

# Newsletter

Newsletter No.13 Summer Term Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023

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# A Message from the Head Teacher

What a busy start to our last half term this year - It really does feel like the year has flown by! I hope you had a chance to read the Ofsted reports from both Greenhead (February) and Henshaw (May) which both illustrated what a fantastic Federation of schools we have, the well-behaved and lovely children who attend them and the hard-work and dedication the professionals working across these schools show each and every day. I feel the Federation (and what we are able to offer your children) has gone from strength to strength this year and it is extremely heart-warming to hear the community and parents' positive comments and see the support for our wonderful schools every day. Although we do not 'always' get

everything right, I really value your openness, understanding and communication and appreciate working together with you all. Both Ofsted reports can now be seen on our websites and on the Ofsted homepage portal.

As we near the end of the academic year, I would like to share the school organisation for classes next year, as follows:

Class	Teacher	Additional adults who may work in the class
Reception (Tyne Class)	Mrs Hulbert (Monday to Thursday) Miss Thompson (Friday Forest School)	Mrs Bell (Monday and Tuesday) Miss Keith (Wednesday to Friday) Mrs Bowes
Year 1 and 2 (Thames Class)	Mrs Olsson	Mrs Hall
Year 3 and 4	Mrs Clarke	Mrs Jameson
(Rhine Class)		Mrs Mowbray
Year 5 and 6	Miss Munro	Mrs Mowbray
(Nile Class)		Mrs Hosking
		Mrs Crawford

Best wishes, Mr Glenton

# **Class News**

### Tyne Class

This week in Tyne Class we have been re-visiting the story of Handa's Surprise. We tasted some of the exotic fruits from the story and used our senses to think of adjectives to describe the fruits. We then wrote our adjectives. We also thought about our favourite fruit and created a pictogram to represent the data. We have been exploring colour and have used water colours, coloured water and foam to experiment with colour mixing. We have painted some beautiful exotic fruits. Maybe you could try a fruit you haven't tasted before at home and draw or paint a picture

# of it?

### Thames Class

Thames class have been busy finding information about elephants and using this information to write their own fact file. They have used sub-headings and remembered to include questions in their work. In maths, year 1 have started to look at counting in steps of 2, 5 and 10 and using this knowledge to solve multiplication problems. Year 2 have been looking at capacity and volume. Year 2 will be starting to look at time over the coming weeks. It would be very helpful if they could start looking at clocks at home and having a go at reading the time.

In Science, we have continued our work on habitats and explored the living things in our school wildlife area. In Geography, we have looked at Atlases, discussed the location of Europe and found where we live on the map.

#### Rhine Class

Rhine class has had another busy week. In swimming, the children did life-saving, wearing their shorts and t-shirts. In English, they have been writing their own school reports. In maths, they have been learning how to tell the time to the minute. Some children are finding this tricky. If you have an analogue clock at home, could you please help to reinforce this. If your child finds telling the time easy, could you please work on time related problems - i.e. If the cake takes 45 minutes to bake and it is put in the oven at 10.10am. What time will it be ready? We all had a super time at the Quad kids event at Allendale and the children really showed both their athletic and resilience skills - thank you to Mrs Porteous for arranging this. In PSHCE/RSE, children have been learning about how the brain works and, in particular, their emotional brain.

#### Nile Class

During PE, the children have been working on various athletic skills. This has included running, throwing javelins, team relays and hurdles. The children have supported each other during each event offering encouragement to their peers. They also shared techniques to help each other improve on their own personal performance. Can the children find out how many athletic events take place in the Olympics?



#### **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 – Fenn, Lockie, Charlie

Resilience & Teamwork Award – Reece, Eva Gm, Hope

Etiquette Award – Alex, Isla

Environmental Award - Ellie, Eco Council

Kindness Award - Eve, Macy, Cain

Inclusion Award - Daniel, Emily W

Friendship Award - Riley

Role model Award - Elizabeth, Charlotte C

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 - 94.3% Thames - 99.3%

Rhine - 96.5%

Nile - 95.3%

Whole School - 97.1%

Our target for attendance is 95%

#### Our Shaun the Sheep and St Oswald's trail

Our Shaun the Sheep, named Caelus (Roman god of the sky) looks utterly 'baaarilliant' and is now ready to join the 'flock' around Newcastle for the St Oswald's trail (beginning on 19<sup>th</sup> July and running for 10 weeks). Thank you for supporting our fund-raising efforts so far for this important and worth-while charity. A huge thank you to the adults and children who have helped to decorate Caelus, in particular, our DT lead, Miss Thompson who has led this project so well.



#### Our upcoming Sports Day

Just a quick reminder that our Sports Day is once again being held at the Wentworth Leisure Centre in Hexham from 1pm until 2:30pm on **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July**, followed by our Summer Fair. It is **vital** that parents inform us **if** their child requires transport back to school at the end of Sports Day so that we can make transport arrangements as necessary. Parents are then welcome to take their children at the end of Sports Day to look around the Fair.

### Hello chickens and Pondlife!

If you get a chance in the next week, have a sneaky look over the fence at the side of the top pitch, at the front of school...you will see our new school pond which the local wildlife is starting to enjoy! Next week, our pond plants should arrive to finish off this area. Our chicken coop is up and we have a new fenced area ready for the imminent arrival of the chickens. I wonder what we could call them...Any ideas?



#### A message from Miss Marsh

Miss Marsh started working with us as an academic mentor on a fixed term basis for one year. This was due to some additional funding we received from the Government for 2022-23. She has worked with and made a real impact on children throughout the Federation. I am thrilled to tell you that Miss Marsh has been successful in gaining her first teaching post, to start in September, but we are very sad to see her go; her new class will be very lucky to have her.

"After an amazing year working at both Henshaw and Greenhead, I am sad to be leaving. I am moving on to Kirkbride Primary School to become a Year 1/2 Class Teacher. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with all the children, staff and parents across both schools and will take many happy memories with me." Best wishes, Mrs Marsh

#### Dates for the diary

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June** – Year 5 & 6 visit Haydon Bridge High School for Commonwealth Sports Day **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June** – Reception Class (Tyne) to visit Greenhead for outdoor learning **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July** – Transition afternoon – Children spend the afternoon with their teachers for next year

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July - am, Sculpture workshop for years 1-2 at Walltown (letter to follow)
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July - Workshop Wednesday at 2-3pm, all parents/carers welcome to attend
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July - Theatre performance for Whole School at Walltown (letter to follow)
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July - Sports Day at the Wentworth, 1pm to 2:30pm, Summer Fair afterwards (The school will be fully subsiding these three visits so no cost to parents)

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> July** – Lockerbie residential for Year 5 and 6 children **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July** – Year 6 reward visit to the Metro Centre – arrive at Henshaw at 8:20am **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July** – Reports out to parents

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 leavers assembly (parents welcome to attend) 9:00am Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July – Whole Federation Beach Trip – see attached letter

School closes for Summer holidays on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July and reopens to children on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September; Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September is a teacher training day.

A final thought...

Education is the most powerful weapon that you can use to change the world Nelson Mandela