



# Bernard Gilpin Primary School

Dream Believe Achieve

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

## VIRTUAL VISITS BLAST OFF AT BGPS



Everyone at BGPS was delighted to welcome back the whole school to the classrooms earlier this month. We would like to thank you for your continued support in recent months, in ensuring the this period of remote learning was greatly successful.



Reception observing the hatching chicks



Year 1 investigating volume and capacity



Year 2 making healthy sandwiches in DT

**Reception** have had an egg-citing half term with the arrival of nine new chicks - the children enjoyed watching them use their egg tooth to crack out of the egg whilst were in the incubator. They also studied the life cycle of a chicken and completed diary entries each day. In Maths, the children developed their problem solving skills using chocolate eggs collected on an Easter egg hunt. Reception also enjoyed a virtual educational visit to Crankshaw Fold Farm, where they were able to ask the farmer questions and meet some baby animals. Reception also read the book 'The Giant Jam Sandwich' and wrote instructions.

**Year 1** measured and compared lengths and heights in Maths, and investigated the weight of objects - practical investigations using water helped the children to also learn about capacity and volume. In English, Year 1 read 'Sally and the Limpet' and wrote their own version of the story. To continue their learning in Science, the children identified and tested the properties of different materials. The Geography focus has been 'All at Sea' and the children looked closely at human and physical features of the seaside. The children very much enjoyed their virtual visit to Roker, identifying the main coastal features found there.

**Year 2** have enjoyed reading 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch' - the children wrote letters to the main character, Mr. Grinling, using vocabulary from the text. In DT, the children tested products to make a healthy sandwich for Mr. Grinling. In Maths, the children identified properties 2D and 3D shapes, classifying them using Venn diagrams. They studied the life cycle of animals in Science, recalling what all living things can do. The children thoroughly enjoyed their virtual visit to the Grace Darling Museum in Bamburgh, observing a model of the lighthouse where Grace had once lived. In Art, the children studied the work of Paul Cezanne and drew still life images of fruit and flowers, adding a 3D effect using tone and shading.

**Year 3** have been learning about plants in Science, investigating different parts by dissecting flowers and looking closely at their structure. In DT, the children evaluated a range of phone case designs and looked closely at different stitches which the children will use to create their own phone cases. In Geography, Year 3 studied the UK, learning about the four countries, local counties and major rivers. The children enjoyed taking part in a virtual visit with the David Shepard Wildlife Foundation, learning about threats that animals face and what we can do to protect them. The children used inspiration from the visit to create an African themed art collage.

**Year 4** developed their understanding of fractions and decimals in relation to the Frozen Worlds theme during Conservation Week. The children thoroughly enjoyed reading their new class text 'Coraline' and wrote some excellent comparisons between a scene from the book and the film version. The children have also been fascinated to learn about biomes and took part in a virtual visit to different biomes around the world. They also enjoyed tasting a diverse range of food types and learning about where the food comes from in DT. In Computing, the children took on the role of game designers, creating their own game using Scratch coding. In French, the children enjoyed giving directions

**Year 5** have continued to study fractions in Maths, focusing on multiplying and converting between fractions and decimals. The children have enjoyed reading 'The Boy at the Back of the Class,' and became investigators when finding evidence in the text to make predictions about who the narrator is. In Science, the children studied 'Living Things and their Habitats' by comparing the life cycles of different insects and birds - they witnessed the hatching of a chick in front of their own eyes. In Geography, the children studied the Mediterranean, using atlases to find out information about the area. The children also enjoyed composing their own 16-beat rhythms, which they then performed on Djembe drums in Music. Year 5 also became NASA astronauts, when they stepped on board the International Space Station for a virtual tour, and were amazed by the awesome view of Earth from Space.

