



June 21<sup>st</sup> 2019 Issue 35

### **OFSTED Report**

I know that many of you have been waiting for the report of the recent inspection and today the report was sent home with each child. The report will be published on 27<sup>th</sup> June on Ofsted's website.

The inspection guidance is clear on the possible outcomes for schools that were graded 'good' in their last two day inspection, which we had in April 2015. They cannot move into the 'outstanding' grade during a one day inspection which we had recently – that is the legislation.

The best outcome that 'good' schools can hope for is to remain at good with the possibility of a further two day inspection in the near future to see if we can achieve an outstanding grade. That is the outcome we achieved and we are delighted.

The inspection was very thorough and fair. It recognises the many successes we have, the improvements we make each year and praises the team. I have been part of many OFSTED inspections and read many other reports. There are not many reports as positive as this, but in my opinion, there are not many schools as amazing as ours! Well done to all our children and staff. Thank you for your very supportive messages. I hope that you enjoy reading the report.

### **Miss Scott's Year 4 Class Assembly**

This morning our Year 4 children entertained us with facts, recordings, dancing and a song. They presented their learning about ancient and modern Greece brilliantly and showcased our superb curriculum that OFSTED praised. Well done Year 4 and Miss Scott!

### **Father's Day**

I hope that the Father's Day event went well. I know that the staff work hard to come up with unusual and fun activities to entertain our visitors on days like today. Having as many of these fun, family events as possible is important to us as we really value our relationship with you, which helps support your children

### **Auditors' Visit**

This week we had internal auditors in school who check financial systems and controls. The auditors were very thorough and I thank Mrs Hauxwell for her work in preparation for and during the audit. The School Office is a very busy place and this has been another big event in what has been a very eventful year!

### **Whole School Photograph**

I was pleased to see our whole school photograph arrive this week. This was arranged to mark the completion of the extension. It is quite unusual for these to be taken in primary schools so if you would like to purchase one, please return the slips and money by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June

### **Cycling Proficiency**

A parental consent form will be sent out on Monday for children in Year 6 and Year 4 for cycling proficiency sessions that will run before the end of term. Year 5 will get their chance at the start of the new academic year when they are in Year 6.

### **Durham University Visit**

A group of children went to Durham University to take part in a number of sessions hosted by university staff. On this occasion, they learnt about history, archaeology, music, geography and visited the cathedral library. They learnt a great deal. Thank you to Dr Greenwell's husband, Professor Greenwell, for organising this.

## School Grounds

We have been disappointed with several areas that were seeded once the builders had left. We have asked them to do some remedial work which should be done over the summer holidays.

## New technologies

We have been lucky recently to work with some fairly new technology which involve programming lego models with software on our Ipads. Our Year 6 children impressed a Local Authority Adviser with their skills and resilience to create fans that rotated back and forward, stopping at intervals and various other amazing things! Well done Year 6!

## 1940s Weekend

Barnard Castle is hosting its annual 1940s weekend and Mrs Leonard is arranging for the 1940s After School Group to be involved. A vintage coach will be picking the children up (who will be dressed as evacuees) from school and then collect another group from Green Lane. After this, the coach will drop the children off at the Scar Top to take part in different activities. We will be singing war songs, collecting our ration packs and having fun! We will be on Scar top from about 11:30 until 12:30, so please come along and join in!

## Orienteering

Year 6 children enjoyed orienteering this week at Staindrop. When the grounds are in better shape, we will map out a course for the children to enjoy.

## ParentPay

Reminders have been sent out to individual parents to activate their accounts. For all users, it is important that we do not let debts accrue as the county policy is clear about this, with debt enforcement procedures pursued out by the Local Authority.

## Attendance for w.b. 17.6.19

| Class     | Present |
|-----------|---------|
| Reception | 87.4%   |
| Year 1    | 96.8%   |
| Year 2    | 100%    |
| Year 3    | 98.6%   |
| Year 4    | 96.7%   |
| Year 5    | 94.8%   |
| Year 6    | 100%    |

School overall attendance 96.3%

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons.

1 HOUR of learning was lost to lateness this week.

## Dates for the diary

|  |  |
|--|--|
| June 21-23 <sup>rd</sup>                     | 1940s weekend  |
| June 21 <sup>st</sup>                        | Year 4 Class Assembly 9am                                  |
| June 21 <sup>st</sup>                        | Father's Day event 2pm                                     |
| June 24 <sup>th</sup>                        | Woodland Football 9.30-2pm (selected Key Stage 2 children) |
| June 25 <sup>th</sup>                        | New Reception Starters transition morning                  |
| June 28 <sup>th</sup>                        | Careers Fair for Year 5/6 at the Hub                       |
| July 2 <sup>nd</sup>                         | New Reception Starters transition morning                  |
| July 5 <sup>th</sup>                         | Sports Day (Nursery am then Reception and Y1-6 pm)         |
| July 8 <sup>th</sup>                         | Year 5/6 Performance 6pm                                   |
| July 9 <sup>th</sup>                         | Year 5/6 Performance 6pm                                   |
| July 10 <sup>th</sup> -July 12 <sup>th</sup> | Year 6 transition days to Teesdale School                  |
| July 12 <sup>th</sup>                        | Moving Up Day (Y1-6)                                       |
| July 16 <sup>th</sup>                        | Year 6 at The Hub  |
| July 17 <sup>th</sup>                        | Year 5 at The Bowes Museum                                 |
| July 19 <sup>th</sup>                        | Last day   |
| September 3 <sup>rd</sup>                    | Teacher training day                                       |
| September 4 <sup>th</sup>                    | Children return to school                                  |

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher