



## Message from Mrs Shaw

This is the term where we return in January, with continued cold, dark mornings and damp, dark tea-times and I stand in assembly and talk to pupils about the Spring term. The 4 seasons of the year compared with the 3 terms of school always creates much discussion among our children. We have been talking about new beginnings and learning some new assembly songs about changes in seasons and the shoots of growth. We have looked at Spring plants to look out for and I have been shown lots of photos of snowdrops that pupils have spotted out and about in recent weeks. There are some on the path outside school. Look out for crocuses and daffodils next. This has been a busy half term with class assemblies, lots of visitors into school and lots of visits to places of interest. Everything that staff plan for your children connects to their learning across the curriculum. Our Bikes4Health groups are now covering 21 miles in a session and riding further afield to local places of interest. Our EYFS pupils have been regular visitors to the woodland area and were excited to tell me about their hunt for wiggly worms as they carried their wellies through school so the floor "doesn't get mucky!". Our 100% attendance pupils are wearing their green badges with pride and I am looking forward to awarding lots of yellow badges for the 100% attenders in Spring term. We return to school on Monday 27th February. Please fill a carrier bag with food from reception before we break up.

## Attendance

Our current whole school attendance is 94.47% for this year so far and 95.1% for this term, which is **below** our target of 96.5%.

w/c	Whole school %	Winning class	% of winning class
9/1/23	96.3%	7RH	100%
16/1/23	95.6%	7RH 10JB 13JG	100%
23/1/23	95.3%	5LM 10JB	99.2%
30/1/23	93.2%	10JB	99.2%
6/2/23	96.4%	13JG	100%
13/2/23	93.9%	14BD	98.9%



# Science

## Technology Tom

Year 2

We were getting prepared for our Castles topic for next half term with Technology Tom. We were trying to build castles and had to use our engineering skills to make sure that our walls and bases were as strong as possible. We're looking forward to finishing and decorating our projects next half term!



## NUSTEM

Year 3 took part in a workshop where we undertook the role of a solar physicist following on from our light topic in Autumn term. We enjoyed using spectrosopes and investigating what stars are made from by looking at the black lines on the colour spectrums. We then made our own colour spectrums using collage.



## Science for Families

Our new Science for Families club in Key Stage 2 began this term where we welcome families into the classroom after school on a Thursday to take part in science experiments and to solve problems together. We have loved welcoming adults into our classroom and seeing families work together on tasks before taking things to try at home. Please speak to Mrs Bourne or Miss Ransome if you are interested in taking part in our next sessions!



# Science

## Safety Works

On Thursday 19th January, Year Six visited Safetyworks! We participated in 5 different activities in realistic situations illustrating every day hazards and how to prevent them. They included making the right choices, metro safety, safety in the home, e safety and water safety. We also identified fire hazards in the house such as computers and straighteners lying on the floor as well as mobile phones left to charge overnight. We also discussed how to test your smoke alarms and what the five point escape plan is if you ever experienced a fire in your house:

1. Shout fire!
2. Get out
3. Shut the door
4. Ring 999 when you're outside
5. Stay out



## Caterlink

Year 1

On Wednesday 1st February we had a visit from Chef Martin from Caterlink. He was very impressed with our knowledge of the Eatwell Plate and we wowed him when we shared what we eat to keep our body healthy. He showed us how to safely chop fruit to make a fruit salad. It was delicious, we enjoyed eating it as a morning snack!

**caterlink**  
feeding the imagination

## NUSTEM Eco Board game

Teachers and members of our Year 6 Eco Club have been in a very exciting project where we have designed and tested a board game based around Climate Change. The board game will be used in schools across the UK!





## Ice Balloon Experiment!

One of Nursery's focuses this half term is to explore freezing and melting. As a result Nursery were scientists for the day! We took turns adding salt, warm water and food colouring to an ice balloon and discussed the changes. The children wore goggles to protect their eyes and used pipettes to add the food colouring and water. The children were very eager to join in and discuss what had happened to the ice. We even had more ice for the children to explore during learning time.



## Geography

### Newcastle University visit

Year 2

This half term we had a visitor from Newcastle University for the first time. We learnt all about countries and flags from all over the world. We found out that Switzerland and Nepal have different shaped flags from the rest of the world.



## School Council/ OPAL Updates



### OPAL

KS1 & KS2

KS1 have been really excited this half term as we have had new exciting additions to our yard. There is now a construction area as well as a water/sand station. There's a lot of imaginative and creative play at play time! We've also elected members to create our own OPAL team. Our team have had their first meeting and are excited to think of new ways to make play times fun.

# Other Events

## Lunar New Year

Children in Reception have been learning about how different people celebrate. We talked about how we celebrate New Year in this country and then learnt about how the Lunar New Year is celebrated throughout the world.

We learnt that red is a lucky colour before Spring cleaning our classroom, reading the story of Cleversticks and taking on the chopstick challenge. We then went to Chinese school and learning to write some chinese symbols. At the end of our celebrations we took to the corridors and performed the Chinese Lion Dance.



## Holocaust Memorial

On Friday 27th January, some year 6 children were invited to attend the North Tyneside Holocaust Memorial event. The theme this year was 'Ordinary People' and we listened as Deanna Van Der Verde (whose mother was a holocaust survivor) told us all about her life and how 'ordinary people' both affected her and saved her life. To commemorate the event children were able to light a candle and showcase the work we had completed in school.





# Music @ New York



## Choir

Choir continue to rehearse each Friday at lunchtime club. They are sounding lovely as they prepare for the Spring Sing at the Whitley Bay Playhouse in March. Parents of choir members will no doubt have heard Xanadu in the back of the car or around the house as this is a new favourite. So much so that we have taught it to whole school for Friday 'Singing on the Yard'.

