



# Bernard Gilpin Primary School

Dream Believe Achieve

Hall Lane, Houghton-le-Spring DH5 8DA

tel: 0191 917 2999

web: [www.bernardgilpin.com](http://www.bernardgilpin.com)

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

### THE LEARNING CONTINUES INSIDE AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM



Reception learning to use a hammer



Year 1 acting out the life of Bernard Gilpin



Year 2 identifying features of different countries

**Reception** have been learning about Vets and Pets, and have enjoyed using the role play area in the classroom to care for the animals, check their temperature and wrap them in bandages. The children then wrote instructions about how to look after the animals. At Forest School, the children learnt to use a hammer and a handsaw, making some fantastic homes for mini-beasts.

**Year 1** have studied the life of Bernard Gilpin, sequencing his main life events. In Science, the children have been studying plants, observing how sunflower seeds develop into plants over time. Linking to this, the children have read 'Jack and the Beanstalk' in English, writing their own versions of what the main character found at the top of the plant.

**Year 2** have been reading 'The Secret Garden' in their English lessons. They have written from a character's perspective through re-telling the journey of Mary Lennox, as she travelled from India to London. In Geography, the children have studied 'My World' during which they located the World's oceans and continents, as well as studying the culture and climate of France.

**Year 3** have learnt about plants in Science, conducting investigations about the best conditions for plant growth, as well as dissecting plants to identify their different parts. The children have enjoyed learning about the Prehistoric Period in History, analysing a range of artefacts and sources before creating an information poster to show their understanding of this time.

**Year 4** have been working incredibly hard to recall all times table facts up to 12x12 as well as developing their understanding of fractions and decimals. In English, they have been reading 'The 1000-year-old-boy' by Ross Welford, which is set in South Shields. They enjoyed working in pairs to write a dialogue using the features taught during SPaG lessons. In Science, during the 'Animals Including Humans' unit, Year 4 have studied the digestive system including the important role played by different teeth.

**Year 5** recently visited SafetyWorks! in Newcastle, where they were impressed by the setup of this multi-agency and highly interactive safety centre. All of the children participated in a number of different real-life scenarios, all of which have been specifically designed to develop personal safety awareness in realistic situations. Each of the different scenarios illustrated potential every day hazards and how best to prevent them from occurring including water safety with the RNLI, dog safety with the Blue Cross, fire safety with the Tyne and Wear Fire Brigade, as well as road and rail safety. On return to school, the children designed safety awareness posters, including what they had learned in relation to each of the areas of keeping safe.

**Year 6** have worked extremely hard towards their SATs, which took place earlier this half term. The children all demonstrated a really positive attitude throughout the week, doing themselves and the school proud. As a reward for all of their efforts, Year 6 went to the cinema to watch 'The Super Mario Bros. Movie' which the children all thoroughly enjoyed and deserved.



Year 3 investigating plant growth



Year 4 investigating teeth in Science



Year 5 at SafetyWorks! in Newcastle



Children wearing red, white and blue for the King's Coronation Celebrations

## KING'S CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

All of the children and staff in school recently celebrated King Charles III's coronation by coming into school dressed in red, white and blue to match the colours of the Union Flag. Each year group carried out a range of learning activities to deepen their understanding of the life of the new monarch and to learn more about the traditions of the coronation process. All of the children thoroughly enjoyed coming into school wearing red, white and blue to mark this very special occasion.

## MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK

School recently received excellent news in relation to the Year 4 multiplication tables check from last year. A letter was received by school from the Rt Hon. Nick Gibb, Minister for Schools, to pass on the news that the average pupil score makes Bernard Gilpin Primary School one of the top 200 performing schools in England for the multiplication tables check. A massive well done to everyone involved in this great success.



Children wearing denim and the colour blue for Dementia Awareness Day

## DENIM FOR DEMENTIA DAY

On Friday 19th May, children and staff came to school dressed in denim and the colour blue to raise money for the Alzheimer's Society, which helps to improve the lives of people living with dementia. As part of the day, children took part in a range of learning activities to develop their understanding of supporting those with dementia. Thank you to everyone for their efforts and generous contributions towards this great cause.

## QUAD ATHLETICS

A team of Year 3 and 4 children and a team of Year 5 and 6 children were successful when competing in the Quad Athletics event held at Silksworth Sports Complex. The children competed in a 400m run, 50m sprint, standing long jump and howler throw. Due to the children's great successes, they will now compete in the Tyne & Wear finals in June - a big well done to everyone involved.



The High Five Netball Team will represent the school at the Tyne and Wear Finals

## HIGH FIVE NETBALL

This half term saw the culmination of the High Five Netball League, held weekly at the Beacon of Light. After all of their games had been played, the Bernard Gilpin Year 6 team finished the league in first place, meaning they went on to play in the Sunderland finals, finishing second overall. As a result, the team will play in the Tyne and Wear finals later in the year – well done to everyone involved in this success.

## FOOTBALL UPDATE

This half term has once again been successful for all of the school football teams in Years 5 and 6. The Girls' A team finished as overall winners of their group in the Jill Scott Trophy, meaning that they have progressed through to the final of the competition, which will be held later this year.

The school A-Team completed their season in the Hetton and Lambton 7-a-side League as champions, remaining undefeated throughout the entire league season. The 9-a-side team also ended their season in style, finishing as champions of the Sunderland League and also remaining undefeated for the whole season. The school B-Team and C-Team have also finished strongly, winning a number of their games played in recent weeks. A massive well done to all of the teams and players involved - we look forward to the football finals evening later in the year, when the teams will collect their trophies and medals.

## TRI GOLF SUCCESS

A team of Year 3 and 4 children recently participated in a Tri Golf tournament held at Kepier School. The competition consisted of a number of different games designed to develop skills needed to play golf. The children on the team performed exceptionally well in all of the skill games and finished the competition in first place overall. Well done to everyone involved in this great success.

## SWIMMING GALA

Two teams recently represented Bernard Gilpin at the Sunderland Aquatic Centre in a swimming gala. All of the children involved swam exceptionally well in each of the events including a 4 x 25m Freestyle and a 4 x 25m Medley with the both teams successfully reaching the finals. A massive well done to everyone involved in this event.

## HAPPY HALF TERM

After another busy, successful and learning-filled half term, we would like to wish you all a safe and restful break. We look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 5th June 2023 for another exciting half term.

## CLUBS ARE BOOMING

Monday	STEM	Lego	Football
Tuesday	Yoga	American Football	Cinema
			Basketball
Wednesday	Bernard's Master Chef	Drama & Music	Football
Thursday	Computing	Sewing & Crafts	Basketball
Friday	Dance	Gaming	Netball
			D&T



The Year 4 Tri Golf Team



Year 6 Swimming Gala Team

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Half Term** - School closes Friday 26th May 2023

**School Re-opens** - Monday 5th June 2023

**Sports Day** - Friday 14th July 2023

**Summer Holiday** – School closes Thursday 20th July 2023

## HELPFUL WEBSITES

<https://student.readingplus.com/>

<https://www.lexiacore5.com/>

<https://oxfordowl.co.uk/>

<https://spag.com/>

<https://www.play.trockstars.com/>

<https://www.sumdog.com/>



We are continuing to use the Reading Plus and Lexia education programmes, both in school and at home. Please encourage your child to continue using these online learning tools as part of their weekly homework. Both of these programmes are invaluable in assisting the children's progress in reading across the school.