



What a busy and hard working term it has been. Pupils and staff have worked incredibly hard this term and deserve a Christmas break! Over the term we have welcomed a number of visitors and our pupils have been out and about attending sports events, museums and the lovely St Aiden's church. Please read on to learn about all the many activities that have taken place. Visitors in school never fail to remark upon the welcome they receive from New Yorkers and how polite and respectful our pupils are. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our families for their support over the term. Whatever decisions are made before we return on January 6th 2022 I will be sure to communicate with you all. On behalf of New York governors and staff we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Attendance

Our current whole school attendance is 93.4% which is slightly below our target of 96.5%.

W/C	Whole School	Winning Class	% (of winning class)
06.12.21	93.4	7RB	95.6
29.11.21	93.4	5LS	98.6
22.11.21	92.9	7RB	97
15.11.21	95.7	1SH	99.2



Green Influencers Scheme

We have ten Year 5 children taking part in a special Green Influencers project. They have made a plan of what they would like to do to make a difference in school. Our first steps are going to be to work on the pond and to conduct litter picks around school. We are also hoping that we can get each child in school to create their own eco brick to help us to create an eco hub for all things green.

The overall project aim is to engage a new generation of young people and give them a voice and resources to make a difference by making positive changes to the environment for their future and for future generations.

COP26

The 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) was held in Glasgow between 31st October and 12th November. Children at New York have learnt about this important event in school and some classes joined a Live Lesson event with NUSTEM where they were able to ask their own climate change questions to scientists!

Year 5 EV3 Workshops



In November, pupils from Year 5 had the opportunity to participate in a special Computing workshop where they learned how to operate and code a Lego EV3 robot! The children used their fantastic coding skills to set the robot different commands, including moving in different directions, making turns and even using sensors!



Children in Need



Reception

Reception decorated biscuits and then had to wait for the icing to set before devouring them!



Nursery

Nursery enjoyed a day of Pudsey crafts. We particularly enjoyed trying to free Pudsey from the ice!

Year 2

Year Two had a wonderful afternoon creating their very own Pudsey bookmarks!



Year 1

Year One enjoyed learning about why we raised money and who it was for. We listened to a story all about how Pudsey helps children less fortunate than us.

Year 3

Year Three enjoyed an afternoon of Pudsey crafts and colouring. We discussed the importance of giving to those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Year 4

In Year 4, we created Pudsey puppets and masks. We also enjoyed some special cupcakes that were made by one of our lovely families. Thank you, they were delicious!

Year 5

Year 5 loved joining in with Pudsey Day and finding out about the important causes that the money goes towards. We enjoyed a craft afternoon where we created some Pudsey artwork.

Year 6

Year 6 loved wearing our own clothes, we spoke during a PSHE lesson about those who are less fortunate and could get bullied for it, and then we enjoyed some Pudsey puzzles in the afternoon.

Trail and Challenge at the Rising Sun

On a beautiful crisp November morning a group of Year 5 pupils headed to the Rising Sun Country Park. The pupils took part in a timed orienteering challenge around the park. As well as learning to correctly follow a map they also came across many wildlife features such as an extensive variety of mushrooms and a walker out with his Harris hawk! They climbed to the top of the Rising Sun hill taking in views right across Newcastle.



Stephenson Railway Museum

On Wednesday 10th November, Year 3 visited Stephenson Railway Museum as part of their North East engineers topic in Science. We learnt about the role of an engineer and the impact George and his son Robert's inventions had worldwide. Did you know that George Stephenson and his team entered a competition and won £500 for their locomotive? They were witnessed by over 10,000 people cheering them on!



Lego League visit the Royal Mail

On 11th November, this year's Lego League team visited the Royal Mail to conduct research for their project as part of this year's tournament. We gained a lot of valuable information and are excited to use it in our innovation project.



A big thank you to the Royal Mail staff for being so accommodating!

Year One NUSTEM Material's Workshop

On Friday 10th December, Year 1 took part in a Material workshop with NUSTEM. We looked at different materials and had to decide which we thought was the lightest and which was the heaviest. We then tested the materials to see which were magnetic and which conducted electricity.

Reception NUSTEM Weather Workshop

Reception were very excited to take part in a Meteorologist workshop with Mel from NU:STEM. We started by reading the story *Maisy's Wonderful Weather* and then took part in some experiments. We made a wind sock to hang in our garden so we can tell which way the wind is blowing and then we attempted to make our own rainbows. In our classrooms we have set up a weather watch station and now have a Meteorologist of the day who keeps an eye on what is happening with the weather.

Odd Sock Day

Nursery

Nursery read the story 'Larry's Left Out' and talked about how important it is to be kind to others.

Reception

Reception read the story 'kind' by Axel Scheffler and set up a kindness jar in our classroom. Every time we spotted a kind act we popped a pom pom into the jar, and then talked about why the pom pom was in the jar.

Year 1

In Year 1, we thought about kind words and how they make us feel. We then sent kind words to each of our friends and made our own kind word bank.

Year 2

In Year 2, we read the book 'Do unto Otters' and then created our own golden rule book of kindness.

Year 3

Year 3 read the story of Kind by Alison Green which shares numerous ways we can be kind to each other. Did you know the book features illustrations which have kindly been donated by lots of famous illustrators?

Year 4

In Year 4, we watched a video of Alastair Brownlee helping his brother, Jonny, over the line at a triathlon. We wrote one kind word to describe Alastair and created a chain of kindness that we could share with friends and family.

Year 5

In Year 5, we thought about what our One Kind Word would be and created jigsaw puzzles that combined our words. We thought about how one kind word played a big part in our classroom

Year 6

In Year 6, we watched the trailer for the film Wonder. We spoke about how it would feel for the main character to be starting a new school. We used words he would feel to describe himself and then using the theme of One Kind Word we discussed what we could have said to make him feel more comfortable.

Victorian Market - Choir

On Saturday 11th December, pupils from both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 choirs delighted Christmas shoppers at North Shield's Victorian Market. Singing a variety of modern and traditional songs, we spread Christmas cheer to everyone who heard us and were even joined by some of our past pupils who joined their siblings on stage!



Athletics Competition

On Wednesday 17th November, a group of children from Years 5 and 6 went to the Parks to represent New York in an indoor athletics competition. They competed against other schools in running, jumping and throwing events. All children represented New York with excellent resilience and competitive spirit. It was lovely at the end of the event to have the organisers comment on the children's manners and behaviour.



Litter Pick

We were disappointed that our organised litter pick could not take place due to bad weather. Miss Burn will be in touch to organise another one in January.



Santa's Grotto

On December 3rd, we had a very special visitor in school! Father Christmas returned to his New York grotto to meet our wonderful children. The children were all very excited to see him and to receive their Christmas gifts. Father Christmas was, as always, very impressed by the children at New York and assured us that they are all on the nice list!



Christmas Fair

On Friday 3rd December, Year 6 prepared and carried out our school fair. They were in charge of many stalls such as the chocolate tombola, knock Santa off the chimney, candy cane dip and a sweets roulette. The Year 6 pupils were so kind, welcoming and helpful with all the other year groups and there was a real Christmas buzz around school that day!

Christmas Dioramas

Thank you to everybody who entered our annual Christmas Diorama competition! There were, as always, some fantastic entries and we loved looking at them as we enjoyed our Christmas Fair.



Carols on the Yard

Thank you to all families who were able to join us for our annual tradition of singing carols on the yard. It was lovely to be able to share this event with you once more and we are sure that you will agree that our children sounded beautiful!

Christmas Parties

The last few weeks of this half term have been very busy, but we still found time to hold our annual Christmas parties! Children across the school had a wonderful time dancing and playing different games in the hall before returning to their classrooms and feasting upon lots of lovely food. Thank you to all families for your contributions!



Dates for your Diary

- 6th January - Children return to school
- 17th January - After school clubs start
- 18th January - Year 6 Safety Works trip
- 9th to 11th February - Year 6 Robinwood trip
- 18th February - School breaks up for half term

Congratulations Mrs Shaw, MBE!

Mrs Shaw had a wonderful day out at Windsor Castle where she received her MBE. Back at school the children were delighted to receive a video message from Mrs Shaw recorded at the castle and were so proud to hear Mrs Shaw explain that this was an award earned by us all.

When Mrs Shaw returned from Windsor Castle the children had the opportunity to see and hold her medal and some children even tried on her hat! Some of our Reception pupils acted out the investiture and learnt how to curtsy in front of 'Prince Charles'.



STEM Hub

You may have noticed the progress of the building of our STEM Hub. Branch and Bone have worked several weekends in some awful weather to progress the build. This project has been funded by Freudenberg Sealing Technology and we are very grateful indeed. We look forward to its completion and being able to run STEM projects in this dedicated space.