



Henshaw CE Primary School

Newsletter

Newsletter No. 11 Summer Term
Friday 28th April 2023

West Tyne Federation of Schools

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A Message from the Head Teacher

I hope you had a lovely Easter holiday and it is wonderful to see all the children return to school with such enthusiasm and ready to learn. The school is looking fantastic, with our new herb garden, fence and planting of flowers and vegetables everywhere! A HUGE thank you to Mrs Clarke for organising and creating our new mosaic with our community. It is truly a labour of love and represents our school ethos and values. All classrooms and cloakrooms have now been re-carpeted & our slippers are making our lovely school cosy & clean.

We have had a busy few weeks; Reception have started their new focus of gardens and outdoors and have been busy planting and looking after our local environment. Year 1 and 2 have been to the Hexham Book Festival where they explored the book 'Bunnies on the Boat' by Phillip Ardagh. Year 3 and 4 have started their local art focus with local artist Becky Mae and have explored story telling through their work. Year 5 have been continuing their work as Young Leaders and Year 6 have been working incredibly hard on preparing for their SATS (lots of treats planned afterwards!)

Thank you all for supporting our first fundraiser event for St Oswald's hospice where we held a film night of Shaun the Sheep. We raised an incredible £290 for this worthy cause. We will continue supporting this charity throughout the year and will be starting our design for our Shaun the sheep model to go on the 'sheep trail' in July.

Just a reminder that our Coronation Day get-together will take place on **Friday 12th May** on the school field at 2pm until 3pm. All are welcome to attend with picnic blankets, chairs, food and drinks (non alcoholic) for a celebration!

A plea from our Admin Team

We offer the children at school a range of activities, clubs and visits throughout the school year to actively engage and support their provision. This takes a lot of time and organisation by the teachers but especially our wonderful office managers; Mrs Slater and Mrs Coleman. Can I please ask that parents send in reply slips for enrichment activities (such as clubs and one-off events) by the date shown on the letter. Not doing so may seem like a small matter, but it takes staff additional time to make arrangements or changes after a date has passed. We never want to say that we haven't got enough resources so all children can take part, which is why we need a return date for these events so we can get organised. Thank you for your help with keeping to closing dates on communication.

Class News

Tyne Class

Tyne class are loving our new topic this half term 'Growing' and we have been busy doing exactly that! We have planted some cress 'hair' and have also planted potatoes and lots of bulbs to make our outdoor area look beautiful. We have learnt what plants need to grow and are making sure we look after them well. Maybe you could grow some flowers, herbs or vegetables at home. As we are finding out, it's great fun!

Thames Class

Thames class have had a super few week. We enjoyed finding out about the Jewish festival of Shavout and are looking forward to our new topic Islam, in RE. In English, we have used adjectives, verbs and nouns to write a shape poem about a sloth and a Kennings. In Maths, year 1 have been partitioning numbers using the part whole model and year 2 have started to look at fractions. Perhaps they could practise halving and using quarters at home? In Science, we have discovered why the length of day changes in each season. The children were very interested in finding out about how the Earth tilts. We also enjoyed our book festival in Hexham.

Rhine Class

In Maths, Year 3 have been working on capacity and volume - if they could practise reading and measuring at home as much as possible, that would really help. In Year 4, we have been working on dividing 2-digit numbers by 10 and 100. If you could identify where decimals are used in our world - i.e. money and time - this would be very helpful too. Our Year 4 children have also started to practise the times table check practise materials to help them become familiar with what will be expected.

We have started our Egyptian theme and the children are already 'hooked' into some of the 'gory' details about mummification. In design and technology, we have been thinking about creating a machine to lift heavy objects. Our work with local artist Becky Mae has also begun. We had a fantastic first session with her. We even continued our learning at lunchtime by planting some trees and weeding the flower beds.