## Sounds of the Tyne

Year 4

Year 4 are thrilled to be taking part in a project called Sounds of the Tyne alongside artist Ed Carter. As part of the project, children visited the North Shields Fish Quay to listen to the sounds that they could hear and record these using specialist equipment. We loved hearing the sounds through our headphones and thinking about how the sounds will have changed over the years. We are working alongside Mrs Vasey in music to create our own poetry and sea shanties from the walk before putting this work together in a final project. We are excited to be able to share this with our families!



# Sporting News

## Bikes 4 Health

Year five have been developing their competence and confidence on their bikes! Exploring their local area travelling to different places each week, even having a picnic and hot chocolate on one occasion! It has been so great to see how much progress the children have made since the start of the year.



We don't just ride bikes. We learn how to maintain them, keep them clean and look after them too so they will last a lot longer.



Follow all of our sporting events with our NYPS Sport Twitter! @NYPSsport





# Sporting News

## Littleton League

The Under 11 football team played two games on 26th January. They won both games beating Percy Main and Christ Church 3-0. We are currently 2nd in the league with 2 games left to play.

## Skipping

Year 4

Year 4 have been working alongside skipping teachers Skip 4 Fit to learn new skills each week before performing these at two different skipping competitions. Children have learnt solo skills such as the double bounce and side swing, skipping techniques where they work with a partner and have practised their long rope skills. Children in Year 4 have enjoyed practising these skills further as part of after school clubs and during play time and we have loved watching their confidence grow!



## Rugby

Year 4

This half term, year 4 have been using their rugby skills to compete in an intra-class tournament. All children demonstrated great determination and resilience whilst displaying excellent sportsmanship and competitiveness. It has been a pleasure to see the children's rugby skills develop and their enjoyment for rugby grow this half term.





# Sporting News

## Basketball

Year 5 enjoyed a great day competing in the Hoops4Health competition against other schools. We played extremely well in the tournament and made it all the way to the finals of the knockout round! We showed excellent respect, sportsmanship to the other schools and officials. We even got a surprise visit fro, the Newcastle Eagles squad!



## Netball

On Thursday 16th February, our netball team attended a Bee Netball tournament at Blue Flames. All children had to play in all the different positions and showed excellent teamwork. After playing all of the other schools we won 2 of our games, one of them without conceding!

## Bikeability

Children in Year 3 and 4 were offered the chance to bring their bikes into school and learn basic skills such as setting off, cruising, slowing down, braking and stopping. We learnt how to be aware of our surroundings and be in control of our bikes- some of us even managed to pedal with one hand!

Follow all of our sporting events with our NYPS Sport Twitter! @NYPSsport



## A Fond Farewell

This half term we have said goodbye and thank you to our longest serving governor Mrs Anne Wilson. Mrs Wilson a keen runner, has served New York Primary School as governor and then Chair of Governors for many years and has been a consistent support and source of wisdom to school leaders and governors. Pupils were used to seeing Mrs Wilson at various school events and I am pleased that although no longer a serving governor, she has agreed to keep in touch and will keep supporting as a friend of New York.

# Dates for your diary

- Friday 17th February - Children finish for half term
- Monday 27th February - Children return to school
- Tuesday 28th February - Road Safety for EYFS
- Wednesday 1st March - High Borrans Parents Meeting 3pm
- Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day inc Cosy Book Club for parents 3:30
- Wednesday 8th March - Road Safety (5wks) Year 3
- Thursday 9th March - Community Litter Pick
- Thursday 9th March - Littleton League
- Friday 10th - Monday 13th March - High Borrans - Year 4
- Tuesday 14th March - International Maths Day
- Friday 17th March - Comic Relief
- Tuesday 21st March - Friday 25th March - Book Fair Small Hall
- Tuesday 21st & Thursday 23rd March - Parent Consultations
- Wednesday 22nd March - Spring Sing @ Whitley Bay Playhouse
- w/c 27th March - Walk to School & Local History Week
- Tuesday 28th March - Year 3 Rugby Festival (1-3pm)
- Thursday 30th March - Decorated Egg Competition
- Friday 31st March - Finish for Easter
- Monday 17th April - Children return to school
- Thursday 20th April - Active Mile Day
- Monday 1st May - Bank Holiday
- Monday 8th May - Bank Holiday for King Charles Coronation
- w/c 8th May - KS2 SATS
- w/c 15th May - KS1 SATS
- Tuesday 16th May - Year 2 Rugby Festival (1-3pm)
- Monday 22nd May - Technology Tom for Reception
- Friday 26th May - Children finish for half term
- Monday 5th June - Teacher Training Day
- Tuesday 6th June - Children return to school
- Friday 9th June - Non Uniform day for Summer Fayre
- w/c 12th June - Phonics Screener Week
- Thursday 15th & Friday 16th June - Enterprise Days
- Friday 23rd June - STEM Fayre
- Tuesday 27th June - Parent Book Look
- Friday 30th June - Summer Fayre
- Saturday 1st July - Shiremoor Treat Day
- Wednesday 5th July - Big Sing at the Sage
- Saturday 8th July - Mouth of the Tyne Parade
- Friday 14th July - Summer Festival Day
- Thursday 20th July - Children finish for Summer
- Friday 21st July - Teacher Training Day

## TOP TIP

Did you know you can add our calendar to your mobile? Log into the school website, find the calendar and click on this symbol then add to your calendar - all our important dates will now appear on your mobile calendar.

