



## **Class 1 Assembly**

Today saw our fourth Class Assembly of the year. It was a wonderful royal celebration taking us on a journey through time, meeting our most notable Kings and Queens of the past and giving us lots of information about their topic. The children looked wonderful in their costumes and remembered all their words and actions. These children are only in Year 1 and showed real confidence and enjoyment performing to our large audience. Thank you to the parents and friends of Class 1 who were able to join us. Well done Class 1, Miss Lauder and Mrs McIntyre – I'm sure Queen would have been impressed!

## **Reception Assembly**

The next class assembly will be by Reception children on Friday July 7th at 9am. We look forward to seeing parents and friends of Reception then.

## **Assemblies**

I am very keen to ensure that children feel as safe and reassured as possible in school and society. I follow advice given to schools from PHSE Association, in light of the terrible, unforeseen events such as those that happened in Manchester this week. Children do talk, are curious, play in certain ways and it is important to give sensitive, sensible messages at times like these.

## **Mrs Bowron, Mrs Daniels and Mrs Dupuy**

We are very pleased that our 3 Teaching Assistants, who joined us in January and February, will be staying with us next year. Our school staff has grown over the past year to help support teaching and learning throughout the school.

## **Athletics**

This week children in Y5/6 competed against other local schools at Teesdale School in a series of events. All of the children tried their best and we are proud of their efforts. We had several winners - too so many congratulations to:- Adele Dry - 800m; Kate M, Kelci M, Tilda S and Adele D - Girls Relay Winner; Roan E 80m Hurdles

Selected children from Key Stage 2 competed today at Shildon's Athletics stadium. This is a great occasion and many schools from Teesdale and the Bishop Auckland area attend. It will be a good experience for the children to perform on a proper track in front of a large crowd. I will let you know how they performed after the half term break.

## **Keeping safe near water**

During assembly on Tuesday this week, I talked to the children about the dangers of open water. A link to the Durham County advice on this topic can be found on

<http://www.durham.gov.uk/article/7833/Stay-safe-in-or-near-open-water>

Please remind your child/children of the importance of staying close to an adult around the local environment, especially near open water.

## **Tesco Bags of Help Scheme**

I am so pleased to see how well we are doing in the Tesco votes for the Train Garden. Well done everyone and keep voting!

## **Song for Europe**

I was delighted to be able to hear the whole of Class 3 perform Let it Go in Welsh in an assembly this week. They certainly are a talented class and I know Dr Greenwell was incredibly proud of the children who performed to the rest of the school and the group that performed at the Gala Theatre too. It is another example of a very creative curriculum, giving children different opportunities and helping them to become more confident in different situations. Well done Class 3!



**The Meet Procession**

We have been advised by the judges to meet in Glaxo SmithKline’s car park at 11.30am. Anyone who is joining us can meet us there in their fantastic Victorian outfits!

**Outdoor Learning**

This week we celebrated Outdoor Learning Day. Class 4 spent a large part of the afternoon using the outdoor stage to begin rehearsing the Summer Play while Class 3 were at the Gala theatre taking part in ‘A song for Europe. In Key Stage 1, Class 1 had an exciting trip to the woods where they enjoyed making stick men from foraged materials, and then using them to play pooh sticks. To complete this exciting day of outdoor learning Class 2 spent time in the outdoor sandpit as part of their topic of the seaside. Foundation Stage uses their outside space for large parts of the day. We will try to provide more opportunities to work outside as we develop our curriculum.

**Reception Taster Days and Parents Meeting**

Miss Smith would like to start the transition process for new Reception children who will start with us in September 2017. We would like to invite the children into school to help familiarise themselves with the room, staff and the other children. The first event will take place on the morning of Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June and then each Tuesday until 11<sup>th</sup> July.

A meeting has been arranged in The Base for parents/carers of our Reception new starters at 3.30pm on Wednesday 7th June. This will provide parents/carers with some useful information in preparation for September.

**Teacher Training Day**

A reminder that the final half term of this year begins on Tuesday 6th June due to a Teacher Training Day.

**Enjoy the Holidays**

I hope everyone connected to our school has a wonderful, relaxing and enjoyable half term break. It has been a busy half term with assessments in both Year 2 and Year 6. The final half term of the year is an eventful but exciting time in school with Sports Days, trips and the Summer Performances.

**Attendance for w.b. 22.5.17**

Class	Present
<b>Reception</b>	<b>97.6%</b>
Class 1	93.6%
Class 2	96%
Class 3	96.6%
Class 4	94.8%

Overall attendance this week was 95.7%

**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. 57 minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week.

**Dates for your Diary**

- May 29<sup>th</sup> – June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Half Term Holidays
- June 5<sup>th</sup> – Teacher Training Day
- June 7<sup>th</sup> – Parents meeting for new Reception starters
- June 8<sup>th</sup> – Girls Cricket at Willington for selected 5/6 girls
- June 16<sup>th</sup> – Father’s Day Event in school 2pm
- June 30<sup>th</sup> – Sports Day (EYFS 10.30am; Y1-6 1.30pm)
- July 7<sup>th</sup> Reception Assembly (9am)

**Mr Minikin**  
Head Teacher