



Bernard Gilpin Primary School

Dream Believe Achieve

Hall Lane, Houghton-le-Spring DH5 8DA

tel: 0191 5536523

web: www.bernardgilpin.com

Hello and welcome to the Spring edition of Bernard Gilpin Primary School's newsletter

ACTION AND ADVENTURE AT KIELDER FOREST



The 'King Swing' challenge



A close encounter of the bird kind



Homemade pizza in the chalet



Making a splash at the pool

Year 6 have recently returned from an action-packed, five day residential to Kielder. The children went shopping for the week's provisions before taking part in a WWI workshop at the Discovery Museum in Newcastle. They then headed to Kielder, where they went on some magnificent walks, visited the Birds of Prey Centre, went swimming and bravely went on the King Swing over the course of the five days. All children also participated in Maths, English and ICT activities, all inspired by the inspirational location. A fantastic experience for all involved!

THE LEARNING CONTINUES OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM



Foundation Stage at Stowell Street



Year 1 at Shildon Railway Museum



Year 2 at the RNLI Station

Foundation Stage visited Stowell Street in Newcastle. The children enjoyed studying the Chinese gate and visiting the supermarket where they bought some food and decorations for a celebration back in school. They also enjoyed sharing fortune cookies and reading the messages inside.

Year 1 visited 'Locomotion' at the National Railway Museum in Shildon. They enjoyed investigating locomotives ranging from the 1829 Sans Pareil to the 1970's Advanced Passenger. The children climbed into some of the locomotives and imagined what it might have been like to be the driver of a steam train.

Year 2 visited Roker Beach where they observed the physical and human features found at the coast and sketched Roker Lighthouse. The children enjoyed visiting the R.N.L.I lifeboat station where a volunteer from the charity led a guided tour and answered questions about the role that the R.N.L.I play in saving lives at sea.

Year 3 visited the Hatton Art Gallery in Newcastle. The children were shown around the recently refurbished galleries, before choosing their favourite piece of art to recreate. They also took part in 'Pioneer's Pop Art' and 'Splatter Painting' workshops, before taking their new skills back to the classroom.

Year 4 visited the Hatton Art Gallery in Newcastle where they took part in a workshop designed to enhance their art skills and knowledge. The children then visited Sainsbury's in Sunderland to complete a maths trail looking at the cost of everyday goods, which was designed to enhance their understanding of real life problem solving in relation to money.

Year 5 visited Bessie Surtees' House in Newcastle where they studied the Tudor architecture of the building and investigated the importance of the River Tyne in developing global trade links during the reign of Elizabeth I. Both classes also completed an enjoyable real life maths problem solving trail on the Quayside whilst in Newcastle.

Year 6 visited Newcastle International Airport, where they used information from timetables to solve real-life maths problems. Both classes also visited the Heugh Battery Museum in Hartlepool. The children saw a recreation of a WWI trench, which really brought the horrors of war alive. The children also had the chance to try on some of the uniforms, and to see a selection of the weapons and other equipment, which were used at the time.



Year 3 at the Hatton Art Galley



Year 4 at Sainsbury's



Year 5 at Bessie Surtees' House



Year 6 at Newcastle Airport

SCHOOL SPORTS SUCCESS

A huge well done to Logan and Thomas, who participated in the Sports Ability Games on Friday 26th January, representing Sunderland in a number of athletic events. Both children were an absolute credit to the school, showing fantastic sportsmanship in making it through to the semi-final stage.

The Year 2/3 girl's football team competed in a Foundation of Light tournament on Tuesday 30th January. The group of girls dribbled their way to the top of their game on their school debut, winning the competition outright without conceding a single goal. A massive well done to those involved.

The Year 5/6 girl's football team have been crowned champions of the indoor 6-a-side league. Over the past three months, the team have played and won six matches against other local schools and have been commended for their skill, effort and excellent attitude. A great success - well done girls.

The school rugby team competed in the semi-final stages of the kicking competition at Darlington Mowden Park Rugby Club, on Saturday 27th January. They represented the school exceptionally well on the day and defeated their opponents to qualify for the final of the competition. A big well done to all involved and the very best of luck for the final.



The Year 2/3 Girl's Football Team



The Rugby Kicking Team

LEGO COMPETITION

Recently, a group of Year 6 children were involved in a First Lego League competition at Teesside University. There was a hydrodynamics theme on the day, where the children had to present a project on the water cycle before programming a Lego Mindstorms robot to complete a series of tasks. The children thoroughly enjoyed the event and learning how to apply STEM concepts to solving a problem.

VALENTINE'S DISCO

Thank you to the Friends of Bernard Gilpin, who organised the Valentine's Disco, and to Macey and Brooke - our fantastic school council DJs. The children had a great time dancing and many of them won prizes in the games. All money raised will be used to support activities in school.



A Bernard Bear making pizza



Dancing at the Valentine's Disco

BERNARD BEAR TODDLER GROUP

Bernard Bear Toddler Group have been very busy with lots of fun activities. The children started off the New Year by taking part in some junk modelling where some interesting creations were made with yoghurt pots and kitchen roll tubes! They have also decorated and wore chef hats, for making and eating their own pizzas. Most recently, the children wore red and made Valentine's Day crafts using lots of glitter and hearts. Join us in the next half term for even more fun - please check the school website for dates.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Half term - school closes Friday 9th February

School re-opens - Monday 19th February

Parents/Carers Evening - Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th February

World Book Day - Thursday 1st March

Easter Bonnet Parade - Wednesday 28th March

Easter Holiday - School closes Thursday 29th March

School re-opens - Monday 16th April 2018

SATs week - Monday 14th - Thursday 17th May 2018

DREAM BELIEVE ACHIEVE

Years 1, 2 and 3 will have an assembly every alternate two weeks at 2.45 p.m. in the school hall. Years 4, 5 and 6 will have an assembly every alternate two weeks at 2.45 p.m. also in the school hall.

Foundation Stage will have an assembly every week at 2.45 p.m. in The Living Room.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

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

Reading - www.lexialearning.com

(username is the one your child uses in school)

Maths - www.interactive-resources.co.uk

(username: bernard password: Gilpin)

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

Maths - sumdog.com - www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/

CLUBS ARE BOOMING

Monday	Lego - Mrs Russell, Mr Pitt	Drills for skills - Mr Winter,	Martial Arts - Steve Ritson
Tuesday	Ballet - SAFC dance teacher	Brazilian Football skills - Mr Burton & Mr Surrey	Movie Night - Mrs Archibald
Wednesday	Cookery Club - Mr Pitt, Mrs Martin, Miss Craggs & Mrs Stevenson	Dance - Miss Soden & Miss Huitson	Football - Mr Bainbridge & Mr Winter
Thursday	Brazilian Football skills - Mr Burton & Mr Surrey	Gymnastics - Miss Smith & Miss Milne	ICT - Mr Berry & Miss Bridle
Friday	Judo/Martial Arts - Kevin Pattinson & Steve Ritson	School of Rock - Mr Nichol & Mr Wilkinson	Shooting for hoops - Mr Burton & Miss Soden

DEMENCIA FRIENDS

The Dementia Café group have had another busy and exciting time over the course of this half term. They began the New Year with an afternoon full of coffee, cakes and bingo and have enjoyed two fun-filled singing sessions with Catherine l'Anson Clough. In this half term's final session, the friends of dementia celebrated Valentine's Day with a classic movie and popcorn. Please check the school's website for details of upcoming activities throughout next half term.

HAPPY HALF TERM

After a really exciting start to the term, we would like to wish you all a safe and restful half-term holiday. We look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 19th February.