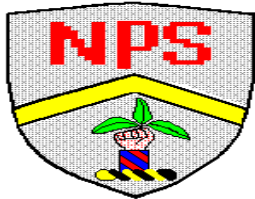


Autumn Term Newsletter



Bring it on!

10 year 6's attended the Bring it On STEM event at the Beacon of Light in Sunderland.

Bring It On, The North East Exhibition for Future Engineers, is targeted at young people aged 9-14. It aims to raise the aspirations of North East youngsters and contribute to closing the engineering skills gap in the region. They aim to do this by Educating young people about the engineering in their region, inspiring them to want to be part of it and informing them about what they need to do to become so.

We had so much fun finding out all about careers within Stem. We learnt lots of exciting facts and we were amazed at how much STEM is all around us every day!

A big thank you to Papi for coming along to help us out too.







Free Family Fun Day

Community funday on Saturday 29th October, a fun day out where the local community can come and see some of the great opportunities Durham has to offer. From theatre groups and sports clubs to volunteering opportunities and Kid's clubs there's a range of things to come and discover. Entry will be free and people of all ages and backgrounds are welcome.

Durham University

Live music and theatre

Hands-on science

Dancing

Arts and crafts

Sports

Free entry*

Palace Green, Durham

Saturday 29 October

10am to 3pm

durham.ac.uk/communityfunday

[Simply Sports October Half Term Clubs](#)

Please see information about holiday clubs.

[Simply sports October Half Term](#)

Harvest Festival

UNCRC Article 31 – Take part in a range of cultural activities.

The children were fantastic at performing their Harvest poems, singing and reading at the Harvest Festival. They had lots of fun and worked so hard to learn all of their lines. Thankyou to everyone for coming and for all the food donations for Durham Food Bank. We provided enough food for 52 meals.



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 lego therapy running at that time. Thank you so much to parents/carers for your continued support.

Holidays in Term Time

Our school attendance last year decreased to 95%. Our school attendance target is 96%. This target is

National Average and therefore now slightly below. 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. Thankyou for your support

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

Thur 20th Oct- Halloween Disco (no after school clubs this night)

Fri 21st Oct- End of Half Term

Mon 31st Oct- Children return to school

W/B 31st Oct- Parent appointments with class teachers (no after school clubs this week)

Thur 3rd Nov- Adam Bushnell class workshops

Fri 4th Nov- Class 3 Multiskills- New College

Fri 4th Nov- Class 5- visit from Police to talk about Hate Crime

Tue 8th Nov- Cross Country Team/New College

Thur 10th Nov- Maths Day

Fri 11th Nov- Remembrance Service at school for children

Fri 11th Nov- CRISIS CHARITY- Class 5 School Sleepover

Tue 15th Nov- Athletics-Class 5- Maiden Castle

Wed 16th Nov- Class 4 Trip to Beamish/STEM/Science/Engineering Project

Fri 18th Nov- Children in Need Parliamentary Coffee Morning

Mon 5th Dec- End of Term Reports to Parents/Carers

Tue 6th Dec- Class 4/5 Christmas Nativity Performance

Thur 8th Dec- Class 1/2/3 Christmas Nativity Performance

Fri 9th Dec- Christmas Fair

Tue 13th Dec- Christingle Service

Wed 14th Dec- Christmas Dinner/Christmas Jumper Day

Thur 15th Dec- Christmas Party

Fri 16th Dec- Elf Run for St Cuthberts Hospice

Tue 20th Dec- End of Term

Thur 5th Jan- Children return to school

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.

Rights Respecting School

We are immensely proud to be a UNICEF Rights Respecting School Gold School.



UNCRC Article 12 – Children have the right to say what they think should happen when adults are making decisions that affect them, and to have their opinions taken in to account.

As a Rights Respecting school we are an organisation which promotes equality and the UNCRC articles giving children in our care a high level of pupil voice and participation as well as striving to educate them to become all round Global citizens.

