



June 29th 2018 Issue 35

Staff Update

I mentioned a while ago that we had been recruiting some new teachers to add to our current teaching team from September. All of the necessary checks are complete and I am pleased to welcome Mrs Leonard, Miss Scott and Miss Bean to our team. Mrs Patterson will be changing her role from Teaching Assistant to a Teacher and we are very proud of her too. These additions to the team will allow us to teach in single year groups from September. I will let you know which teacher will be teaching your class next year in the end of year reports which will be sent out on July 9th.

Terrific Scientific Award

I am pleased to inform you that we have been awarded the BBC's 'Terrific Scientific School of Excellence Award' this week. This is an outstanding achievement and it shows our commitment to high quality science. Terrific Scientific is a programme whereby Key Stage 2 take part in to a host of experiments and upload their results to give a national picture of data collected. Congratulations also to Dr Greenwell for leading on this.

Woodland Football Tournament

On Monday, in very warm conditions, our Key Stage 2 footballers travelled to Woodland Primary School to take part in an annual competition. They have really improved over the course of the year thanks to Mr Foster's coaching each week. We won 4 out of 7 matches to qualify for the semi-final, we lost that 2-1 but managed to win the 3rd/4th play-off to finish 3rd! The team came back in high spirits which was great to see. Many of the children will be able to compete again next year as they are a younger squad than some of our opponents. Well done to the boys and girls who took part!

Warm Weather

Over the weekend on my trips to water in the polytunnel I noticed the temperature rise to 110F which was rather warm! I was pleased to see our pupils come prepared this week with water bottles, sun cream and hats. Our gardeners have been busy harvesting the cucumbers from the polytunnel which have benefited from the hot spell.

Reception Taster Sessions

We are delighted with the way our new Reception children have been on their transition sessions in readiness for September. They are already starting to understand the rules and routines of our school and are appearing more confident. Well done to all of the children.

Road Safety Poet

On Wednesday we were visited by a poet, Bernard Young, who inspired us to write our own poems based on the theme of road safety. The children really enjoyed performing their poems and created some fantastic rhymes. This was arranged as part of the new speed restrictions by Durham County Council.

Garden Developments

We have opened up the small shed in the garden with the view to turning it into a Signal Box to tie in with the railway theme. Mr Hunt has installed an old telephone that came from a signal box for the children to play with and we are grateful to Mr Dry who donated an old desk that we have put in there.

Next week another one of our parents, Mrs Rothwell, has kindly offered to carve a stone block that we have purchased. She is going to use some of the children's ideas on the stone which will be placed near the entrance to the garden. The children will be able to see her carving the stone next week which may inspire future artists! Thank you Mrs Rothwell.

Friends of Montalbo Raffle

Two books of raffle tickets have been sent out to each child in the hope that they can be sold to aid the school. If you are unable to sell them please return them to school or if you would like more tickets please ask at the School Office. Please return any slips and monies received for the tickets by **Friday 13th July** in a sealed envelope. The raffle has some tremendous prizes and will be drawn on **Wednesday 18th July**. Tickets will be available to buy at Sports Day too. Thank you.

Year 4, 5 and 6 Summer Performance

As we approach the end of term, work in and around the school hall will accelerate. Just in case we are disrupted, we thought we should organise the Summer Performance out of school and have booked Glaxo Sports and Social Club. The first performance will be on Tuesday July 17th, starting at 1.30pm and the second performance will be on Wednesday July 18th with a 6pm start.

Tickets for the performances will be available on 4th July once the venue has confirmed the exact numbers that we are allowed to have at each performance.

Sports Day

Due to the field being cordoned off, we are going to have our Sports Day this year at Barnard Castle Cricket Club. We plan to start at 1.30pm on July 10th and we would love to see you there. We are very grateful to the Cricket Club and are looking forward to the afternoon.

Uniform Orders

The date has passed to have new uniform sent to school. You can still order from the suppliers directly and it can be sent to your home in time for September.

To order for nursery follow this link <https://studentuniform.co.uk/mon074> and to order for Reception – Y6 follow this link <https://studentuniform.co.uk/mops072>

Attendance for w.b. 25.6.18

Class	Present
Mrs Bartoli's Reception	97.8%
Miss Lauder's Class	97.3%
Miss Blackburn's Class	98.1%
Dr Greenwell's Class	97.2%
Miss Richardson's Class	96.8%
School Total	97.4%

Dates for the diary

July 2 nd	Class 3 Pond dipping at The Hub
July 3 rd	Clarinetists to Teesdale
July 4 th	Year 4 and 5 to Teesdale 9am -12 (details to follow)
July 5 th	New Reception starter transition sessions
July 5 th	Selected Y5/6 to Cricket at Barnard Castle Cricket Club
July 9 th	End of Year Reports sent out
July 10 th	Sports Day 1.30pm at Barnard Castle Cricket Club
July 12 th	Miss Blackburn's Class Assembly
July 13 th	Nursery Sports Day (a.m)
July 13 th	Moving Up Day
July 17 th	Y4/5/6 Summer Performance 1.30-3pm Glaxo Sports and Social Club
July 18 th	Y4/5/6 Summer Performance 6pm-7.30pm Glaxo Sports and Social Club
July 20 th	Leaver's Assembly 9.am

Punctuality

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons. Remember Wake Up, Shake Up usually starts at 8.45a.m. **1 hour 20 minutes** of learning was lost to lateness this week.

Mr Minikin, Head Teacher