



March 28th 2024

Around school

Last week I mentioned some amazing Art and DT work around school and this week more of the same was evident as the classes finished off this half term's topics. The work in the Year 6's art journals is a joy to see and their Andy Warhol inspired pop art looked amazing. On Wednesday Year 5 invited a parent/carer into school to sample the soups that they made in DT. They decorated their tables and the hall looked brilliant as children and guests tucked into their soup.

Year 4 have been writing balanced arguments which I look forward to seeing and have been busy finishing assessments. In DT, Year 3 made a range of dips to try: from salsa to easy cheesy which smelled delicious! The children took them home to taste and evaluate. Year 2 have completed their DT shelters made to help Antarctic explorers. Year 1 have been mixing paints and printing in the style of the artist Kandinsky. They looked really bright and effective. Reception have had a visit from some Easter chicks, have been designing their own Easter Eggs and have been making some nests today with Mrs Whelan. Nursery have been learning to use different resources such as hole punches and split pins to make cracking eggs, had an egg hunt and have done some wax resist painting. What a busy but fun end of term!

Take Notice

Hopefully the weather over Easter will be kind to us and your children will have lots of opportunities to play outside and explore the local area. I like to set a photography competition at this time of year where children can photograph landscapes, buildings, plants or animals and notice the things that are around them. Each entry will receive a prize and we will display all of the entries in the school hall. Please send entries to montalbo@durhamlearning.net

FOMS Easter Eggs and Family Night

Thank you to FOMS who gave an Easter egg to each child today!

FOMS have organised a Family Night on Friday 26th April at 7pm at Glaxo Sports and Social Club. There will be music, refreshments, bingo and a raffle.

Woodwind Assembly

Today the children who play recorder, flute and saxophone played to the rest of the school. They have been learning with Mrs Unwin and lately Mrs Baxendale each week. Well done to all of the musicians who played today.

Monty does ...

In July, we will visit The Witham once more to perform the latest in our 'Monty does' series. This year we will perform Monty does... on July 16th and 17th which should be great fun. I will let you know our chosen theme after Easter!

Community Art Work

We have been asked to help decorate an unsightly building which has been erected as part of the Whorlton Bridge restoration works. We would be very grateful if you could save any plastic bottle tops of different colours and send them in for us to use! The whole school will be involved and hopefully you will be able to visit the site to see it later in the summer.

Dr Blezard's Spring Science Challenge

Dr Blezard has shared a couple of Science activities that your children might want to tackle on a weekend or after school. Please see Weduc for further details.

Sporting Events

This week some children from Year 4 were invited to Staindrop for some orienteering. They completed 4 challenges in very muddy conditions!

Nursery

Please see last week's Weduc post regarding Nursery from September 2024.

School Meals Price Increase

Chartwells, the school catering company Durham Local Authority schools use, have increased the cost of school meals to £2.81 per week, citing increased food costs and staff salaries as the reason for the increase, with effect from April 1st 2024.

Attendance

Please find below this week's attendance and the year to date attendance.

Class	Attendance (%)
Reception	94.6
Year 1	98.1
Year 2	98.8
Year 3	91.7
Year 4	90.0
Year 5	93.8
Year 6	93.2
Whole School	94.3
Year to date	95.0

Dates for the Diary

March 28 th – April 12 th	Easter Holidays
April 15 th	Children return to school for the Summer Term
April 26 th	FOMS Family Night at Glaxo Club (7pm)
May 6 th	May Day Bank Holiday
May 7 th	Children return to school
May 7 th	Eco Council Visit to Cow Green
May 13 th – May 16 th	Year 6 SATs
May 17 th	Teacher Training Day
May 20 th	Teacher Training Day
May 21 st	School reopens – Nursery, Reception, Y1 and 2 in new classrooms
May 27 th – May 31 st	Whit Half Term Holidays
June 3 rd	Children return to school
June 10 th - June 14 th	Phonics Screening Check for Y1
June 3 rd – June 14 th	Multiplication Test for Y4
July 2 nd	Reception – Y6 Sports Day
July 3 rd	Nursery Sports Day
July 12 th	Move Up Day
July 15 th	Monty Does... rehearsal for Y3-6
July 16 th and 17 th	Monty Does... at the Witham for Y3-6

Mr. C Minikin
Head Teacher

Please see the QR code for the School Lottery. The more players we have, the more we raise for the school and the bigger the prize fund.