We are also a Rights Respecting Ambassador School, where we work with other schools to help promote and achieve Rights Respecting Schools Award

A large part of this work is the creation of **Charters** – agreements between the children and adults in school about what actions both groups will take to help promote the UNCRC articles.

Groups of children in a class will choose an article that they feel is important to them and think about what actions they as children can take to help themselves and others globally to make that article work.

Adults in school will think about what actions they can take to do the same. Together, class, whole school and playground charters are created which helps to make our school a thoughtful, reflective place to learn, work and play.

**SCHOOL ADMISSIONS –
2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR-**

APPLYING FOR A RECEPTION SCHOOL PLACE

As in previous years, we are strongly encouraging parents/carers to apply on-line for a school place for their child. **All the information you need to be able to do this is available from the Council's website from 5 September 2022:**

www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

APPLYING FOR A SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACE

The application process for the Secondary Admissions 2023 Intake is due to begin on **Monday 5th September 2022.**

Parents can make their application for Secondary School online by visiting www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions and the School Admissions online application facility will be available to parents from **Monday 5th September 2022.**

The Closing Date for Secondary School Applications is the 31st October 2022.

If parents do not wish to apply online they can complete a paper application form, and these are available on request from the School Admissions Team from **05 September 2022.** These application forms can be requested by e-mail to schooladmissions@durham.gov.uk or by telephone from the School Admissions and Transport Team on 03000 265896.

We are very lucky to be continuing our work with Alexa at the British Ecological Society. Today we put the bird feeders in our school grounds so that we can help the birds over the coming colder months as well as enjoy spotting the different birds in our local area. Thank you to Mr Straughan for helping us!



SOW FOR SOLIDARITY

'Fairtrade everyday to show our solidarity'

The Rights Respecting Council planted 'Fairtrade' seed pods packed with British wildflower seeds to enhance local biodiversity, to show solidarity with communities taking on the worst effects of climate change.



[Class 2's Bird Feeders](#)





Spooky Science Club

This week we had a Halloween theme for our Science club experiment. We made spooky gloop using cornflour and water. We mixed the ingredients to make sure that the mixture resembled slime. We were fascinated with the material that looked like a liquid, felt like a solid but acted like a liquid. SPOOKY!

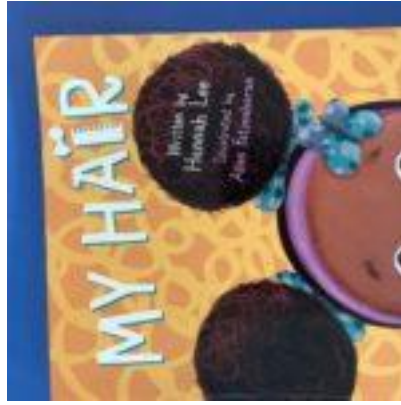


Black History Month

Today we discussed Black History Month in class 2. We talked about all the famous black people in past and how they have stood up for their rights and shaped history. We read a very exciting book called 'My Hair' by Hannah Lee. We then discussed how we are all unique and how it makes the world such a wonderful place to live. Look at our amazing writing all about how we are unique.

UNCRC article 2 – convention applies to everyone.





Dinosaur Planet Celebration

We are sad to see our Dinosaur Planet topic come to an end but had so much fun celebrating all that we have learnt. We had an amazing day of dino themed tasks. First we played dinosaur nest during PE with Darren, then made dinosaur biscuits with Mrs Burton and finally became real life Mary Anning's by digging and discovering mini dinosaur fossils! Such an exciting end to our topic.

UNCRC article 31 – right to take part in a wide range of activities.







Dino poo

Today we had lots of fun making our very own edible version of dinosaur poo! We combined our ingredients then crushed, mixed and stirred until we had a lovely texture looking like poo! Thank you to Mrs Burton who helped us weigh and use the equipment safely.

UNCRC Article 29 – education such develop talents.