**Year 6** investigated measurement in Maths, focussing closely on volume and capacity by accurately measuring the content of a containers and 3D shapes. Year 6 have also enjoyed reading 'Holes', using this as a stimulus for a range of excellent written pieces in English. The children learnt about light in Science, in which they investigated shadow size, how scientific ideas change over time and observed a range of interesting light phenomena. In Geography, Year 6 have studied Brazil, taking a virtual tour of Rio de Janeiro, as well as learning about the indigenous people of the Amazon Rainforest. Year 6 also thoroughly enjoyed a virtual visit to the Victoria Tunnel in Ouseburn, when they posed some very thoughtful questions to the WWII experts there in relation to evacuation and air raids. Year 6 also explored the Easter story in RE, looking closely at why Christians celebrate Easter and what the Bible says about it.



Year 3 dissecting flowers in Science Year 4 exploring biomes on VR headsets Year 5 enjoying the Djemba drums Year 6 observing light phenomena

## CONSERVATION WEEK 2021

All year groups across the school took part in a week of learning focussing on the theme of conservation, which took inspiration from the BBC documentary series, 'A Perfect Planet.' Each year group used an episode from this thought-provoking new series, narrated by Sir David Attenborough, as a focal point for studying major global issues such as deforestation of the rainforests, mass pollution in the earth's water and global warming. The issues raised in each film were then discussed and examined in great detail by the children, who then went on to investigate possible ways of making a positive impact on a local and global scale. Each year group was also delighted to adopt an endangered animal through the World Wildlife Fund, linked to their environment studied - the children also received a cuddly toy version of their adopted animal which they named together including Pablo the Polar Bear, Sheldon the Turtle and Oreo the Gorilla. Well done to all involved for making Conservation Week a great success across the school.



A small selection of the excellent learning during Conservation Week



Some of the wonderful costumes on display during World Book Day



### LAUNCH OF THE DAILY MILE

The effort from both pupils and staff this half term has been fantastic in the introduction of the Daily Mile. It has been a great way to welcome pupils back and boost their energy levels. The school scheduled the Daily Mile into our daily timetable in order to promote the necessity of having both a healthy body and a healthy mind. The participation has been excellent, and it is great to see the children enjoying this additional time outdoors. Well done to everyone involved.

### WORLD BOOK DAY 2021

To mark World Book Day this year, children in school and those working remotely from home took part in live workshops with different children's authors to gain an insight into the world of an author's imagination. The children thoroughly enjoyed their virtual visits to a fantasy world and asked some excellent questions. On Friday 12th March, children and staff then celebrated all being back together in school and sharing a love of reading by dressing up as a book character for World Book Day. A brilliant selection of costumes was witnessed, ranging from an inflatable gorilla to a walking Encyclopaedia - a huge amount of effort and creativity was put into the costumes, which was wonderful to see. Every child also received a £1 book token to spend on a book of their choice. Many thanks to all those involved and for making World Book Day 2021 such a huge success.

### COMIC RELIEF: RED NOSE DAY 2021

On Friday 19th March, the school celebrated Red Nose Day to raise funds for Comic Relief. Children and staff came to school dressed in red and wearing a range of Red Nose Day memorabilia including funny noses, glasses, boppers and wigs, to turn laughs into lasting change and help those in need. Well done to everyone involved for their efforts and for the generous contributions towards this great cause.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Easter Holiday** – School closes Friday 26th March 2021  
**School re-opens** - Monday 12th April 2021  
**Half-term Holiday** - School closes Friday 28th May 2021  
**School re-opens** - Monday 7th June 2021

### CLUBS ARE BOOMING

Monday	Computing	Lego	Football
Tuesday	Yoga	American Football	Cinema
Wednesday	Bernard's Master Chef	Drama	Football
Thursday	STEM	Sewing & Crafts	Multi-Sports
Friday	Puzzle Club	Gaming	DT

### HELPFUL WEBSITES

We are continuing to use Reading Plus and Lexia both in school and at home. Please find the weblinks below, along with other useful websites to assist home learning.

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

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

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

<https://spag.com/>

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

<http://sumdog.com/>

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS

After another successful and learning filled half term, we would like to wish you all a safe and restful break ahead of the next half term beginning on Monday 12th April. Take care and thank you for your continued support.