



April 1st 2022

### **Sporting Events**

This week has seen the return of sporting events and I am pleased that we have been able to take part. On Wednesday, two football teams from Year 2 travelled to Staindrop Academy for a tournament and played very well. Miss Foster and Mrs McIntyre were impressed with the children's skill, determination and behaviour. The teams were in separate leagues and both reached the final of their leagues, winning three out of four games. Well done everyone!

On Thursday the Year 6 class went to Staindrop for a Multiskills festival. There were some quick changes made by the organisers due to the snow but having talked to the children it appears they enjoyed the morning and kept active. Well done Year 6!

Next week some Year 1 children will be taking part in orienteering. Unfortunately, we are only permitted to take a maximum number of children for certain festivals or tournaments so will make sure in future events other children can participate.

### **Ecological Work**

In assembly this week, Dr Greenwell explained to the school about an exciting project that we are participating in. Only 50 schools across the Northeast were chosen to be part of this project which brings together wellbeing, science and outdoor learning. Throughout the project the school will be learning about the fascinating world of ecology as well as learning about their local wildlife. In the first stage of this project the children will be acting as a network of citizen scientists and will be recording the wildlife that we see around Montalbo using camera traps and footprint tunnels.

Over the next week all children in Years 3 to 6 will be given a personal login to access the project website: <https://www.mammalweb.org/en/bes-encounters> The children will be able to earn points to win digital badges, as well as earning points for our school as we will be competing against the other schools in the project to win prizes.

### **Latest Covid 19 Advice from April 1<sup>st</sup>**

#### Pupils with respiratory infection

Children who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.

#### Pupils who test positive for Covid-19:

Children and young people aged 18 and under with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days.

### **Wraparound Care**

Today you should have received a letter about some changes to wraparound care. There is no change to charges or timings, just some locations within school to allow Teaching Assistants to have more time in class to prepare and work with class teachers. A link to the letter can be found [here](#).

### **SATs Information Evening for Y6 Parents**

Miss Richardson will be holding a Y6 SATs information evening for Y6 parents on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April between 5:00 – 5:30pm. The session will aim to answer any questions you might have around SATs.

## Platinum Jubilee Celebration

Friends of Montalbo School (FOMS), Mrs Bowron, Miss Richardson and I have been sharing ideas to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Children will be involved in lots of activities throughout the day and parents/carers/families are invited to attend school during the afternoon. There will be games, refreshments, hopefully a band and much more. I will keep you updated as the plans develop. FOMS are also planning a Summer Raffle. If you would like to donate a raffle prize, please bring it to the School Office after the Easter break. Thank you.

## Barnard Castle Meet

This week I received an email about plans for Barnard Castle Meet, which has been cancelled for the last two years. The Meet will resume this year and will take place on Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th June 2022, to coincide with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend. The events include a parade through the town, car boot sale, pet show, children's entertainment and bands. The Royal themed parade will start from GSK car park at 1pm on Friday 3rd June (participants in the car park by 12pm) and finish at Barnard Castle School entrance. We would love as many children and parents to join us and I will share more information on this next week.

## School Meal Price Increase from April 4<sup>th</sup> 2022

School has been informed that the price will increase to £2.20 per meal from 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022. If you have had a change in circumstances or would like to enquire if your child is eligible for Free School Meals, please contact the office for further information and the application forms. Please ensure your Parent Pay account is up to date at all times.

## Easter Activities

TCR Hub are running an exciting programme of fully-funded Easter activities for children, young people and families:

**Lost Sounds of Teesdale** from Sat 9 (10 to 4pm) to Sun 10 April (10am to 12.30pm) for families. *Bird watching, printing and coding to create Teesdale's first landscape print that sings the song of our birdlife.*

**Willow and Cardboard Wildlife crafts** on Mon 11 for families and Tues 12 April for children and young people (10 - 12pm, 1 - 3pm). *Learn how to craft with willow and cardboard to make your own wildlife-inspired creations.*

**Outdoor Activity Sessions** on Mon 11 for children aged 8 plus and Tues 12 April for families (10 - 12pm, 1 - 3pm) with children aged 6 plus. *Fantastic activity sessions including canoeing/raft building and high ropes in the afternoon with our experienced and friendly instructors.*

**TCR Family Fun day** on Wed 13 April (10 - 3pm) for families. *With bouncy castle, toys, outdoor activities and crafts, head to TCR for fun for the whole family!*

**TCR Family Trip to Beamish** on Thurs 14 April (9am to 5pm) for families. *With a coach leaving from TCR and picking up from Staindrop and Cockfield, join us for a family day out.*

**TCR Fun Bus** at Dawson road park on Sat 16 April (10 - 12 noon) for all!

Visit [www.tcrhub.co.uk/whats-on/](http://www.tcrhub.co.uk/whats-on/) to discover more and book. The password for bookings will be lifted tomorrow but for now, it is FOODANDFUN.

## Dates for the Diary

April 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sports competition for 15 Year 1 pupils
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	SATs Information Evening for Y6 parents 5:00 – 5:30pm
April 11 <sup>th</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Easter Holidays
April 25 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Summer Term
May 9 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>	SATs for Year 6 children
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Jubilee Event at School 1.15pm-3.30pm
May 30 <sup>th</sup> -June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Whit Holidays including Barnard Castle Meet

Mr. C Minikin  
Head Teacher