



## ***Henshaw CE Primary School***

### ***Newsletter***

Newsletter No. 8 Summer I Term 2025

Friday 2nd May

West Tyne Federation of Schools

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### ***A Message from the Head Teacher***

Dear parents and carers

Welcome to Summer term as we now find ourselves in May (where has this year gone?) We hope you have all had a fantastic Easter holiday and it has been wonderful to see all the children come back to school rested and ready for the opportunities our new term will bring.

There will be a lot to look forward to this term; with 2 residentials, a beach visit and sports day - details of these events will soon follow in the next few weeks. As the weather continues to (hopefully) turn sunnier and warmer, please could parents and carers ensure that children have water bottles, suncream and hats in school with them at all times.

As it is such a short half term, there will be no homework projects set for the coming three weeks, however, please continue to read with your children at home and complete activities on Sumdog and Spelling Shed.

Best wishes, Mr Glenton

### ***Our Federation Dance Festival***

Greenhead and Henshaw Primary schools, once again, competed in our Federation Dance Festival this year, at Haltwhistle Leisure Centre. As you could see from the videos posted to our Facebook page, the standard of dance was very high across all classes. It was wonderful to see the children's confidence blossom as they performed their routines to the other children.

Unfortunately, the judges had to choose only one winner from each school (a very difficult decision) - congratulations to Danube class and Nile class; this year's proud winners of our Dance Festival. Check out the wonderful dancing on our Facebook pages.



In Tyne class we enjoyed listening to the story 'Errol's Garden' and we talked about Errol living in a block of flats and why he had to make a garden on the rooftop. We have enjoyed creating our own dream garden outside, using different flowers and pots. In maths the children have been learning about number bonds to 5. We can name number bonds to 5 and we are starting to develop an understanding of number bonds to 10. At home you might want to create your own dream garden, just like Errol's garden.

Thames class have enjoyed being back after their Easter break. We have started to look at money and add amounts to find totals and compare amounts. I am sure they will be able to add some amounts when they go shopping. In English we have looked at nouns and verbs to write a Kennings poem. In Science we have compared the seasons and talked about how the temperature changes. In History we are looking at the impact certain monarchs have had on life today including Alfred the Great and William the Conqueror.

In Rhine Class this week, we have begun our new music theme where we are looking at the Beatles and their legacy. We have also started to find out about the work of Howard Carter and his finding of the tomb of Tutankhamun. In English, our focus has been on using sentence starters to help create tension in our work using wide, imaginative, rich vocabulary - i.e. 'Everything stopped, people were stood like statues all around me.' In maths, the children have learnt about how to use possessive apostrophes in their work. We have begun our new module on time in maths and the children have been reading the time to 5 minutes. If you could encourage your child to read the time at home on an analogue clock this would help them enormously. The children were very excited today about their first swimming lesson at the Wentworth Centre - they were positively buzzing. Finally, we are trying again with our hatching of eggs and another 16 eggs have been put into the incubator. They should hatch around 20<sup>th</sup> May.

Over the next term, in guided reading lessons, the children will be sharing a story entitled 'The River Queen' written by Saviour Pirotta. This book is part of a trilogy series. So far, the children have already enjoyed reading 'The River King'. Over the next term the children will explore similarities between the two stories while predicting the next events for each chapter and inferencing the feelings of the main characters as they embark on each new adventure.



### Our School Promise

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

Learning Award - Ava, Christopher Emily W

Resilience & Teamwork Award - Macy, Eva Jacob

Etiquette Award - Angus

Environmental Award - Charlie C

Kindness Award - Arlo

Inclusion Award - Lilly H

Friendship Award - Robbie

Role model Award - Arty, Finley, Freddie G, Archie, Charlotte Cy



### Attendance:

Tyne - 97.4%

Thames - 96.0%

Rhine - 98.52%

Nile - 91.27%

Whole School - 96.04%

Currently, our whole school attendance is above the national average - thank you so much for working with us to give your child the best education by having them in school as much as possible.

Headteachers can no longer authorise family holidays during term time. As per our partnership agreement with our 12 other local schools, an unauthorised absence of 5 days or longer will result in a fixed penalty notice.

### Teacher Training Days 2025 - 2026

Our teacher training days have been confirmed for next year and there will be three of these:

Monday 1st September 2025

Monday 5th January 2026

Friday 22nd May 2026

### Upcoming Residentials

We are incredibly lucky to be able to offer two residentials to pupils in Key Stage 2 this year; Our annual Lockerbie visit for pupils in Year 5 and 6 & a visit to London (with our Trust partners at Newbrough and Wark) for our Year 4 children.

There will be a meeting to go over further arrangements for the London visit on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 3:30pm** at Henshaw Primary School.

There will also be a meeting to go through arrangements for Lockerbie on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 3:30pm** at Henshaw Primary School.

### Our lovely, new reading areas

We have been developing the areas within classrooms for the children to read in - especially with a focus on reading for pleasure - we do love our reading at Henshaw Primary School!



### Dates for the diary

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May** - Bank holiday Monday - School is closed

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May** - RISE at Henshaw (active playtimes workshops)

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May** - SATs week for Year 6. Free breakfast club provided for children. **Please let the office know if your child would like to attend from 8:15am.**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May** - Parents meeting at 3:30pm - London residential

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May** - Parents meeting at 3:30pm - Lockerbie residential

**Week Commencing 26<sup>th</sup> May** - Half Term week

**Monday 2nd June** - Children return to school

### A final thought

When you can't find the sunshine, be the sunshine

Lola Straus