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# Spring Term Newsletter



Natíonal Story Tellíng Week

This week our literacy texts have been a huge focus, as well as encouraging the children to use their topic related vocabulary to create stories using their imagination.

At Nettlesworth, we believe that Storytelling is a timeless art which does not depreciate in value as times goes by. Stories are a crucial part of development in childhood as well as proving to be a popular and relaxing past time for lovers of reading and writing of all ages.

Storytelling can take many forms; from writing stories, reading stories aloud and using drama to act stories out! We are lucky to have a wide variety of outlets through which stories can be communicated ranging from comics and magazines, e-books, paper books and theatres for dramatic re-enactments.

It would be great if you could continue this at home with your children; giving them regular opportunities to create their own stories using imaginations —

LET'S MAKE THE MAGIC HAPPEN ⓒ

Mrs Morton told a story using role play to Class 3.





Mrs Aspinall inspired Class 5 with their 'Love to Read' text!





Miss Grimes worked with Class 4 to recreate a Greek Myth.



Miss Milburn share a puppet story with Class 1.



Mr Graham blasted off into a world of heroes with Class 2.



## Kung Hei Fat Choi

UNCRC Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture.

We celebrated Chinese New Year!

Class 1 and 2 joined forces to celebrate the Year of the Tiger. We took part in literacy and art activities before food tasting and PE games ©

We also learned how to say 'Happy New Year' in Chinese 'Kung Hei Fat Choi'











## Punctuality

It is great to see so many children arriving to school on time and being involved in their learning right from the beginning of the day. Class 1, Class 2 and Class 3 begin their phonics sessions at 8.45 am and Class 4 and Class 5 begin their challenge time activities at 8.45 am.

We also have co-ordination reading/maths/speech programmes, and language interventions and lexia.

## Active Playtimes

The sports leaders are doing a fantastic job of keeping us all active at play time. We are using the anomaly board to give us lots of ideas to keep us moving!



## Holidays in Term Time

Our school attendance last year increased to 97.13%. Our school attendance target is 96%. This target is National Average and therefore now slightly above. Thankyou so much for you support. Ofsted evaluate school attendance and a low attendance can affect school's Ofsted judgements. We continue to see a large increase in requests for holidays in term time. Just to remind parents and carers that as of 1st September 2013, Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Absence during term time should be avoided because children can fall behind with their work and may find it difficult to integrate. An application using the leave of absence form (available from the school office) for leave must be made in writing to the Head Teacher, detailing the exceptional circumstances. The Head Teacher must Fri 4th Mar- Science Day be satisfied the circumstances warrant

the granting of leave. If you do not apply for leave in advance, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. You can be fined for taking your child on holiday during term time without consent from the school

#### Texts/Mail

We regularly send texts/mail to parents with details of events happening in school or just reminders. Please notify school if you haven't received any texts/mail in the last month. Your contact details may need updating.

#### School Website

Please continue to look at our school website on

www.nettlesworth.durham.sch.uk for diary dates, latest news, celebrations, advice and information.

### Diary Dates

Tue 15th Feb- Class 3 Multiskills Festival-Maiden Castle

Thur 17th Feb-Spring Time Disco

Fri 18th Feb- End of Half Term

Mon 28th Feb-Children Return to School

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar- Infant Agility Festival-New College

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar-Cheerleading-Class 4 and 5

Thur 3rd Mar- World Book Day

Thur 3rd Mar- Boxercise-Class 4 and 5

Wed 9th Mar- Maths Day

W/B Mon 14th March- Parents Beginning Monday 9th May week)

Wed 16th Mar- Phonics Screening younger children Meeting for Year 1 Parents

Thur 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting with Parents

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Mar-Reports Given out to **Year 6 children-** KS2 Statutory Parents

Red Nose Day Wed 6<sup>th</sup> April- Easter Egg Competiton

Fri 8th April- End of Term

Back to School

Thur 28<sup>th</sup> April- Year 2 SATS continued support. Test Meeting with Parents

Year 4 Times with Table Check Meeting **Parents** 

**Further** letters/details follow about each event

Statutory Tests- Year 1, 2, 4 and 6

Year 1 and some Year 2 children- Phonics Screening Test takes place Week Beginning 6th June 2022

**Year 2 Children-** KS1 Statutory Tests will take place Week Meetings (Clubs cancelled this 2022 - the children will not know they are taking tests as we keep them very low key for the

> Year 4 Children- Multiplication Mar- KS2 SATS Tables Check- Week Beginning 6th June 2022

> > Tests will take place **Week** Beginning Monday 9th May 2022

It is really important that all the children in these key year groups are in school during the dates the tests take place. Tue 26th April-Children Return Meetings will be held for our parents in these year groups. Thankyou again for your

> Further letters will follow about different events.

#### Absences

If your child is unwell, please contact school office as soon as possible by 9am. It is important that children attend school as often as possible because if they are not in school they cannot learn

#### PE KÍT

Please could children remember to bring PE kit on a Monday and leave it at school until Friday. Each class has certain days on the timetable but we constantly have coaches and sporting experiences for the children so days can change. We are a Sainsbury's Games Platinum Mark School and now have the AFPE (Association for Physical Education) award which is given to schools who promote and maintain high standards and

safe practice in all aspects of PE. Many Thanks.

NSPCC Number Day

UNCRC 31 - Children have the right to relax and play and join in with a range of activities.

Class 4 loved number day! We took part in a carousel of maths games, like bingo, dominoes, a sweet and cake shop and TT Rockstar challenges on the ipads!













#### Internet Safety Day

Today in school we had our very own Internet Safety coffee morning! We ate biscuits, drank juice and did a carousel of activities about staying safe online. We each took turns in our classes to come into the hall and take part in the activities – we also had bulletin boards about staying safe online that we each created in our teams!

UNCRC Articles 16 and 17 – children have the right to privacy and should be given reliable information from the media.







Sainsburys value certificates

Amazing basketball skills demonstrated this week in multi skills. A special mention to the following children for showing our values throughout the sessions.

UNCRC Article 29 – develop talents



