

Exciting Times

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Foundation Stage at Pets at Home

THE LEARNING CONTINUES OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Year 1 at Castle Eden



Year 2 at Washington Old Hall



Year 4 at Alnwick Castle



Year 6 in Ouseburn Tunnel

Foundation Stage visited Pets at Home in Washington and Pets Corner at Jesmond Dene in Newcastle. The children have been learning about pets and how to care for them. In Pets at Home they looked at food, housing and toys for various pets. Of course Elvis the class guinea pig was bought a few tasty treats. At Jesmond Dene the children were able to look at larger pets such as birds, tortoises, goats and pigs. They completed a booklet answering questions about what they saw.

Year 1 visited Castle Eden Dene to take part in a minibeast hunt. They had to use their magnifying glasses to find the minibeasts in their micro-habitats. The children have used the information from the minibeast hunt to record graphs that show their findings back in school.

Year 2 children enjoyed their educational visit to Washington Old Hall. They explored the beautiful gardens and participated in a workshop linked to our Science curriculum about 'Habitats'. We all enjoyed investigating the different habitats including: ponds, woodland, bird hides and beehives. After a delicious packed lunch we travelled to the 'Secret Garden' at Doxford Park, where we searched for the key to the garden. Once inside, we explored the garden and listened to the story of 'The Secret Garden'. The children developed a greater enjoyment and understanding of the story due to the experience of being in the enclosed garden.

Year 3 at the Botanical Gardens in Durham



Year 5 at Cragside



Year 3 have been studying the theme of 'What makes the Earth angry?' in Cross Curricular lessons. The children went on an educational visit to Durham Botanical Garden where they experienced different global climates inside the greenhouses. The children then wrote a Bear Grylls' style survival guide based on what they had seen. Both classes also visited the Mountain Warehouse at Dalton Park where they were given a survival guide shopping list. The children worked in groups to compare the prices of essential supplies and to solve mathematical problems around the store.

Year 4 visited the wonderful Alnwick Castle to learn more about the filming of Harry Potter - the book Year 4 are currently studying. Whilst there, the children explored the grounds of the castle, saw numerous film locations and even learned how to ride a broomstick. Back in the classroom, they used what they had learned on the visit to write a set of instructions for riding a broomstick. A thoroughly enjoyable visit.

Year 5 travelled to Cragside, the first house in the world to have hydroelectric power, to further their knowledge of Victorian Inventions. During a guided tour of the amazing house, they found out about Lord Armstrong and his inventions, saw William Morris' designs and visited the Power House. Follow up work has included printing tiles and producing a persuasive leaflet to visit Cragside.

Year 6 visited the Victoria Tunnel, in Newcastle, which was used as an air raid shelter during WW2. The children went down inside the tunnel to experience just what it must have been like during an air raid. In addition to this, they were fortunate enough to meet Basil who was actually there at the time, so was able to give a first hand account of his experiences. All this information was then used to write non-chronological reports, so supporting learning back in school.



DEMENTIA AWARENESS WEEK 2016



This year's theme for Dementia Awareness was 'confront your worries'. As part of the school's work in supporting people living with dementia and their carers activities were planned for staff and children. Michelle Kindleysides, the Health and Well Being coordinator from Beamish Museum asked for a group of children from school to sing with an intergenerational choir at Beamish Museum. Fourteen children were chosen to represent the school. They sang three songs that they had practised in school, and as part of a larger choir they learnt a new song. They will showcase this in school at the dementia group. Michelle also completed some Dementia Friends training with all Year 4 children. This raised the children's awareness of dementia and how to help people in the community with it. Michelle also completed the training with staff and students. In total 93 people.

This will support the Alzheimer's Society in trying to get one million Dementia Friends. Children in school were able to listen to stories about dementia and discuss the issues that were raised in a positive way. Instead of 'making time for a cuppa' they had juice and biscuits. There was a whole school assembly to raise awareness of dementia and to discuss why it is important for us as a school 'community' to support people living with dementia.



Children taking part in the Dementia Friends training



School choir at Beamish Museum

CLUBS ARE BOOMING

Monday	Lego - Mrs Russell, Miss Cumming	Drills for skills - Mr Winter, Miss Royal	Martial Arts - Steve Ritson
Tuesday	Ballet - Miss Royal	Brazilian Football skills - Fast Feet	Movie Night - Mrs Archibald
Wednesday	Cookery Club - Mrs Martin, Miss Craggs & Miss Cumming	Dance - Miss Royal & Miss Milne	Football - Mr Bainbridge & Mr Winter
Thursday	Brazilian Football skills - Fast Feet	Gymnastics - Miss Royal & Miss Milne	ICT - Mr Berry, & Miss Bridle
Friday	Judo/Martial Arts - Kevin Pattinson and Steve	School of Rock - Mr Nichol & Mrs Archibald	Shooting for hoops - Miss Bushby & Miss Milne

P.E. TUESDAY

The whole school will continue to be taught P.E. on a Tuesday afternoon. Please ensure your child has their school P.E. kit including their tracksuit to keep them warm, and a change of socks and footwear (in their kit bag).

