



May 3rd 2019 Issue 29

Behaviour for Learning

There are many special things about our school and I often highlight different aspects in our weekly newsletter. This week I asked for two Local Authority Advisers to come into school to seek their opinions on how we are doing and there were many parts of school life that were praised. One point that particularly stood out was the excellent learning behaviours that our children exhibit. Their attitude to learning is excellent and the way they support each other through partner work and collaboration is lovely to observe. Our children work hard and try their best, showing endeavour in each curriculum area. Well done everyone!

Key Stage 2 Football Team

On Wednesday the Key Stage 2 footballers travelled to Staindrop to play against several other Teesdale schools for the second week running. There were several changes to the squad to give other children a chance. The team was made up of Year 4, 5 and 6 and the children performed really well, especially as they were competing against teams of Year 6s. We even recorded our first victory of the campaign and to see them return to school so excited was wonderful to see! Well done team.

Whole School Photograph

This year, to celebrate and mark completion of the new extension, I thought it would be nice to have a whole school photograph, of children and staff, taken by our new school photographers. We hope to have this taken outside on June 5th so fingers crossed for a fine day!

Class photographs will be taken in the next couple of weeks and I will let you know when the date is confirmed.

High Force Teacher Training

Our next trainee teacher, Mrs Vaioleti, will start in school next week and be working with Miss Lauder and her class. We hope that she enjoys her time with us over the next few weeks.

Taekwondo

There was a bit of a mix up with the taekwondo coach who we were expecting to continue to work in school for Monday's sporting club and she has now booked elsewhere. Mr Foster has agreed to teach the club but this will be Box Fit instead. Children who were interested in taekwondo have been asked if they wish to continue. We apologise for this and hope that the children will enjoy BoxFit instead.

Superb gardeners

Thank you to our superb gardening club and Mrs McIntyre for their work with me in the Railway Heritage Garden. They are learning a great deal of knowledge and skills whilst having fun! Every season, I am trying to develop the garden a little more and I love seeing the children showing family members around on a morning. Unfortunately, there are some repairs needed on Percy Beck so that will be out of action for a little while.

Miss Lauder's Class Local Visits

Our Year 1 children have had a busy week visiting the local area. On Monday, they enhanced their new Castles topic by visiting Barnard Castle as they start to understand more about its historic features. Later in the week, they looked at human and physical features of the town on Market Day! They behaved beautifully and learnt a great deal. Well done Year 1.

Dr Greenwell's Class Visit

The Year 3 children had a great time at St Mary's Church as Reverend Harding demonstrated a baptism with a soft toy 'Max the Monkey'.

Year 6 SATs

The run up to Year 6 SATs is never the easiest of times for Year 6s and staff. The children have been focusing hard and doing their best. It was great to see them enjoying PE and other subjects as we try and achieve the right balance for the children. There are plenty of nice activities planned for after May 16th including a visit to The Hub and their residential to Ford Castle.

Ford Castle

The remaining balances for Ford Castle have been added to Parent Pay this week so payments towards the cost of the residential can now be made. To clarify, parents do not need to pay the deposit and the second instalment which is on Parent Pay, this is for information only and a reflection of how the system is set up, if you need confirmation of any payment due please contact the school office.

May Day

Please remember that Monday 6th May is a Bank Holiday. We look forward to seeing the children return to school on Tuesday 7th May.

Mrs Bartoli's Class Assembly

The next Class Assembly will be Mrs Bartoli's reception children. This is at 9am on Friday 24th May and families of these children are welcome to attend.

Attendance for w.b. 3.5.19

Class	Present
Reception	97.9%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	99.4%
Year 3	97.9%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	98.1%
Year 6	97.6%

School overall attendance 98%

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

May 6 th	May Day Bank Holiday
May 13 th – 16 th	Year 6 SATs
May 17 th	Year 6 to The Hub
May 20 th – 24 th	Year 2 SATs
May 21 st	Cross Country (selected children)
May 22 nd	Year 3 Cricket at Raby Castle
May 22 nd -24 th	Year 6 Residential to Ford Castle
May 23 rd	Year 4 Multiskills at Staindrop Academy
May 24 th	Reception Class Assembly
May 27 th -31 st	Whit Holidays – Meet Procession May 27 th
June 3 rd	Teacher Training Day
June 4 th	Children back to school
June 4 th	Year 3 and Year 4 to the Hancock Museum
June 4 th	Year 6 outreach from Centre for Life
June 4 th	Orienteering at Staindrop Academy
June 5 th	Whole School Photograph
June 5 th	Key Stage 2 Football tournament
June 6 th	Cricket Competition (Y6 selected children)
June 7 th	School Nurse Drop In session 3pm
June 11 th	Band Workshop 1-2.30pm at Teesdale School followed by concert for parents 6pm-8pm at Teesdale School.
June 11 th	Orienteering at Staindrop Academy
June 18 th	Year 6 Orienteering at Staindrop Academy
June 21-23 rd	1940s weekend
June 21 st	Year 4 Class Assembly

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher