



Creative Curriculum

As I went around school on Monday, I noticed again the breadth of our curriculum. The range of activities going on was really nice to see. In one corner of the hall we had Mrs Wood cooking with Class 2 whilst in another area we had an ArtsMove project with Class 4 sculpting, making and drawing fossils.

Musikality

A group of Music teachers came to school on Tuesday to perform for us and explain about different instruments and their history. It was a very interactive assembly which the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed, culminating in the creation of an impromptu rock band with Jack from Class 4 on the base guitar, Rosie from Class 3 on the electric guitar, Kate and Connie from Class 4 on the drums and Archie from Class 1 on the acoustic guitar.

For the grand finale, Joshua G from Class 4 on the electric guitar, joined Dan from Musikality and our own multi-talented Miss Blackburn on the drums for the Guns and Roses classic, *Sweet Child of Mine!* The audience were amazed! Simon Cowell is waiting for them to return his call...

Northumbrian Water

Class 3 were visited by a representative from Northumbrian Water who talked to the children about water usage, processes and ecology. They are gathering information from a range of sources and next for them is a visit to Hartlepool Power Station and a local wind farm.

Foodbank

This week we received a lovely letter thanking us for providing 124.32kg of food and informing us that this would help to support 155 people in our community. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this and Mrs Ridley for organising the process.

Parents' Evening

We have decided to have Parents Evening over 3 nights this year. They will be held on Monday 14th, Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th November. Please ring or call in to the School Office to arrange an appointment. The book fair will be operating in school on those evenings.

Crafty Ceramics

Crafty Ceramics have been visiting the school for a number of years. An information sheet has been sent out today. The children's painting session takes place on Monday 28th November from 3.30-4.30pm. Please complete the form and send a cheque payable to Mrs C Armstrong if you would like your child to make one. Thank you.

Winter Coats

As the weather has turned much colder, please remind your child to bring a coat to school! Thank you.

FOMS Update

A date for our popular Bingo Night has been confirmed for Thursday 24th November, starting at 6pm. This year we are going to offer two movies if you would like to bring your children along: one for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1; one for Key Stage 2. Tickets will be available from Monday and are £2.50 per adult and £1 per child. Adults receive pie and peas and children can have popcorn and a soft drink. Refreshments are available on the night. Tickets are limited due to the hall size and will be given out from Monday.

Swimming

Please note that swimming for Class 4 is on Monday this week due to the Safety Carousel visit. Remember your kits!



Safety Carousel

On Thursday 10th November the children from Class 4 are attending the Safety Carousel where they will visit different workshops to learn more about keeping safe online, fire safety, the dangers of electricity, water safety and many other key messages. We currently have bikeability teachers to help our older children make sensible decisions when travelling by bike and have road safety activities booked in later in the year for Class 3.

I have reminded the children in assemblies this week about the importance of stopping, looking and listening, particularly around our busy school and once again urge drivers to park considerately and drive very carefully around school. School has been informed that Police Officers will be monitoring the situation closely. Thank you.

Children in Need

As part of this event on Friday 18th November, we are encouraging the children to dress up in spotty clothes and donate £1, if they wish, to this good cause.

Christmas Performances

Advanced warning- We have confirmed the dates for the Christmas Performances!

Foundation Stage will do their own performance this year to Nursery and Reception parents. This will be at 2pm on Thursday 8th December.

For the rest of the school, we are continuing the recent arrangement whereby Key Stage 1 (Y1/Y2) are the actors and actresses and Key Stage 2 (Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6) support with the singing. The dates for this are Wednesday 7th at 2pm and again at 6pm. There will also be a performance on Friday 9th at 2pm.

Key Stage 2 will then act in the Summer Performance with Key Stage 1 supporting.

Attendance for w.b. 31.10.16

	Present
Reception	93.1%
Class 1	99.00%
Class 2	97.7%
Class 3	94.7%
Class 4	98.3%

Overall attendance this week was 96.7%

Well Done to Class 1 who are consistently the best attenders

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.

2 Hours 40 minutes learning time lost this week

Application for a School Place (Primary School) for September 2017

Cards have been handed out to Nursery parents detailing the procedure for applying for a Reception place for their child. All information is available online from www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and the deadline for applications is midnight on 15th January 2017.

Dates for your Diary

- November 7th Swimming for Class 4
- November 8th Bikeability – Cycle Training for Class 4
- November 10th Safety Carousel for Class 4
- November 14th- 16th Book fair
- November 14th, 15th and 16th – Parents’ Evening
- November 18th Class 4 to The Bowes Museum – Apprentices
- November 22nd SATs Meeting for Parents of Y2 and Y6 children
- November 24th Girls’ Football Tournament at St John’s Catholic School
- November 28th Crafty Ceramics

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher