

Newsletter

IMPORTANT DATES

7th April - 100% attendance lunch
10th April- 21st April - Easter holidays
24th April - School reopens for summer term
26th April - Visitor to Year 3 'Wear Romans'
1st May - School closed bank holiday
2nd May - Parents/carers to receive Summer term curriculum overview and targets
8th May - SATs week for Year 6
12th May - End of SATs week visit for Year 6
16th May - Reception class assembly 9.15am
16th May - Derwent Hill Meeting for Parents/Carers 4pm
19th May - Headteacher's Coffee afternoon 2.30pm
22nd May - International week—various visitors and events booked throughout the week
29th May - 2nd June - Half term holiday
5th June - School reopens
9th June - Derwent Hill weekend
12th June - Phonic screening Year 1
13th June - Year 5 class assembly 9.15am
15th June - School Disco
19th June - Nursery sports morning (am)
19th June - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 sports afternoon
20th June - Years 3,4,5 and 6 sports afternoon
27th June - Year 1 assembly 9.15am
30th June - NSPCC Assembly
5th July - Year 5 and 6 NSPCC Workshops
5th July - Summer family picnic from 11.45am
7th July - End of year reports to parent/carers
11th/12th July - Parent/Carer end of year drop in sessions 3.30pm-4.30pm
10th July - Year 6 Oxclose Transition Day
11th July - Year 6 Oxclose Transition Day
18th July - Visit for 5r winners
19th July - Leavers assembly 5.30pm
20th July - 100% attendance visit - Bowling
20th July - 100% attendance lunch
21st July - Break up for summer holidays
*The school website calendar is updated with all visitors, assemblies, school trips and other important dates.

Breakfast Club is a great way to start the school day. It runs every morning from 7.45am. There is a plenty of choice of breakfast food available. Andy from Championship sports runs a variety of sporting activities every morning which includes a dance teacher on a Thursday. The cost is £2.50 per child per day/session. There is no need to book in advance. Children must be brought to school and signed in by an adult.

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Headteacher's Update

As the spring term comes to an end, we have had a fantastic run up to the Easter holiday. Once again, it has been proven that we certainly have many talented children and parents/grandparents/carers in our school community and thank them all for their support with the fabulous entries in our Easter challenges (Easter Bonnet Parade for Nursery and Reception children and the traditional Blackfell Egg competition in Years 1-6). The standard of all entries was very high and congratulations to our winners. Mrs Young, community governor, had the difficult job as 'head judge' to choose first, second and third winners linked to the theme for this year 'the 5Rs'!

The children in Year 6 will be taking their Statutory Assessment tests w/c 8th May and have all worked very hard. Breakfast Club will be free for all Year 6 children for that week; please sign your child in at our community room anytime from 7.45am (no need to book). Championship Sports support our breakfast club every day and there is a wide selection of breakfast items.

We have many exciting plans for next term including a summer family picnic, educational visits, Year 1 and Year 5 class assembly, Sports days, Educational visits and an International Week (week commencing 22nd May - further details to follow).

We hope that you all have an enjoyable Easter holiday and look forward to seeing you relaxed and refreshed for the beginning of the summer term.

With very best wishes
Julia Watkins



The Wizard Of Oz

Children who joined the school drama club in January have been working really hard with Miss Hepplewhite on a production of 'The Wizard of Oz.' The children put on a fantastic show this week for family and friends. Children also performed it to the whole school on Tuesday. Well done everyone you were all amazing.

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News from Early Years

What an exciting time we have had in Nursery and Reception this term. We began by celebrating World Book Day by coming to school dressed as our favourite storybook character and taking part in a book swap with our friends. Next we had a visit from 'Go-Smarter' who came to give us some important training on our balance bikes. We already know the importance of wearing a helmet whenever we ride our bikes inside and out of school, but we also learnt how to steer the bikes with good control, watching out for obstacles and listening to instructions. We can all now ride our balance bikes with confidence and love to show off our new skills.



Next we had 10 very special visitors arrive in our class from the Living Eggs Project. For two weeks we were fortunate to receive 10 eggs and all of them hatched ending up with 6 boys and 4 girls. We all thoroughly enjoyed watching the lifecycle of the chicks.



Throughout the spring term we have been learning about Dinosaurs and to link into this we had the pleasure of welcoming 'Jittabugs' into school to work alongside the children to develop their Physical Development. What a super time we have had moving like dinosaurs and even took part in our very own dinosaur Olympics! 'Jittabugs' will be returning to school to run an after school club for Reception and Year 1 children starting Thursday 8th June. To end the term off, we all took part in our Easter Bonnet Parade. We came to school wearing our superb bonnets which we made at home and sang a range of spring and Easter songs to our parents/carers. What a great end to the term and wonderful start to our Easter holidays. Thank you to all the parent/carers for your support with the making of the Easter bonnets. We wish you all a very happy Easter.



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Children's 1300 Codex project

Last year some of our children in Year 5 and 6 took part in a very special project. The project was called Codex 1300. The story of the Codex starts 1,342 years ago when Benedict Biscop first created a monastery on the banks of the River Wear at Wearmouth. This monastery became a place of great learning as the Bishop carried wonderful books back from Rome. A few years after Wearmouth monastery was finished, Benedict Biscop built a second in Jarrow. He asked a man called Ceolfrith to be the Abbot or leader of both monasteries. On a return visit from Rome Benedict Biscop showed a copy of the Bible to Ceolfrith who then decided that the monks should make a copy. The original copy was written in Latin which is the language used for prayers. Three books were created and on the 4th June 716AD exactly 1300 years ago Abbot Ceolfrith left Wearmouth monastery with 80 other monks and walked to Rome to give a special copy to the Pope. The book the monks originally copied from has been lost, but the book (or Codex) written in Wearmouth and Jarrow is still safe in the library in Italy.

1300 years passed from 716 AD to 2016 AD and it was decided that a new version of the bible (or Codex) be written to give to the Pope to remember the work of the monks all those years ago. 140 schools in the Sunderland area agreed they would help re-write this special bible (Children's Codex) and our school had the special honour of being one of those schools. Children from nurseries to secondary schools took part and on the 4th June 2016 the Children's Codex left St. Peter's Church to start its journey to Rome. Whilst on its way the Archbishop of Canterbury heard about the Children's Codex and requested a look at the special book. The Archbishop was very impressed and signed the codex and it then continued its journey to Rome where it was then presented to the Pope. We are really proud of our school taking part in such a historic event and we look forward in receiving our very own copy of the Children's Codex to keep in school.



Easter Winners

Thank you for all the fantastic entries for this year's competition. Mrs Young, one of our governors had the difficult decision of judging the eggs and Easter bonnets. The winners were:

- Nursery - Matilda Rodger and Ethan Cockburn
- Reception - Jaycee Day and Thomas Platts
- Year 1 - Ellis Kerry, Mya Okerefe and Arthur Ralph
- Year 2 - Lyta Carr, Aaron Cockburn and Eva Healy
- Year 3 - Jenny Hartley, Evie Warris and Chloe Brown
- Year 4 - Liam Stevenson, George Beat and Ty Hindhaugh
- Year 5 - Byron Duckworth, Sarab Bhamra, and Benjamin Cook
- Year 6 - Ethan Jones, Sophie Newstead and Sam Parker.

