



'The pathway to success'

Woodhouse Community Primary School

www.woodhousecommunity.durham.sch.uk

Spring Term

Weekly Newsletter – Friday 14th March 2014

Feb Fest 2014: Earlier this term, we were invited to participate in Feb Fest '14, a local arts festival which has steadily grown in popularity over the last several years. This year, every child in school created a self-portrait on a piece of aluminium, which were then assembled to create a Samurai Warrior, displayed in the Gallery in Bishop Auckland Town Hall. The final piece is stunning and now takes pride of place in our main entrance in school.

Year 6 SAT's: the dates for Year 6 SATs tests this year are the week commencing Monday 12th May. It is essential that all children attend school this week and that no holidays are booked up to or during these dates. I am very impressed at the positive attitude of the majority of Year 6, most of whom are staying behind 2 nights a week to do Booster classes, in order to achieve the best outcome they possibly can in SATs. Keep it up, Year 6!

Year 5 & 6 Thrills and Skills Residential: on Friday, I visited a residential outdoor activity centre near Hexham with Chris from Thrills and Skills for Life. We are hoping to be able to fund a 2-night / 3-day outdoor activity break for 20 lucky Year 5 & 6 pupils in July. The activities will include canoeing on a lake, rock-climbing and abseiling as well as re-creating a Roman attack on the farm, with a real-life hostage situation! The children who will be invited to take part will be carefully chosen, taking into account behaviour in school across the year, attitude and levels of resilience. This term will be the perfect opportunity for Y5 and 6 pupils to show us who deserves to be chosen. I will let you know more information soon.

Dance Festival: Last week, a group of pupils represented our school in the Bishop Barrington Dance Festival, where they spent all afternoon rehearsing before the performance in the evening. Miss Sugden and Mr Walker very kindly accompanied the group and said they felt privileged to work with such talented and well-behaved children. Indeed, several members of staff from other schools commented on what excellent attitudes our pupils demonstrated: well done to you all, you are outstanding ambassadors for Woodhouse Community Primary School!

Well Done, Jack! Another proud moment for our school saw Jack Nicholson coming 10th in the whole of County Durham Cross Country finals on Friday. There were hundreds of competitors, all of whom run at a very high standard and many who run for professional clubs out of school. Jack clearly showed that with a positive attitude and lots of determination, you can achieve great things! Well done, Jack, you are a credit to our school!

Year 3 & 5 Visits: it seems that on almost a weekly basis, we have groups or classes going out of school on visits, trips or festival, which is fantastic. This week, Year 3 enjoyed a brilliant trip to the farm as part of their termly topic, where a great time was had by all. This allowed the children to broaden their knowledge about farms and animals in a fun and exciting way.

Year 5 were invited to Bishop Barrington to demonstrate a PE lesson in order for GCSE students to be assessed as part of their course work. It makes me very proud to know that our pupils are requested to take part in such events, because it is understood that excellent behaviour and hard work will always be shown by our pupils.

Parent & Teacher Consultations: A great big thank you and well done to all of the parents of our children in Year 1: for the first time, we had 100% attendance at Parent & Teacher consultation meetings (with those who couldn't make it speaking to Mrs Hindmarch about their children's progress at other times in the week). It is vital that parents are aware of how their children are progressing in school and I am delighted that Year 1 parents have set such a high standard for all the other classes to follow this term! Well done, Year 1 parents!!

School Dinners: I have included a separate letter with this week's newsletter, regarding the slight increase in school dinner payments from our return to school after the Easter holiday.

'Stars of the Week' for this week are:

Year 1: Peter Brown, for excellent money-solving problems



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Year 2: Anthony Oyston, for fabulous fractions!

Year 3: Whole Class for super behaviour on their trip to the farm

Year 4: Matthew Islam Bell for fantastic Literacy and Maths work all week!

Year 5: Morgan Maughan, for wonderful Super Hero work this week

Year 6: Nathan Smurthwaite for excellent independence in his maths test this week (and getting all answers correct!)

Astronomical Attendance: Well done to Class 6 for having the best attendance last week!

Reception: 91 %

Class 1: 93%

Class 2: 96%

Class 3: 93%

Class 4: 95%

Class 5: 98%

Class 6: 99%

Dates for your Diary:

Year 6 Safety Carousel Trip	Monday 24 th March all day
Bishop FM 'Primary Choice ' radio show, hosted by our pupils	Thursday 27 th March, 3-4pm, on Bishop FM
Year 3 Parent & Teacher Consultation/ Easter Egg Crafts	Monday 31 st March 9-11.30am (appointments to be sent out soon)
Year 6 Parent & Teacher Consultation/ Easter Egg Crafts	Monday 31 st March 1.00-3.00am (appointments to be sent out soon)
Year 2 Parent & Teacher Consultation/ Easter Egg Crafts	Tuesday 1 st April 9-11.30am (appointments to be sent out soon)
Year 4 Parent & Teacher Consultation/ Easter Egg Crafts	Tuesday 1 st April 1.00-3.00pm (appointments to be sent out soon)
Year 1 Easter Egg Crafts	Wednesday 2 nd April 9.00- 11.30am
Year 5 Parent & Teacher Consultation/ Easter Egg Crafts	Wednesday 2 nd April 1-3pm (appointments to be sent out soon)
Easter Eggstravaganza Coffee Afternoon (come and see the family Easter eggs made all week)	Thursday 3 rd April 1.30-2.55pm
Break up for Easter Holiday	Friday 4 th April
Return to school	Tuesday 22 nd April

Mrs Page
Headteacher



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