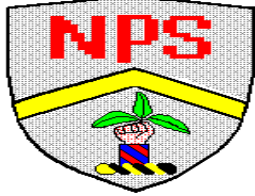


Spring Term Newsletter



World Book Day

We celebrated the 25th anniversary of World Book Day!

This year's theme was marked by the message: **"You are a reader."** All of our children were encouraged to dress as their favourite book characters and bring along their favourite story to share.

It was great to see our oldest children enjoy sharing stories with our youngest children And we had a surprise visit from one of our favourite Superheroes! 🕸️📖







Science Day

On Friday, we had lots of fun kicking starting Science Week in school. This years theme is growth. We began by having a mass planting session with the whole school We are excited to watch our flowers grow.





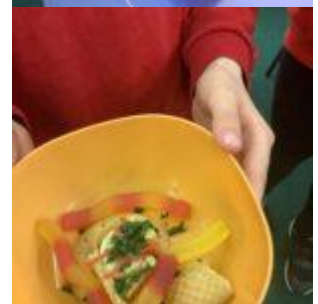
Miss Grimes worked with class 1 where they had the most amazing time planting different seeds in each one of the fingers of their rubber gloves, some contained cotton wool and others contained soil – all were attached to the window once complete and we are going to watch them grow! ☐



Mrs Morton had the pleasure of working with Class 4 and certainly had their minds blown when they discovered that a Coral Polyp was in fact an animal (with tentacles to paralyse its prey before eating it) and not a plant or a rock type!

We looked in detail at the world beneath our Ocean when studying one of the largest and most diverse ecosystems in the world – the Coral Reef 🌊

The most memorable part of our afternoon was creating our own individual Coral Polyps – that were completely edible ☐





Mrs Aspinall visited Class 5 and they learned about DNA ... everyone found out very interesting facts ... we couldn't believe that 50% of our DNA is the same as a banana! We had 3 main suspects, Mrs Lee, Mrs Hill and Mrs Gallacher we interviewed all 3, who had very good alibis. Only Stacey guessed the culprit Mrs Hindmarch!





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 programmes, reading/maths/speech and language interventions and lexia.

Class 2's Launch of new topic-Superheroes

Memorable experience

Today we met a superhero Spider-Man dropped by to see us as he had heard we were all dressed up as superheroes! We had so much fun talking to him and getting out photos taken with him. Thanks for the visit!



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 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

Wed 9th Mar- Maths Day

W/B Mon 14th March- Parents Meetings (Clubs cancelled this week)

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

Thur 17th Mar- KS2 SATS Meeting with Parents

Fri 18th Mar- Reports Given out to Parents
Red Nose Day

Wed 6th April- Easter Egg Competition

Fri 8th April- End of Term

Tue 26th April- Children Return Back to School

Thur 28th April- Year 2 SATS Test Meeting with Parents
Year 4 Times Table Check Meeting with Parents

Further letters/details will 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 Beginning Monday 9th May 2022- the children will not know they are taking tests as we keep them very low key for the younger children

Year 4 Children- Multiplication Tables Check- Week Beginning 6th June 2022

Year 6 children- KS2 Statutory 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. Meetings will be held for our parents in these year groups. Thankyou again for your continued support.

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 Kit

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.

Class 1 Infant Agility @ Durham New College

This morning we made our way to Durham New College to take part in a Reception Infant Agility Festival. We were amongst 5 other schools and moved around a carousel of 12 activities that focused on skills in; rolling, throwing, balancing, jumping and running. The children worked extremely well as a team and they had throughout the entire event 😊





Shrove Tuesday 2022

Today, we celebrated Shrove Tuesday by making pancakes and serving them to the whole school – allowing each to add their favourite toppings. We have also been looking at the meaning behind ‘Pancake Day’ and why it is so important to the Christian Faith. It was great to be joined by our RE Governor – Mrs Lofthouse! 😊





Multi skills awards

Well done to this week's sports men and women Well deserved Sainsbury value certificates. Little super stars ★



UNCRC Article 22-Governments must help in trying to reunite children refugees with their parents

Governments must help in trying to reunite child refugees with their parents.

Karen has been watching a lot of news and talking about it these last few days. She wanted to make a picture in response. It grew out of our discussion about Ukrainian refugees. Karen said she hopes some can come to Nettlesworth as it is a Rights Respecting school. In the picture, she has included some of her friends from Class 2 who want to help refugees.



Class 4 memorable experience – The year is 1066!

Memorable experience – 1066!

UNCRC Article 31 – every child has the right to relax and play and join in with a range of activities

History / ICT

The year is 1066. Edward the Confessor is dying and he's asked Harold Godwinson to take

over the throne. But Harold's claim is under threat from three powerful men: William Duke of Normandy; Harald Hardrada, the King of Norway; and Edgar the Atheling, King Edward's nephew. Class 4 worked in teams to play Harold and his challengers. They found out who the challenges were, where they came from and what their claim to the throne was.



Backed by a council of advisors (The Witan), each challenger and Harold presented their claim to the throne!



Inter House Competition

Our EYFS and KS1 children and impressed us with their athletics skills this week. Darren and our Sports Leaders led a session where the children had to

demonstrate a range of skills to help earn points for their team. We were amazing. PE superstars!



Memorable Experience – walk around the village.

Class 3 have had a fantastic afternoon, celebrating our new topic 'Street Detectives'. We explored some of Nettlesworth and had Mrs Cooke and Mrs Mordue telling us all about the history of our local area. It was so much fun and we learnt lots of interesting facts along the way. We were also seeing what we could spot that we had seen on the maps we had been looking at.





UNCRC Article 28 – Right to an education.

Class 5's Cornerstones Curriculum Memorable Experience

Frozen Kingdom – 2.3.22
UNCRC Article 28 – right to education

Where did that iceberg come from?

Why hasn't it melted?

How big are icebergs?

Is there more of the iceberg above or below the waterline?
Do any animals live on icebergs?

So many lines of enquiry to a wonderful topic this term. The children of class 5 had a fantastic memorable experience when they made 2 'miniature' icebergs and researched how they melted. It got very interesting when salt was added!

Well done Class 5 👍

