction calculations by crossing out pictures, whilst the Year 2 children have completed a range of methods to subtract, including partitioning, using a number line and the column method.

Later in the week, we talked about an important event that is coming up this weekend... Remembrance Sunday. We talked about what the poppy represents and why we wear them. Then we made a poppy wreath to lay at the War Memorial in Middleton, to show our respects for those who fought and continue to fight in the wars.

During our science lesson, we looked at how humans develop and change during their lifetime. We placed the different stages of human development in order using a timeline. The children enjoyed watching a video clip involving a baby and afterwards, we talked about all the things the baby wasn't able to do... yet!





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y3/4 – Miss Humpherson and Miss Spenceley

Year 3 and 4 have had a great week back after half-term.

In reading and writing lessons, the children have been introduced to their new class text, 'The Creakers' by Tom Fletcher. This book is great at holding the children's attention through suspense and they have been really keen to read the next part to find out what happens. We have discovered that all the grown-ups have gone missing, and the children don't know what has happened. We are using this to write our own newspaper reports on what is happening in Whiffington Town. After our last newspaper report, the children are already excited to get writing and have had another look at using direct speech and quotations in their own reports.

In maths, both year groups have started their next chapter of multiplication and division, starting with multiplication. In this, the children have been looking at patterns and relationships between their tables, and learning methods to speed up their mental strategies.

In science, we have started to learn about the digestive system in our topic of animals (including humans). We looked at the most important organs in the digestive system and what they do. The children did a fantastic job at learning the different organs and functions through great teamwork, in different ordering and labelling activities.

With Remembrance Day coming up next week, we have been preparing by making our class poppy wreath; we each made our own individual poppies to add to our wreath, which will be laid at the War Memorial on Monday.

The children were also very excited to learn that their new teacher will be Mr Frazer, starting in 3 weeks, and are very much looking forward to spending the rest of the academic year with him, which I'm sure will be a great fit for our class.





NEWSLETTER

What have we been up to?

Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery

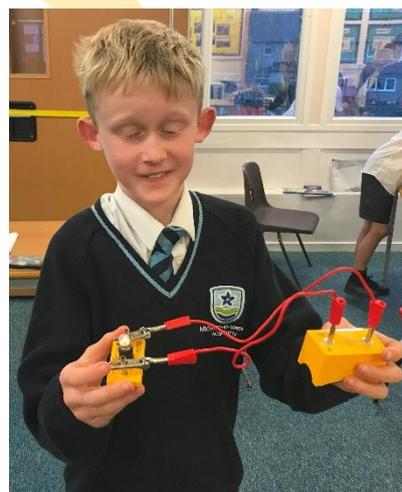
Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term. Mrs. Emery and I hope you have all had a wonderful week off with your children, who have come back to school raring to go!

This week, we have started lots of new topics, including electricity in Science and DT, gymnastics in PE and our book, 'The Explorer' links to our geography unit, Location, Location, Location.

We continue to have weekly music lessons with Mr. Elliot from Durham Music Service, in which we are learning to read music and play the glockenspiel. By the end of the term, children should be able to play a short Christmas song on their instrument.

We have immersed ourselves into the Amazon Rainforest this week, as we pretend to be Fred – a child who has survived a plane crash in Brazil, landing in the centre of the Amazon Rainforest. After running from the scene, Fred finds the few remaining passengers (also children) who together are becoming accustomed to one another to learn how to fend for themselves in the wild. As we eagerly anticipate each chapter, children in Year 5 and 6 are writing a diary entry from Fred's perspective of his adventure so far.

In, science, we have begun our electricity unit which coincides with our DT unit where we will be making a steady hand game. This week in DT, we explored the phrase, 'function before form' – ensuring that when we design our game, we will think of its purpose first, before the appearance.





NEWSLETTER

Upcoming
Events:

	Event
w/c 11 th Nov	Anti-bullying Week
Monday 11 th Nov	Remembrance Day
Tuesday 12 th Nov	Odd Socks Awareness Day – to celebrate our differences
Thursday 14 th Nov	Children in Need Bake-Off (cakes will be sold after school)
Friday 15 th Nov	Children in Need – children to wear spotty or colourful clothing (superheroes dress if they wish)
w/c 18 th Nov	Road Safety Week / UK Parliament Week
Monday 2 nd Dec	Gymnastics Festival, Yrs 3+4
Monday 2 nd Dec	Postbox in foyer for Christmas Cards – please clearly label cards
Tuesday 3 rd Dec	Phototronics in school for individual photos + sibling photos, a.m.
Thurs 5 th Dec	Christmas Circuits with Ben from Education Enterprise Ltd, 9:00-11:30am
Friday 6 th Dec	FOMS Christmas Movie Night – to be confirmed
Monday 9 th Dec	KS1 Nativity, 9:30 – 11:00am
Wednesday 11 th Dec	Pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty' at The Hippodrome, D'ton, a.m.
Wednesday 11 th Dec	EYFS + KS1 Christmas Craft afternoon
Friday 13 th Dec	EYFS Nativity, 9:15 – 10:15am
Monday 16 th Dec	Christmas Carol Concert at The Pathway, 2:00 – 3:00pm
Wednesday 18 th Dec	Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 19 th Dec	KS2 Christmas Party Day
Friday 20 th Dec	EYFS + KS1 Christmas Party Day
Friday 20 th Dec	School breaks up for Christmas Holiday
Tuesday 7 th Jan	School re-opens to all pupils



NEWSLETTER

Further
News



SCHOOL COUNCIL

CHILDREN in NEED

Thursday 14th November Children-in-Need Bake-Off Competition

Instead of asking for a £1 monetary donation, this year our School Council have requested a Children in Need Bake off Competition – the bakes will then be sold at the end of the school day.

There will be 3 categories:
CUPCAKES, CAKES & BISCUITS

There will be a prize for the winner in each of the categories.

We ask that bakes are brought into school (together with an ingredient list) on **Thursday 14th November**. The competition will be judged throughout the day and the School Council will be leading the cake sale on the playground at the end of the school day. If you aren't able to take part in the bake off, cake donations to sell on the playground will be greatly received.

All monies raised from the bake sale will be donated to the Children in Need charity.

Friday 15th November 2024

Children are asked to dress in spotty, colourful clothing, Pudsey clothing or they may also come dressed as a Superhero if they so wish. This would link to the Children in Need theme – Gladiator Challenge.

Throughout the day, children will join Steel and other favourite Gladiators for a very special school livestream.

Children will take part and watch their heroes take on school-game inspired challenges.