



Henshaw CE Primary School

Newsletter

Newsletter No. 3 Autumn Term
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West Tyne Federation of Schools

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A Message from the Head Teacher

It was great to see so many of you at our Harvest Festival last week and it was wonderful to once again get back to our local church. A big thank you to Father Steve & everybody who helped with teas, coffees & a warm church for children to perform. In this newsletter, I can now confirm some of the lovely events we have planned during the next few weeks to enhance what we are able to offer the children, such as our Bedtime Stories event and Remembrance Day celebration. Just after half term, we will be able to give you the details of our Christmas activities coming up including our Christmas Fair, Christingle service & performances from the children.

In the past term, we have had visits from our School Improvement Partner and an Ofsted Inspector (who works for the Diocese) to externally validate the amazing work the staff and children do and what a fantastic place Henshaw Primary School is. I would like to share some of these with you:

1. The school's curriculum is coherently planned, progressive and sequenced towards cumulatively sufficient knowledge and skills for future learning.
2. Behaviour across school is good. The new behaviour policy was consistently implemented, and pupils can articulate the new system.
3. Reading is a priority of the school. Each class has a dedicated reading area and display. Reading is a focus for all subject lead monitoring in all subjects.
4. The 'School Promise' underpins the behaviour management policy and expectations for behaviour and attitudes across the school and is known by all.
5. All aspects of Quality of Education, Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development and Leadership have been considered to ensure that the correct priorities for development are identified and actioned.
6. There is particular emphasis on outdoor learning in Early Years and the Christian values are instilled through regular class and whole school assemblies.
7. The culture of safeguarding is strong. Actions have been taken to ensure the school, the grounds and daily routines support staff in identifying, helping and managing pupils to feel and stay safe.

Sponsored Reading Event

We raised an AMAZING £125 for extra books for our school through our sponsored reading event. Thank you to all the families and children who took part. We would also like to say an enormous THANK YOU to Mr and Mrs Halbert and Bespoke Financial Rural Ltd who donated £200 towards new books for our school. Bespoke Financial Rural specialise in financially protecting families of our rural towns and villages from the risks of injury and illness and the hardship they can bring, through an advised service, tailor made to each individual person and family's needs. We are very grateful for this local company choosing to support our local school in our reading journey.

Class News

Tyne Class

In Reception this week, we have been reading the story 'Once there were giants'. We have been drawing and writing about who lives in our house. We have also been exploring autumn and finding out about the changes that happen at this time of year. We went on a lovely autumn walk and found lots of things that show us that it is autumn time. We created an autumn display and used a key to find out what some of the items are. Can you go on an autumn walk and find something to add to our display? Maybe you could paint an autumn picture using autumn colours?

Thames Class

Thames class have been very busy creating story maps to support them with writing their own recounts. They have remembered to use adjectives, capital letters and full stops. In Maths Year 1 have been writing the correct numbers on number lines and using the vocabulary fewer and more. They could practise using this vocabulary at home by counting objects around the house. Year 2 have been ordering numbers and counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. Perhaps they could practise counting in twos by pairing socks? We also enjoyed singing practise with Mr Reed and using musical instruments in our Charanga music lesson. In History we have looked at significant people and used Diamond Ranking to say who we thought was the most significant. We have also been looking at timelines. In Science we have continued to look at plants and make comparisons between wildflowers and garden flowers.

Rhine Class

In Rhine Class this week, we have been focusing on writing a non-chronological report about the Vikings. We have enjoyed doing the research for this and writing these facts in our own work. In guided reading, we have been looking at the poems of Valerie Bloom and have taken part in performance poetry using her advice. In maths, we have been finding out about how to do the inverse operation to check our addition and subtraction. We have also been using our knowledge of place value to help lay out our calculations. In science, we have been finding out about the reproduction of a flowering plant and seed dispersal. In art, we have had a hand weaving loom in school and have been setting up our own simple looms for weaving. Our teamwork skills and our passing and interception skills are improving in P.E. with NUFC and we have been dancing with chairs this week! Why not find a poem with your child and practise turning it into a piece of performance poetry - then video and send them in for all to see.

