



Henshaw CE Primary School

Newsletter

Newsletter No. 12 Spring Term
Friday 19th May 2023

West Tyne Federation of Schools

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A Message from the Head Teacher

I would like to start my Head Teacher's message with a heart-felt thank you to our children, staff, governors, parents and wider community for their support, understanding, flexibility and kindness over the past week. As well as delivering the Year 6 SATs, we had a full inspection of our school on the Wednesday and Thursday. Children were absolutely amazing and shone like the stars we know they are, even through some disruption to normal routine which the inspection caused. Staff spoke eloquently to inspectors about teaching and learning within the school and our parent community were incredibly supportive in their views and opinions of Henshaw Primary.

In my 18 years of teaching, I have never seen such a positive outcome to the Ofsted Parent view; 97% (33 out of 34 responses) would recommend the school, feel their children are safe in school and are happy at school (with lots of overwhelmingly positive free-text responses). Myself and the staff at Henshaw are incredibly grateful for the communication and positivity you all bring to our school. You can view the full set of results at [Ofsted Parent View](#) (or type this in to Google and search for Henshaw Primary). As soon as the full report becomes available, we will send you details of how it can be downloaded and viewed.

Workshop Wednesday took on a twist this week with children given the opportunity to be taught by another teacher; Year 5 and 6 went down to Tyne Class for STEM challenges, Reception went to Thames Class to learn about the Great Fire of London and bake bread, Year 1.2 went to Rhine Class to write poetry and Year 3.4 went to Nile Class to use computers to design Kandinsky-style art. Thank you to Mrs Hancock for arranging teas, coffees and tasty treats for the parents.

Just a quick reminder that parent consultations are next week. You should have received a note from your child's class teacher giving you a date and time for an appointment where you can meet with your child's class teacher as well as take a look at the work that children have been doing in books. We have made appointments for all parents, irrelevant if reply slips were returned; if the date and time is not convenient, please contact the school office and we would be happy to rearrange this for you.

Best wishes, Mr Glenton

Class News

Tyne Class

Tyne class are learning all about minibeasts. We made a wormery and found lots of juicy worms to live in it. We have been spotting lots of minibeasts whilst playing outside. We also made wildflower seed bombs to help encourage bees to our playground. We have been practising our writing and created some fantastic Wanted posters for the naughty characters in our story 'What the Ladybird Heard'. Maybe you could make your own seed bombs at home to encourage bees and butterflies into your garden.

Thames Class

Thames Class have been very busy writing letters to Prince Albert from Queen Victoria to say thank you for the Bathing Machine, which he built. They remembered to use some fantastic descriptive sentences and used a range of punctuation, including apostrophes, exclamation marks and question marks. In Maths we have been working on fractions and enjoyed making a sandwich to help our understanding of finding quarters and halves. In Science we have started to look at habitats and find out why some living things are suited to a certain environment. Perhaps you could have a look in your local area and see which living things you can find (plants or animals). We thoroughly enjoyed finding out about farm animals and had a lovely walk in the forest on our visit to Rushey Hall Farm followed by games in the barn.

Rhine Class

In Rhine Class, it has been a very practical week. We have worked on developing a machine to move heavy objects in our outdoor learning environment using wheels, incline, pulleys and levers or a combination. In singing, we have started to learn a new song. In Workshop Wednesday, we made Kandinsky images using technology. In English, we learnt to write sentences using 'ispace'. In maths, Year 3 have been working on their multiplication tables and fractions of objects. Year 4 have really been trying to crack the code for multiplication in readiness for their multiplication tables. We have looked at the work of Jim Kwik in PSHE and strategies he uses to develop memory. It would help if children could practise using ispace at home to develop their sentence structure.

Nile Class

During design and technology, the children have been looking at processed food with Mrs Hosking. First of all, the children compared processed food to whole foods. After that, the children had the opportunity to make and taste bread baked in class, which they said tasted delicious. Please work with your child this week and investigate how many different kinds of bread are available to make or buy today.



Our School Promise

Our School Promise reminds us of our vision and values that we hold dear at The West Tyne Church Schools Federation.

Well done to the following children for achieving their awards:

Learning Award - Lockie

Resilience & Teamwork Award - Eve

Etiquette Award - Daniel

Environmental Award - Freddy, Reece, Matthew, Alex

Kindness Award - Ruby

Inclusion Award - Emily T

Friendship Award - Sophie, Eva W

Role model Award - Emily W

Each week, other children receive a postcard through the post to let their adults know how proud of them we are.

Attendance: Every day is important to give children their full entitlement to an exciting learning journey

Tyne - 95%

Thames - 91%

Rhine - 96%

Nile - 93%

Whole School - 93.3%

Our target for attendance is 96%



Coronation Celebrations

What a wonderful picnic celebration we had on the school field last Friday to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. Thank you for your understanding for us holding this a little bit later in the week so our Year 6 children could fully enjoy the event (they had just finished their final SAT on this day!) A huge thank you to all the teachers, TAs and staff for helping to organise this event; in particular Miss Munro who coordinated the afternoon. We hope you had a lovely time celebrating with us and managed to grab a delicious ice-cream!



Staff Spotlight - Our SENDCo and Early Years Lead

Mrs Hulbert (Early Years Lead)

Hello! My name is Mrs Hulbert and I love teaching little humans. I have been teaching in Early Years for over 15 years in both big and small schools. Before being a teacher I lived in Spain and France and I still love to travel. When not at work you will find me outside. My happy place is on or in the water and I love to go paddle boarding and wild swimming with my family. I also enjoy long walks with my crazy spaniel, Herbie. I am a real foodie and love to cook and eat!



Mrs Clarke



I have been teaching for more than 38 years and over that time, I have been fortunate to teach children from nursery to Year 6. I have been a SENDCo for over 30 years and have also taught in many senior leadership roles including being an executive head teacher. I enjoy working with all age groups and love to foster an enjoyment of learning in all children. I taught in the Midlands until 2017 when me and my husband (of 45 years) moved here to set up a self-sufficient lifestyle. We grow all our own fruit and vegetables and also keep livestock for our eggs and milk. I have been working at the West Tyne Church Schools Federation for 7 years and I lead on PSHCE/RSE. I am the SENDCo for the federation and currently teach Year 3.4.

Wildlife at Henshaw Primary

Our local heritage is very important to us here at Henshaw Primary and we are proud to be part of a rural community; our local area is one of our key curriculum drivers. Because of this, we are continuing to develop our wildlife provision at the school and very soon (after half term), we will be joined by our school chickens! As well as this, we are having our school pond renovated into a fully lined, sustainable habitat for local animals and plants in which to flourish. Both of these improvements will further enrich our curriculum offer at school.

Dates for the diary

Tuesday 23rd May - Picnic, Walk and Bee session for Reception Class at Henshaw School - Greenhead Reception Class will be joining us

Tuesday 23rd May - Rhine class visit to Tullie House, Carlisle with Greenhead's Danube class

Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th May - Parents' Evening

Friday 26th May - School finishes for Half Term

Monday 5th June - Reception vision screening test

Tuesday 6th June - New Reception children (September 2023) Stay and play afternoon

Wednesday 7th June - Class photos and family photos

Thursday 8th June - Year 6, Diocese celebration event at Newcastle Cathedral

Monday 10th July - Sports Day at the Wentworth, Hexham 1pm to 3pm

Tuesday 12th - 14th July - Lockerbie residential for Year 5 and 6 children

A final thought...

To build an effective community, everyone must realise that their
community is bigger than just them

Idowu Koyenikan