



NEWSLETTER

Friday 30th September 2022

Democracy Week and School Council Elections w.c. 3.10.2022

In school next week, we will be hosting a 'Democracy Week'. During the week, we will be carrying out a variety of classroom activities and finding out about different parts of the democratic process, for example, voting, debating and how laws and bills are passed. We will also explore the role of MPs and find out how they represent their constituents. On Wednesday 5th October, we are excited to welcome Mary Foy, MP for Durham City into school to hear about her role and have the opportunity to ask her questions.

Next week will also bring our School Council elections and we have been lucky enough to have had a real polling booth and ballot box delivered to school! If your child would like to nominate themselves for the position of school councillor and to represent their class, they should prepare a short speech outlining why they would like the role and what qualities would make them suitable. All children who wish to put themselves forward will have the opportunity to deliver their speech to their class early next week and then we will hold an election. Please support your child in preparing their speech this weekend. Good luck to all!



Online safety

It has been brought to our attention that a number of children in Key Stage 2 are accessing age-inappropriate apps such as Tiktok and Snapchat and Fortnite and these have been the cause of several issues in school. These apps all have age 13 restrictions for good reason; not only can the content be inappropriate but they can also expose our children to unkind comments they are not mature enough to cope with. We recommend that all parents speak with their children about their technology use, ensure that apps are age-appropriate, that Safe Search filters are applied and technology use is monitored.

For more information linked to online issues and how to set up filtering systems the following websites contain useful information:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

Harvest

This year, Brancepeth Class will be leading our Harvest Assembly on **Monday 10th October**. Parents of children in Brancepeth Class are invited along to our Harvest Assembly at 9:15am. We will be collecting donations for the Durham Foodbank this year and would very much welcome your donations of tinned foods, packet food and non-perishable items during the week beginning **Monday 3rd October**. Thank you for your support.

Parking

A polite reminder that our school car park is not to be used at any time, for parking or turning around. For safety reasons, please don't bring your car into Relly Path at all. Thank you.

Open Events for Reception and Nursery Prospective Parents

We have open events for prospective parents of children who are due to start school in September 2023 to come and have a look around school. To book a place on one of these sessions, please call or email school.

Tuesday 18 October, 5.00-6.30pm.

Thursday 17 November, 5.00-6.30pm.

Wednesday 7 December, 5.00-6.30pm.

The following sessions are for prospective nursery parents to come and have a look around:

Tuesday 11 October and Tuesday 29 November, 5.00-6.30pm.



Nursery News

This week in nursery many of the children have loved playing outdoors. The water tray remains very popular. Pouring water down the guttering, then observing which direction it goes, has prompted lots of watching, commenting and predicting. Our rollers are being used to make many patterns on the tarmac, as well as 'clean' or 'paint' some of the outdoor furniture. This is great for shoulder, arm and hand strength as well as for enjoying early mark making.

We are loving seeing photos you have sent from home, showing your child doing something they especially enjoy. Please do send one, via Tapestry, if you've not yet had chance to. Thanks. We've also enjoyed joining in with the actions and repeated refrain in 'Down by the Cool of the Pool'. It is a lovely rhythmic interactive story, with a fun twist near the end!

We have also celebrated Bentley's birthday. Happy birthday to you Bentley!

We hope you are enjoying the Tapestry observations sent from nursery. This week we have had our first 'Busy Bees', these are a small group of children we focus on, noticing what they are enjoying, interested by and learning. Of course, every child will have a turn to be a 'Busy Bee' focus child, we'll let you know via Tapestry.

Nursery Meet the Teacher event has been rescheduled to Tuesday 4th October with presentations being given at 4.30 and 5.00. This presentation will be available on our website after the event.

Awards and Celebrations



Star of the Week

Being kind to others

Alnwick	Paris	Bowes	Alice
Auckland	Holly	Brancepeth	Joe
Aydon	Sara	Lindisfarne	Samara
Barnard	Jayden	Warkworth	Noah
		Bamburgh	Katriona

Reader of the Week

Alnwick	Henry	Bowes	Romilly
Auckland	Edward	Brancepeth	Jake
Aydon	Niamh	Lindisfarne	Ellie-Rose
Barnard	Arlo	Warkworth	Niamh
		Bamburgh	Aleeah

Tidiest Classroom –

Lindisfarne



Happy Birthday to Bentley, Nursery; Sebastian, Lumley; Sonny, Auckland; Samuel, Lambton; Elizabeth, Lindisfarne, Camila, Aydon

Dates for the diary

October

Monday 3rd October

Monday 3rd October

Tuesday 4th October

Wednesday 5th October

Monday 10th October

w.c. Monday 7th November

w.c. Monday 14th November

Friday 18th November

Monday 28th November

Thursday 1st December

w.c. 12th December

w.c. 19th December

Black History Month

School Democracy Week – internal elections

Harvest collections for Durham Foodbank

Nursery Meet the Teacher event 4.30pm

Gymnastics Festival – Brancepeth Class

Harvest Assembly – Brancepeth Class

Parent/Teacher meetings via TEAMS

Anti-Bullying week

Children in Need

Y5 Robinwood residential visit

School pantomime

Christmas parties, Carol Concert (KS2), Early

Years Singalong, Christmas Fayre/Fun

Afternoon

KS1 Nativity

HARVEST APPEAL

HELP SUPPORT YOUR FOOD BANK WITH FOOD AND FUNDS THIS HARVEST

DONATE FOOD

Help by donating an item or two from the list to support people facing hardship.



DONATE MONEY

help to cover the costs of storing and distributing emergency food as well as delivering additional support and advice.



SHOPPING LIST TOP FIVE ITEMS

Tinned Fruit
Jam
Long Life Fruit Juice
Coffee / Tea
Rice Pudding / Custard

*Don't forget...
You can help transform more lives
with a financial donation too.*



County Durham Foodbank
durham.foodbank.org.uk

Part of Durham Christian Partnership
Registered Charity Number 1077549