



Henshaw CE Primary School

Newsletter

Newsletter No. 8 Spring Term 2024
Friday 8th March

West Tyne Federation of Schools

Executive Headteacher— Mr Mike Glenton NPQH, MEd, BSc (Hons)

Assistant Head Teacher Miss Michelle Munro BSc (Hons)

Bardon Mill

Hexham

NE47 7EP

Tel:01434 344324

henshaw@westtynefederation.uk

A Message from the Head Teacher

We are heading into March already, I'm not too sure where this year has gone and we are only three weeks away from Easter holidays.

World Book Day was another wonderful event with lots of different costumes and activities for the children to celebrate reading and stories. We all enjoyed the treasure hunt, a visit from our local library and an online webinar with a real-life author!

After a site survey and camera operation on their road outside of school, The Highway Agency has decided to install bollards to keep our children safe when entering and exiting school; I'm sure you will agree that this is our most important priority as parents, carers and educators. Myself and Councillor Sharp have been working over an extended period, to improve the congestion, safety and parking at school, with our next steps looking at how to re-mark the existing car park capacity. We will continue to keep our community updated as soon as we get them.

A quick reminder that Workshop Wednesday is coming up next week from 2pm to 3pm. Also our Easter celebration at All Hallows Church is in the last week of term, this has had to be slightly changed from 2pm on Tuesday 26th, due to circumstances beyond our control. This will now be held on **Thursday 28th March** at 2pm and parents/carers are still welcome to come back to school afterwards for a cup of tea, coffee and biscuits!

We will also be showcasing the wonderful entrants to our annual Easter Egg competition for all to see.

Best wishes, Mr Glenton

School 360 for Nursery and Reception

Just a reminder to parents and carers of our Reception children that your child's learning journey and experiences in the Early years is recorded on our online platform, School 360.

You should have access to this platform, where you can look through the observations made by teaching staff and your child's next steps. It also gives you the opportunity for you and your child to upload your own activities at home to share with the class teacher.

Class News

Tyne Class

In Tyne Class we enjoyed a class trip to The Great North Museum to start our dinosaur Topic this half term. The children were able to take part in the Dinky Dino workshop listening to a story and exploring the different exciting exhibits! In Literacy we enjoyed listening to the story 'Dear Dinosaur' and created our own post card. We thought of questions to ask a dinosaur at The Great North Museum. In maths we have been learning to measure using nonstandard units. We enjoyed measuring the height and length of different dinosaurs. The class also organised themselves into height order from shortest to tallest, they were able to use the appropriate vocabulary and compare heights. At home can you find five different objects and organise them by height or length? There are also some great measurement games online - <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/early-years/lets-compare>

Thames Class

This half term Thames class have started to look at Salvation in RE and celebrate signs of new life during Spring. We have started to discuss why Easter is an important time for Christians. In English we have looked at Michael Rosen poems and wrote our own using onomatopoeia. I'm sure the children will have great fun giving you some examples. In Maths Year 2 have been very resilient when practising dividing by 5 and 10 and recognising any patterns. Year 1 have practised finding halves and quarters of a shape and a quantity. We had a very sunny walk around the local area near our school and identifying which materials buildings and other objects are made from. We can't wait to investigate materials and new life further when we visit the farm next week.

Rhine Class

This week in Rhine Class our foundation subjects have consisted of rehearsals for the dance festival; hockey; World book day; healthy eating; research on Jane Goodall; mosaics and Roman emperors. In English, we have had our weekly spellings using Ed Shed - our Year 4 children are at the top of the league again - for the fourth week in a row. It is really making an impact on spelling accuracy. In newspaper writing, the children have begun to plan and draft their newspaper article based around our class text 'The Witches'. In grammar this week, we have been reinforcing subordinate clauses. We have also started our new guided reading text 'The last days of Pompeii'. In maths, we have started work on our fractions module. We have introduced two new prompts too - 'cow' work and 'muddy' work. See if the children can tell you all about these.

Nile Class

The children are looking at properties of materials in science. This week the children in Nile class have been exploring which materials are magnetic and how magnets can be used on a daily basis. They now know that some materials attract and repel a magnet and that magnets have a north pole and a south pole. Can the children find everyday household items that use magnets and describe how these magnets work by attracting or repelling?



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 - Lacey, Angus, Ella, Jack Bd

Resilience & Teamwork Award - Alex, Matthew, Chloe, Jack Bd

Environmental Award - Eva

Kindness Award - Lewis F

Role model Award - Bethany, Lewis S



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

Tyne - 98.7%

Thames - 98.4%

Rhine - 97.7%

Nile - 99.0%

Whole School - 98.4% - Well done!

Our target for attendance is 96%

Staffing update

After Easter holidays, Mrs Alberts will be working in Reception full time, Monday to Friday. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Mitchell for her work over the past term where she has developed our Forest Schools provision and made a difference to the outdoor provision we have on offer at Henshaw Primary School.

A HUGE congratulations!

A huge congratulations to Mrs Bowes and her wonderful team on their recent, successful Ofsted inspection which took place over half term. We are lucky enough to see the wonderful work that the Nursery team do each and every day, and we are so pleased that Ofsted have recognised this once again.

A few quotes from their **OUTSTANDING** report:

- The manager is passionate and dedicated to providing the very best for children, their families and staff. She supports staff to plan a curriculum which helps children to thrive and make the best possible progress.
- The manager works very closely with the on-site school. Staff provide exceptional support to help to prepare children for school, such as by familiarising themselves with the school environment. For example, older children eat lunch with Reception-age children each day in the school hall.
- Parents are extremely positive about their children's experiences in the nursery. Staff share a wealth of information with parents about their children's development. They invite parents into nursery to share their children's learning in many ways, such as for stay-and-play sessions, on annual outings to the coast, to read to children and to taste crumble their children make from the apples they pick from the trees.

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 12th March - Year 1.2 visit to Susan's Farm, Houghton

Tuesday 12th March - Year 5.6 visit to Newcastle United Football Club

Wednesday 13th March - Workshop Wednesday, all parents welcome to attend, 2pm - 3pm

Tuesday 19th March - The Great British Spring Clean (organised by the Eco Council)

Tuesday 19th March - Irish dancing display to the school

Thursday 28th March - Federation Dance Festival at Haltwhistle Leisure Centre (children only)

Thursday 28th March - Easter Celebration at All Hallows' Church, 2pm, all welcome to attend
(please note change of date)

Thursday 28th March - Last day of school before Easter holidays

Easter holidays: Friday 29th March until Sunday 14th April 2024

Monday 15th April - School reopens for the Summer term

Year 3 and 4 will attend swimming lessons on a Tuesday after the Easter holidays, starting on
Tuesday 16th April

A final thought...

**If you want to support others, you have to stay upright
yourself**

Peter Hoeg