TWO WHEELED TUESDAY

Just a reminder that the Two Wheeled Tuesday scheme is still running. Please remember, bikes need to be taken to the P.E changing room entrance (at the back of the school). Each time a child comes to school on 'two wheels' their name is entered into a prize draw.

FOOTBALL FIXTURES

The year 4 football team reached the semi finals of the Durham County Cup, narrowly missing out on a place in the final after an end-to-end contest against Deaf Hill. The children played some sublime football and capped of their attacking play with 2-0 and 8-0 victories in the group games. The future certainly looks bright with our budding stars of the future. Here's to more success in the coming years ahead.

GIRLS FOOTBALL

The girls football team reached the quarter finals of the Lambton and Hetton cup competition where they were narrowly beaten by Shiney Row. Well done girls for a great effort.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council have been working hard on the 'pupil zone' section of our school website. Children can visit the new pages to find links to useful websites, a quiz, a word search and chances to win small prizes. If you have any ideas or contributions for the website please pass them to a school councillor.

SKIPPING FESTIVAL



Twenty nine children took part in the annual skipping festival held at Kieper in late April. All of the children performed an array of skills superbly and they came out in third place overall. In the individual events we had some skippers attaining Gold, Silver and Bronze. The festival culminated in a group skip dance which was enjoyed by the children and staff who attended. Miss Royal's choreography and professionalism certainly paid

off for our super skippers. Bronze medals went to Harvey, Nicholas and all of the Year 4 Team, Silver medals to Ellie, Matthew and Caitlyn and Gold medals to Rosa and Tyler.

NUMBERS RISING ACROSS THE SCHOOL

Thank you to all of the families who have continued to support the school and to the new families who will join us in September at the start of the new term. Our numbers on roll have continued to rise. Many thanks to all those who are spreading the good word, amongst the community, about the school. This is having a very positive effect on numbers which will enable us to continue to develop the school and further improve the education of all children.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

School closes for half term - Friday 27th May

School re-opens - Monday 6th June

INSET day - Friday 17th June

Sports Week - Monday 20th - Friday 24th June

Back to school day - Monday 20th 9.00 a.m.

Sports day - Friday 24th June 1.00p.m.

Multi cultural week - Monday 27th June– Friday 1st July

Leavers Disco - Tuesday 15th July

School closes for summer holiday - Wednesday 20th July

INSET dayS - Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th September

School re opens for new term - Wednesday 7th September

DREAM BELIEVE ACHIEVE

Times for our celebratory Dream, Believe and Achieve Assemblies will remain the same:

EYFS and KS1 (Reception to Year 2) will be Friday morning at 9:00a.m. KS2 (Years 3 to 6) will be every Friday at 2:45 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

If you want to help your children at home, we have purchased licenses for:

www.bernardgilpin.com

Reading – www.lexialearning.com

username is the one your child uses in school.

Maths – www.interactive-resources.co.uk

username: bernard password: Gilpin

- <http://nrich.maths.org/public/>

- sumdog.com

DEMENTIA NEWS

The group have been meeting every Tuesday. Lots of planned activities have been well received by the group. Stuart Clappison and his band came to play, with lots of golden oldies to get everyone dancing. Catherine l'Anson Clough is a regular visitor and the group enjoy using the puppets and having a sing along. There are always refreshments and time for a chat. Please let friends and families know about the group. Next half term's events will be on the website.



BERNARD BEARS TODDLER GROUP

The Toddler group are still meeting every Monday morning. This half term they have been busy planting sunflower seeds, tasting food, making cookies and lots of crafts and painting. The Toddlers are preparing to join in with Barnardo's Big Tiddle in the next half term. All money raised will support the charity. Please let friends and family know about the group. Next half term's events will be on the school's website.



PRIMARY MATHS COMPETITION

Eight children from year six competed in the Primary Maths Challenge at Durham. The children worked in two teams to solve a series of mathematical problems and puzzles. Both teams showed great resilience and determination and they thoroughly enjoyed the challenging day. Well done to all the children involved.



GOLF COMPETITION

For the second year running a team of Year 4 children won the Sunderland Schools Tri-Golf competition. Well done, the whole school are very proud of you.

HAPPY HALF TERM HOLIDAY