Nile Class

This week the children have been looking at pulleys, levers, and gears all around them in everyday life. The children have discovered how simple machines can exert a smaller force to have a greater effect. The children discovered how levers work by increasing the amount of force, how a beam is attached to a hinge or placed over a fulcrum. They then investigated how the position of the fulcrum affected how much the force was increased or decreased which they tested out using a ruler and a pencil as a fulcrum. In the 1500s and 1600s, a Renaissance scientist called Galileo Galilei made great discoveries about pulleys and other simple machines. What can the children learn about Galileo for next week?



Our School Promise

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

The Values of Our School

Wisdom gives us strength in all we do
Endurance keeps us going, trust in teamwork too

A thankfulness to God and community is right
Respecting his creation, the gifts we hold tight
Everyone's forgiven, kindness big and small

We value humility, justice for all
Peace and friendship for all to see
Striving for koinonia is where we want to be



Staff nominate children who have shown these values in our schools and have been role models for our Christian values in our weekly Celebration Assembly.

Well done to the following children for achieving their awards:

Learning Award - Lincoln, Alex, Grace M

Resilience & Teamwork Award - Elizabeth

Etiquette Award - Fearne

Environmental Award - Evie

Kindness Award - Emily W,

Inclusion Award - Lewis S,

Friendship Award - Caelan,

Role model Award - Margo, Cain, Christopher

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

Attendance: Whole School 94.6%

Tyne - 91%

Thames -95.9%

Rhine - 92.3%

Nile - 97.4%

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



Parking at School

Last week, I met with representatives of the Parish County Council (Councillor Alan Sharp and Councillor Geoff Oliver) to review our school car park. We are very lucky to have the car park we do (most schools our size do not have this facility) but we are aware that the amount of traffic we get at pick up and drop off cannot be catered for by the current layout. As well as support from local council traffic wardens, we will work with the Parish Council on possible solutions and/or improvements. We really do appreciate your support in only parking in the marked bays to ensure traffic flows safely.

Bedtime Stories event

On Wednesday 9th November, all children are welcomed back into school at 4:30pm for our Bedtime Stories event. Children are welcome to wear their pyjamas, bring their pillows, blankets and a teddy where they can listen to stories read by the adults in the school. Tickets will be £3.00 for the event and will include a hot chocolate and biscuits. Parents will be able to collect children from the front playground at 5:30pm. A letter will go out in the first week of term with more details.

SAVE THE DATE: Remembrance Day Celebration at Holy Cross

On Friday 11th November, at 10:40am, children from Year 3 to 6 will take part in a Remembrance Day celebration at Holy Cross Church in Haltwhistle. They will be reading stories, poems and singing songs to remember the brave men, women and children who have fought in wars. We will also be performing a special song with the church choir. A letter will be sent out in the first week of term giving you more details about this and asking for you to indicate if parents or grandparents would like to attend this community event.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 17th October - Councillor Trevor Cessford assembly - British Values

Tuesday 18th October - Year 1/2 South Tynedale Railway visit

Wednesday 19th October - Year 3/4 Lindisfarne visit

Thursday 20th October - Workshop Wednesday (on a Thursday!) 2:15pm - 3:15pm

Monday 31st October - Teacher Training Day - School closed to children

Monday 7th November - Anti Bullying Day - activities in school

Wednesday 9th November - Bedtime Stories Event at 4.30pm

Friday 11th November - Remembrance Day Celebration at Holy Cross - Parents, Carers and Grandparents welcome to attend.

A message from our Vicar, Father Steve



Help needed - Halloween Service and party

On Sunday 30th October, you are invited to an All Hallows Evening service at Greenhead at 4pm. Part of the service will be by candlelight (but battery ones for safety with any fancy dress!). We would like to have a party for the children in the village hall afterwards but need some parents to help organise it. If you could help with that, please contact the vicar, Steve, on 01434 320215 or canonstevewright@gmail.com

A final thought...

If you are tired, learn to rest not to quit

Anon.