



February 2022

Bernard Gilpin Primary School

Dream Believe Achieve

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

OUTDOOR ACTION AND ADVENTURE AT DERWENT HILL

Children from Years 4, 5 and 6 recently returned from a fantastic residential visit to the Derwent Hill Outdoor Education Centre. This great opportunity enabled the children to further develop their independence, resilience and respect for the environment in the heart of the stunning Lake District. Everyone involved had an action-packed week, with all of the groups taking part in a rotation of outdoor adventurous activities. Some of the many highlights for the children included canoeing to an island on Derwent Water, where they stopped for hot chocolate, gorge walking, which included a bracing shower under a waterfall, and toasting marshmallows on a campfire whilst on a walk.



A group taking a moment to enjoy the stunning view on their hill climb



A group canoeing towards One Tree Island on the peaceful Derwent Water

The children also challenged themselves on a hill walk in the beautiful surrounding landscape, as well as orienteering and tackling the low ropes course in Derwent Hill's grounds. Each group also took part in a night walk aimed at developing team-work; taking on the exciting challenge of the 'Big Swing' proved to be a real highlight for many of the children. A huge thank you to everyone for ensuring that the time spent in Derwent Hill was a wonderful experience and that many great and lasting memories were made - well done to everyone involved.



A big thumbs up for gorge walking



Part of the Low Ropes Course



Enjoying the 'Big Swing' Challenge



Big Smiles all round for Derwent Hill

THE LEARNING CONTINUES OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM



Reception at the Stowell Street supermarket



Year 1 studying coastal features at Roker Beach



Year 2 problem solving at Sainsbury's

Reception visited Stowell Street in Newcastle, where they enjoyed studying the Chinese gate and visiting the supermarket to buy some food and decorations for a celebration back in school. The children also enjoyed sharing fortune cookies and reading the messages inside. The Reception children also went to the nearby Discovery Museum, where they took part in a variety of exciting challenges in the Science Maze.

Year 1 visited Roker beach and the surrounding coastline. The children were able to identify both physical and human coastal features, such as cliffs and piers, to support the learning in the classroom of their forthcoming 'All at Sea' Geography theme. They also made sand sculptures and collected shells to use in an art lesson back at school.

Year 2 visited Sainsbury's in Sunderland where they were able to apply their understanding of money in a real-life context. The children enjoyed working on various maths problems in the supermarket and navigating their way around the aisles. The learning was consolidated back in the classroom, where the children used their knowledge of prices to calculate which food brands would make the cheapest Lighthouse Sandwich.

Year 3 have been studying Rocks and Fossils in Science, during which the children have enjoyed testing the properties of rocks as well as sorting them according to their classification. In History, the children have studied Ancient Greece. They researched the Battle of Thermopylae and compared the Ancient Greek Olympics to the modern-day version. The children have also taken part in rehearsing and performing plays, considering why theatre was so important in Ancient Greek culture.

Year 4 visited the Discovery Museum in Newcastle in relation to their taught Science units of Electricity and Sound. The children were lucky enough to participate in an educational workshop, in which they competed in a variety of Science based challenges including making and testing their own torch. The children then went on to investigate the museum's impressive science maze, where they completed a range of challenges linked to electricity and sound.

Year 5 visited Newcastle Castle where they ventured into the depths of the dungeon to take part in a Tudor 'Crime and Punishment' workshop, before further investigating this area of history by stopping off at Bessie Surtees' House, a local example of Tudor architecture. The Year 5 children also completed an enjoyable real-life maths problem solving trail on the Quayside whilst in Newcastle and Gateshead, including estimating and calculating the area of the Tyne Bridge.

Year 6 visited the fascinating Victoria Tunnel in the Ouseburn area of Newcastle. Although the tunnel was originally built to transport coal during the Victorian period, it was also used as an air raid shelter during World War II. The children were given a guided tour of the tunnel, learning all about its amazing history before taking part in a workshop which was led by Basil, who lived through WWII as a child in Newcastle. On return to school, the children wrote a letter from the point of view of an evacuee child as well as an original story set during WWII.



Year 3 performing in Greek masks



Year 4 at the Discovery Museum



Year 5 at Newcastle Castle



Year 6 at the Victoria Tunnel



Reception children practicing their technique for keeping teeth clean and healthy

DENTAL HYGIENE IN RECEPTION

As part of the EYFS curriculum, the children in Reception have been learning about how to keep their bodies healthy. Both classes had a visit from the Dental Nurse, during which she talked about good oral hygiene and the importance of keeping teeth clean. The Dental Nurse also demonstrated how to brush teeth correctly and the children have brushed their own teeth for two minutes after every lunch time, using their toothbrush and toothpaste which the Dental Nurse gave them. The children have had enjoyed learning about teeth and are really mastering their brushing technique - well done to all involved.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2022

As part of Children's Mental Health Week, all year groups took part in creative wellbeing activities linked to this year's theme of 'Growing Together'. The theme itself focused on how we all grow emotionally as we get older, when we face challenges or when we try new things, and how we can help others to grow too. During the week, the children also discussed the importance of talking to friends and trusted adults, and how this can help improve our wellbeing, as part of 'Time to Talk Day.'

HIGH-FIVE NETBALL

A team of Year 6 children have been participating in the Sunderland Primary School Netball Association (SPSNA) high-five netball tournament, which took place over two weeks at the impressive Beacon of Light in Sunderland. The children demonstrated excellent passing and shooting skills throughout, which enabled them to be highly competitive in all of the matches in which they played; the team have won three of their four games played in the league so far. All of the children involved have represented themselves and the school superbly, showing fantastic team-work and spirit throughout - well done.



Phoebe and Beats at the Stadium of Light



The School High-Five Netball Team

RED SKY FOUNDATION WINNER

One of Bernard Gilpin Primary School's pupils recently became the winner of a regional competition launched by the Red Sky Foundation charity. Phoebe, who is in Year 6, was one of over five thousand children to enter the competition set by the Red Sky Foundation - a worthy charity which raises vital funds for babies and children with heart problems across North East of England. After coming up with 'Beats' as the name of the foundation's new mascot, Phoebe was invited to meet the giant heart-shaped mascot pitch side at the Sunderland Stadium of Light as part of her competition prize. Phoebe also won an inflatable pool party for her classmates which they were thrilled about - well done to Phoebe.

WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day will take place on Thursday 3rd March 2022, which is in the first week of next term. The children and staff will be looking forward to this exciting day, on which they have the opportunity to dress as one of their favourite book characters. In preparation for this, the half term holiday is an ideal opportunity to read a new book and come up with an original costume idea that you could design and make. Have fun reading!

HAPPY HALF TERM

After another successful, exciting and learning filled half term, we would like to wish you all a safe and restful holiday. We look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 28th February 2022 for another exciting half term.

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	Dance	Gaming	DT

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Half Term - School closes Friday 18th February 2022

School Re-opens - Monday 28th February 2022

World Book Day - Thursday 3rd March 2022

Parent/Carer's Evening - Monday 14th/Tuesday 15th March

(Letters will be sent out after half term)

Easter Holiday - School closes Friday 8th April 2022

School Re-opens - Monday 25th April 2022

SATs week - Monday 9th May - Thursday 12th May 2022

HELPFUL WEBSITES

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

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

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

<https://spag.com/>

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