Nile Class

The children have started athletics this term by looking at sprint starts and reaction times. For the first couple of lessons, everyone has taken part in a game called 'Fox and Hare'. Very quickly, everyone realised they needed to place their feet in a starting position ready to push off as fast as possible. Please work with your child to find out how many different athletic events they could compete in during competitions.



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 - Olly

Resilience & Teamwork Award -

Etiquette Award - Freddy N

Environmental Award - Hope, Cain, Lacey, Eva Gm, Freddie G

Kindness Award - Lewis, Alex

Inclusion Award -

Friendship Award -

Role model Award - Dylan



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 - 85.0%

Rhine - 86.5%

Nile - 91.6%

Whole School - 87.8% Unfortunately the Vomiting/Diarrhoea bug has taken its toll on our attendance this week 😞

Our target for attendance is 96%

Upcoming Events: Workshop Wednesday and Sports Day

Workshop Wednesday will be on **Wednesday 17th May at 9am**, where children may find themselves being taught by a different teacher to normal for this session. We will be having a specialism focus where our amazing teachers will be teaching a session based on their areas of expertise.

Once again, we have secured the Wentworth Leisure Centre Athletics track and field for our Federation Sports Day. This will be held from 1pm until 3:20pm on **Monday 10th July**. We wanted to give you as much notice as possible so you could make arrangements if necessary. We will also tie this in with our Summer Fair for the afternoon too.

Staff Spotlight – Our Amazing Assistant Heads

Miss Munro

I have now been working in education for over 20 years over several different schools around the North East and I enjoy every day of teaching still, which I feel very lucky about! In my spare time, I like spending time with friends and family (especially over a coffee!) and long walks with my friends' dogs (so I can hand them back at the end!) Although I like teaching all subjects in the primary curriculum, Art, Computing and Maths are my favourite.

Mrs Makepeace

I have been at Greenhead Primary School for almost six years and I love my job. My role is to ensure we have an engaging RE and Science curriculum. I have the great pleasure in teaching in Clyde Class and enjoy being in the classroom and part of the children's learning journey. I am proud to be part of such a supportive team who will always go above and beyond for all the children across the Federation. In my spare time, I love spending time with my daughters, going for afternoon tea or spending the day at the beach. I like to try and keep fit by going for a run or going to the gym to burn off all that cake!

Assessments

We are coming up to the time of year when some of the children will be completing assessments. These are national tests which are compulsory for all schools to undertake in the summer term. However, staff ensure that we make these as stress-free and accessible for children as possible. Our curriculum is designed and structured in such a way that the children will be ready for these. Year 6 will undertake their SATS starting on the 9th May and finishing on the 12th May. These are more formal tests which are externally marked.

Year 2 SATS will be held over a two-week period in May and will be delivered in small groups by the teacher and are marked internally. Year 4 will have a multiplication tables check in June and Year 1 will have a phonics screening check in June also. If you would like any additional information, please speak to your class teacher after school. We know how amazing all of your children are and we are proud of the achievements of each and every one; a test cannot show this.

Monday 1st and 8th May – Bank Holiday – School is closed

Friday 5th May – Height and Weights Measurements Check – Reception and Year 6

9th, 10th, 11th, 12th May – Year 6 SATs week. Good luck to our wonderful Year 6s, you will be amazing and will shine like the stars we know you are!

Tuesday 9th May – Thames Class visiting Rushey Law Farm, Birtley

Wednesday 10th May – Tyne Class visiting Rushey Law Farm, Birtley

Friday 12th May – Coronation Celebration 2pm – 3pm on School Field – all welcome

W/C 15th and 22nd May – Year 2 SATs weeks

Wednesday 17th May – Workshop Wednesday, 2pm – 3pm

Thursday 18th May – Year 6 University Graduation event at Newcastle University

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

Friday 26th May – School closes for Half Term holidays

A final thought...

**Don't wait until you have reached your goal to be proud of yourself.
Be proud of every step you take to reach that goal. Anon**