Dino Eggs

Today we had lots of fun decorating our dinosaur eggs. We used a variety of materials to make the egg look textured.

UNCRC Article 28 – right to an education



World Mental Health Day!

UNCRC Article 28 – Right to an education.

Today we discussed resilience as part of our PSHCE and UNCRC lesson and talked about why Mental Health Day is important. We talked about why it is important to be resilient and named some examples. We then

played a fun game linked to mental health and resilience.





To celebrate World Mental Health Day, Class 4 decided to create, describe and share our very own happy places. These are places

that we can go to, either physically or mentally, when we feel like things are a little bit difficult. Check out our drawings and descriptions of our happy places.

UNCRC Article 13 – children must be free to say what they think.



Ukulele with Mr Ray

Today, Class 4 were able to put their theory into practise by playing ukuleles! Mr Ray, from Durham Music Services, brought ukuleles for everyone to play. We

learned how to pluck with both our thumbs and index fingers on the A string and even learned two new terms: crotchet and minim. Everyone had so much fun and loved being musicians for the morning!

Well done everyone, and a big thank you to Mr Ray!

UNCRC Article 29 – education must develop every child’s personality, abilities and talents to the full.



Forest School – 28.9.22

UNCRC Article 31 – leisure, play and artistic culture

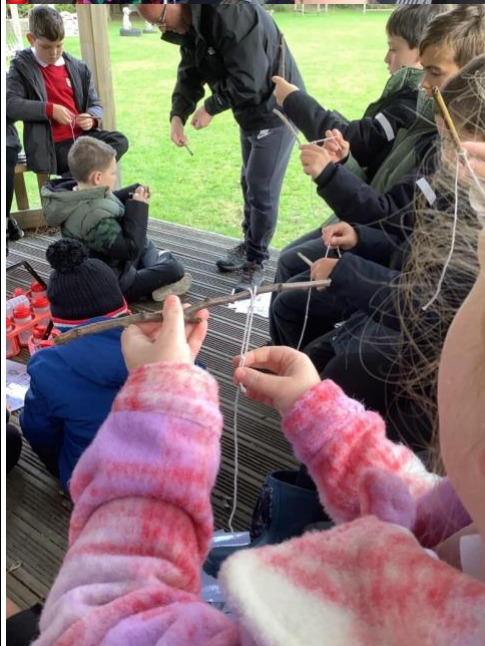
What another wonderful session we have had today in our second Forest School session; knots.

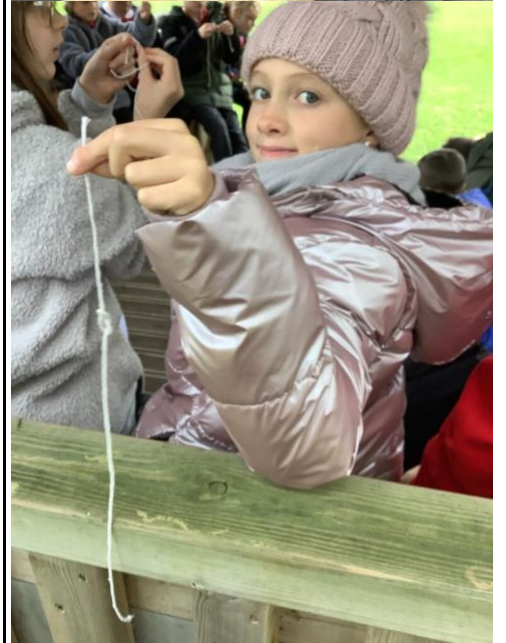
We didn't realise how many different types of knots there are!

Fantastic rights respecting gold ethos demonstrated by all of our wonderful children.











VR Headsets – 27.9.22

UNCRC Article 17 – access to media

We are very excited to be the recipients of a class set of VR Headsets for a two week period to aid us in our curriculum. Delivered for today, we have already used them to explore the Galápagos Islands and look at some of the wildlife in our Cornerstone Curriculum – Darwin’s Delights.