



June 17th 2022

Sun safety

This week has finally seen the arrival of some warmer weather. Whilst this is very welcome, we want to keep our children protected, especially when we have a number of sporting visits, playtimes and indoor/outdoor provision in the early years. Please could you apply sun cream before children come to school or send children in with sun cream if the forecast is good. A sun hat or cap is also advisable. Thank you.

Year 6 Kingsway Visit

Last Friday Year 6 enjoyed a brilliant day at Kingsway outward bounds centre. The children and staff had a great time including jumping off and sliding down a very high waterfall! They also climbed a huge tree etc Thank you to Miss Richardson, Miss Crampton, Mrs Daniels and Mrs Dupuy who also joined in the activities.

Sports Day

Nursery class will be holding a Sports Afternoon on Thursday 14th July 1.30 - 3pm. Parents and carers are invited along to watch some traditional sports day races on the school field, followed by a picnic and play in the nursery grounds. Mrs Patterson will post more details on the Weduc app nearer the time.

Sports Day for years Reception to Year 6 is arranged for Friday July 15th at 1pm. Parents/carers and families are welcome to attend.

Science Visitors

This week we have had two science visitors. Firstly, geologist Richard Butcher spoke to the Year 3 children virtually about 3 different types of rock. The children enjoyed identifying these as well as seeing the fossils he had found. It was lucky he left time at the end for questions as Year 3 had lots!

Today Year 2 were visited by staff from the British Ecological Society and Durham University. The focus of their workshop was to study invertebrates, with the children having the chance to use bug pots, magnifying glasses, sweep nets and identification guides to classify their findings. As we continue to share different career paths in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), having visitors like this are important to demonstrate future jobs.

Assemblies and School Performances

In non Covid times, we had class assemblies and performances at different points in the year for different phases of the school. As this was not possible due to Covid and guidance earlier in the academic year, we are going to try and squeeze quite a lot into this half term!

Reception and Year 1 will have class assemblies this half term. These will start at approximately 9am and parents/carers are welcome to attend. Please come to the School Office entrance once you have dropped the children off on these days.

For Years 2-6, we are going to have two performances of 'Monty does Musicals' at the Witham Hall. This will allow us to have a larger audience on two nights and not have multiple performances, which can be tiring for children. It will also be a great experience for our children. Miss Richardson is helping to coordinate these performances and has sent information regarding costumes and drop off times with each class which should have been shared with you. We will arrange tickets for the performances nearer the time.

Dates for the events can be found in the dates for the diary section.

Sports this week

The Year 3 children enjoyed a great day of cricket at Barnard Castle School this week, learning new skills and playing friendly games. Well done Year 3!

Miss Crampton has been busy running trials for the school football team this week. They have a World Cup Football competition next week and we wish them well.

Musicians Visit

I have been delighted with the range of musical instruments taught this year and the Key Stage 2 musicians visited St Mary's church for a concert by Teesdale pupils. This has given children something to aspire to and I hope that the children enjoy playing for many years. Next year we have plans to expand our provision further to include brass tuition.

Year 4 Visit

Year 4 visited the Bowes Museum today as part of the museum's Journey of Colour Exhibition. They made clay pinch pots and decorated them. Good job Year 4!

New Starters Parents' Meeting

We are looking forward to welcoming our new Reception children to school in September and meeting parents/carers. We would like to invite parents/carers of these children to a meeting in school on June 22nd at 5pm. We will share important information and give you all a free book bag, so please do not order one of these! Miss Lauder and I look forward to meeting you then.

Bikeability for Year 6

Each year we arrange for cycling proficiency training from trainers at Durham County Council for our Year 6 pupils. If you would like your child to take part in this training they must have a bike in roadworthy condition with working brakes. They also need a helmet. The dates are below in the Dates for the Dairy) but we wanted to give parents/carers notice in case of any issues with children's bikes. These sessions are not compulsory but I am sure you agree are important to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Uniform Ordering Reminder

Order before 19th June - for delivery to school or home before school closes for the holidays.

Order before 24th July – for delivery to home before school returns in September

A link and information are available on the school website.

Dates for the Diary

I have added all of the dates for the diary for the rest of the academic year in the section below and as you can see there is a lot happening! Some events are added as they are confirmed each week so keep checking please! Details will follow for some of them.

June 22 nd	New Starter Parents' Meeting
June 22 nd	Football Competition
June 22 nd	World Cup Football for selected children
June 23 rd	Women in Engineering Assembly
June 24 th	Bikeability for Year 6
June 29 th	Football Competition
June 29 th	Women's Rugby Team (Y3,4,5 & 6)
July 1 st	Reception Class Assembly
July 1 st	Friendship Games
July 4 th , 5 th & 6 th	Bikeability for Year 6
July 4 th	Year 4 Rugby Competition
July 6 th	Year 1 Class Assembly
July 6 th	Year 5 Netball
July 6 th	Staindrop Transition (Y6)
July 7 th and 8 th	Teesdale Transition (Y6)
July 7 th	The Oaks Transition (Y6)
July 7 th	Moving Up Day
July 7 th	Nursery new starter visits
July 11 th	Dress Rehearsal (Y2-6)
July 12 th and 13 th	Year 2-6 Performance
July 12 th	Reception Festival
July 13 th	Year 6 Festival
July 14 th	Year 1 Festival
July 14 th	Nursery sports afternoon and picnic 1.20pm
July 14 th	The Oaks Transition (Y6)
July 15 th	School sports day Reception-Y6 1pm
July 20 th	Leavers' Assembly
July 20 th	Last day of term

Mr. C Minikin
Head Teacher