



Reception Assembly

Congratulations to the boys and girls from Reception for their first ever Class Assembly! They took us on a wonderful journey through the jungle and forest. They entertained us with brilliant air-guitaring, monkey dancing, lice-picking and singing! Thank you to Miss Smith, Mrs Patterson, Mrs Kicks, Miss Connolly, Mrs Daniels and Mrs Miller for their work on this. I hope all of our special visitors enjoyed the assembly.

Key Stage Results

The results from the End of Key Stage 2 SATs tests were sent to school on Tuesday and were given to the children at the end of the day. The children have done very well and we are very proud of them all. As a cohort, the children have surpassed the national average results by a long way in each subject. The children have worked hard as the expectations have risen considerably over the last two years. Teaching in Year 5/6 is very demanding and I would like to thank Miss Richardson and Mrs Dupuy for their hard work. Well done to you all!

The other areas of the school that are reported are based on Teacher Assessments, rather than tests, and happen at the end of Reception and Key Stage 1. Key Stage 1 tests are taken (but not used in Local/National data) and it is the teacher's judgement across a year's worth of evidence that is important. We are very pleased with our children's Teacher Assessments at the end of Key Stage 1 and the end of Reception, and both sets of results are considerably higher than national average. Well done to you all! Parents of children in Reception and Year 2 will receive Teacher Assessment data in their child's report on Monday. You will also find out who your child's teacher is next year in the report.

Enriching Activities

I am very proud of how our curriculum has developed this year. The children are very engaged in the different activities planned by the teachers and one element that we have really improved on is the amount of visits we make and visitors we have in school to enrich the curriculum. This week, for example, we have had in Professor Greenwell and Jays Animal Encounters, Ash Randell – a Freestyle Footballer and a trip to the Witham for an Art Workshop! All these experiences enhance the work we do and are something we will continue to build on.

Jay's Animal Encounters

Class 4 really enjoyed the sessions with Professor Greenwell and Jay. They learnt a great deal about evolution by looking at fossils and skulls.

Jay brought a range of animals with him that the children loved holding: from Scorpions to Meerkat; from Hedgehogs to Skunks! They now know more about the adaptations that these creatures have made in order to survive. Thank you very much to Professor Greenwell for arranging and funding this activity through Durham University.

Ash Randell

We were fortunate enough to have Freestyle Footballer Ash Randell visit school on Tuesday. He wowed the school with his tricks in assembly. Oscar and I were encouraged to compete with various tricks at the front with much hilarity! Ash spoke about the hours of practice, resilience and perseverance needed to be a success which is a message we often refer to in assembly.

Witham Art Workshop

On Tuesday, the Year 4 children went to Witham Hall and worked with an artist and residents of the Manor House Care Home to produce some fantastic portraits. These will be displayed over the next few weeks in the gallery there and I am looking forward to seeing them.

Outdoor and Adventurous Festival for Class 1

On Monday Year 1 took part in a festival involving outdoor and adventurous activities. They took part in many games and puzzles and did really well. Well done to you all.



School Meals

The new menu for the Autumn Term has been handed out this week and as you will have seen the choice has been extended to 5 meals which is great news. Please return the completed form by **Thursday 13th July**. **Meals for those children moving to KS2 are not included in the Universal Free School Meal Scheme and cost £2 per day, cash or cheque payable to Durham County Council. If you believe you are entitled to a free school meal complete the form available for the school office as soon as possible.**

Sports Day

I am hoping Sports Day will have gone ahead! Thank you to Miss Richardson for organising this and all of the staff for their efforts too. I will report on this next week – fingers crossed the weather was kind!

School Fair 11am – 3pm

I hope many of you can join us at the School Fair tomorrow! There are lots of fun things to do for all of the family.

Please could any bakers who are planning to bake for the School Fair, bring in their baked goods on Friday 7th July if they can be kept unrefrigerated, or on Saturday 8th July any time before 10am. Thank you.

If you are able to help at the fair at any point between 11am-3pm on 8th July, please let Mrs Finlay or the School Office know. Thank you.

End of the academic year bills

As we are approaching the end of the academic year, please could you ensure that bills such as dinner money are paid promptly so that the money can be banked. Thank you.

Lost Property

We have accumulated quite a lot of unnamed school jumpers from this year and an assortment of other garments. If you think your child may have lost some clothes, please call at the School Office to have a look. Thank you.

Super Hero Day

To tie in with the school play, we would like to have a Super Hero Day on the final Thursday of term, Thursday 20th July. Children are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite Super Hero (or a made up one) on that day!

Summer Performances

The Key Stage 2 performance of *Staggering Stanley* will take place on Monday July 10th and Tuesday July 11th. There will be 3 performances in total: Monday July 10th at 6pm, Tuesday July 11th at 1.30pm and 6pm.

Attendance for w.b. 3.7.17

Class	Present
Reception	90.4%
Class 1	94.3%
Class 2	97.5%
Class 3	95.3%
Class 4	100%

Overall attendance this week was 96.1%

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 and 37 minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week.

Dates for your Diary

- July 8th School Fair (11am-3pm)
- July 10th End of Year Reports sent home
- July 10th and July 11th Key Stage 2 Summer Performances
- July 11th New Reception Taster Morning
- July 12th-14th Transition Days for Y6
- July 20th Super Hero Day
- July 21st Leavers' Assembly @ 9.05am for Y6 parents/relatives

Mr Minikin
Head Teacher