

June 25th 2021

World Music Day

It was so nice to hear so much music in school on Monday as we celebrated World Music Day. We have certainly missed that. For much of the year, we have been restricted in the singing we can do so it was great that Dr Greenwell was able to invite some local musicians, 'The Cream Teas' to play outside for some of the classes. Rosie from Happy in Harmony Music came to see our Y2, Y3 and Y4 classes. We had lots of fun with singing, piano and brass! Rosie teaches at TCR Hub and in homes around Barnard Castle. You can find out more about her and other music lessons at the Hub here:

https://www.tcrhub.co.uk/music-lessons/

We also joined in with the rest of the schools in Durham for the Big Sing. Thank you to Dr Greenwell for organising the day – well done everyone!

Well done Miss Crampton and Miss Gilbert

As some of you will know, Miss Crampton has been working alongside Miss Richardson and Miss Gilbert with Dr Greenwell as part of their final teaching placements with High Force SCITT. Today is their last day of placement and they have worked very hard, learnt a great deal and been a big part of the school for the last couple of months.

I would like to thank both Miss Crampton and Miss Gilbert for working with us and wish them well for the future. Miss Crampton will be staying with us until the end of the term and will be adding to our teaching team in September.

Sports festivals at Staindrop

On Wednesday afternoon, we received notification that the sports events this month and next have been cancelled by Staindrop Academy. Schools have been forced to make some difficult decisions this year and whilst we are disappointed for the children, we fully understand the reasons.

Transition for Year 6 to other settings

Following the news that Teesdale would not be able to hold their transition events after last week's government briefing, Hummersknot and St Francis Xavier School have informed us that they will not hold their planned transition events. Details will be shared with parents of alternative arrangements.

Mrs Unwin's Musicians

Mrs Unwin has informed us that there will no music lesson next week (July 2nd) for the children who work with her. They will resume on July 9th.

COVID-19

Please remember that if you or a household member has symptoms of COVID-19 and that you have booked a test, that children should not be coming to school until the test result comes back negative.

The recent rise in case numbers nationally and locally is naturally concerning to all of us and it is important to maintain the systems of controls that we have had to date. I am aware of class bubbles closing locally and it is crucial that we remain aware of the symptoms of COVID-19 and the procedures should anyone have symptoms.

Local Authority reminder

Have coronavirus symptoms and need a test?

'If anyone in your household has symptoms you need to book a PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) test as soon as possible. For more information and to book a PCR test visit www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call NHS test and trace free on 119.

As coronavirus symptoms in children can vary it is advised that children who are unwell should not attend school until they are well again. Durham County Council offers support to people seeking further advice about coronavirus

through the County Durham Together Community Hub, details of which can be found at www.durham.gov.uk/covid19help or by phoning 03000 260 260.'

Pop Up COVID 19 Vaccination Centre

We have added a poster on Weduc advertising Pop Up COVID vaccinations centres at Shildon and Durham this weekend. More details can be found here.

Friends of Montalbo School

As I mentioned last week, FOMS are organising a Summer Raffle and would be grateful of any raffle prizes you would be willing to donate. Thank you to parents who have brought some items in already. Raffle tickets have been sent home today with each child (2 booklets; 10 tickets in total). Raffle money and the slips should be returned to school in a sealed envelope for FOMS to collect. Please return any unsold tickets too. The draw will be made on July 14th so please return tickets/money before then so that they can be included in the draw. There are already some very good prizes. Thank you to FOMS and Mrs Hauxwell for their help with this.

If you would like more tickets, please contact school. FOMS will be selling tickets outside the Barnard Castle Co Op on July 3rd to coincide with the Farmer's Market and are running a 100 square fundraiser too.

Safer Futures

Year 6 had a virtual workshop on Fire Safety this week which Miss Richardson felt was very informative. The children told me some of the facts they learnt including to 'stop, drop and roll', who to call in an emergency, how to keep safe in the home and much more. Well done Year 6!

Emblematic Website

We have been informed by Emblematic, one of the school uniform providers, that July 18th is last day for orders to be delivered at home.

Nursery uniform can be ordered <u>here</u>.

School uniform can be ordered <u>here</u>.

ParentPay

As we move towards the end of the school year, please can parents ensure that their ParentPay accounts are settled and there are no arrears. Thank you.

Attendance for w.b.21.06.21

| 00.40/ |
|--------|
| 89.4% |
| 96.7% |
| 97.9% |
| |

School overall attendance this week is: 95.1%

Dates for the diary

June 21st Swimming for Year 5

July 15th Leavers Assembly (recorded on TEAMS channel)

July 16th Year 6 Activity day at the TCR Hub

July 16thMoving Up DayJuly 20thLast day of termSeptember 1stTeacher Training DaySeptember 2ndChildren return to school

Mr C Minikin, Head Teacher