



April 27th 2018 Issue 27

Extension Works

Next week will see the completion of the new playground – it was intended to be finished this week as mentioned previously. This area is to replace the area that we will lose due to the construction of the four new classrooms. The area around the new build will be fenced off next week and this will change the way the children from Miss Blackburn's, Dr Greenwell's and Miss Richardson's enter and leave the building. Children and parents should still meet on the playground at drop off and pick up times and the children will be led round to the playground by their Class Teacher. It is **very important that parents/carers and grandparents wait on the yard** and do not try to collect them on the way to the playground. This is to ensure that teachers hand your children over to their trusted adult in an orderly way. Thank you for your cooperation on this.

The foundations for the hall extension have begun this week. The finished hall promises to be an amazing space and will really improve our provision and opportunities for sports, assemblies and other events in school.

Miss Blackburn's old classroom and the staffroom windows are being blocked up as they will form part of the new classroom walls.

PE

The children are enjoying the sessions that we have arranged at Teesdale Leisure Centre. A reminder that Nursery and Reception have PE on a Monday and at other times, Miss Lauder's Class on a Monday, Miss Blackburn's on Tuesdays, Miss Richardson's Class on Wednesdays, Dr Greenwell's Class swimming on a Thursday then PE on a Friday.

Time Capsule

One idea the construction team have had to engage with children and their families is to leave a time capsule deep underground! I thought that our families might like to leave a family photograph in the capsule with some details on the back such as your names and your child's age – any photo would be fine or even a scanned copy if you don't want to part with it. Please send the photograph to school by May 4th so that it can be buried along with some other items!

Local History

As part of the garden development, we are going to install a U-turn device that can play recordings of interviews between children and adults. This week we invited in eight local people who remember either working on or travelling on the railways in and around Barnard Castle. The visitors told some of our children lovely memories and capturing this information for future generations to enjoy is really important. I was very impressed by the confidence and manners of the children who were chosen to interview our guests and I look forward to the U-turn being installed so that we can all enjoy listening to the interviews. Thank you to Mrs Abi Smith for securing grants from Teesdale Action Partnership and Northern Heartlands to pay for this part of the project and her time arranging the interviewees. A special thanks for our visitors for sharing their time and stories with us.

Durham Recycling

Dr Greenwell arranged for a representative from Durham Waste and Recycling Scheme to take an assembly this week. She explained about what materials can be recycled, and even what they could be turned into. The children then took part in a quiz, with lots of prizes being given out! The assembly has generated lots of discussion in class about how we can recycle more.

Our visitor passed on some lovely compliments about the super behaviour and positive responses of our children. Well done to you all.

Attendance Rewards

Today the children with 100% attendance from either the Autumn or Spring term attended crazy golf. I hope they enjoyed it. Thank you to Barnard Castle Town Council for allowing us to go.

Clarinettists

Next week the children who play the clarinet will need their instruments on Tuesday as they join other players at Teesdale School in a music workshop organised by Mrs Unwin. The children will go in the afternoon and be back for home time.

STEM workshop

We have been keen to take part in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) activities recently and next week Class 3 have a special visitor in school who has some fantastic activities planned for the children. I will tell you more next week.

Gymnastics

Teesdale Leisure Centre are running a Gymnastics camp on Wednesday 30th May between 10am and 4pm. You can drop the children off at 9am if that helps. The cost of the day is £30.00. For further information please contact 03000260862.

School Meals

Durham County Council has announced that the cost of a school meal is to rise from September to £2.05 per meal.

Due to the change in Universal Credit, all those children who are currently in receipt of Free School Meals will have this entitlement protected until 2022 regardless of any changes in circumstance. It is therefore prudent to contact school should you think that you may be eligible for Free School Meals.

Next Academic Year meals for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils will continue to be free but because of the protected entitlement until 2022 it is recommended you apply for Free School Meals should you be currently eligible.

Old Newspaper and Bubble wrap!

Please could you send in any old newspapers and bubble wrap for Parade Club to use on Monday. Thank you!

Attendance for w.b. 23.4.18

Class	Present
Mrs Bartoli's Reception	97.8%
Miss Lauder's Class	92.7%
Miss Blackburn's Class	97.1%
Dr Greenwell's Class	98.4%
Miss Richardson's Class	96.1%
School Total	96.2%

Dates for the diary

May 1 st	Clarinettists to Teesdale
May 7 th	May Day Bank Holiday
May 9 th	FOMS Meeting at 5.30pm in school
May 14 th -17 th	Y6 SATs
May 17 th	Reception children to the Bowes Museum
May 21 st -25 th	Y2 SATs
May 24 th	Key Stage 2 Football Tournament
May 28 th -June 1 st	Whit Half Term Holiday
May 28 th	Procession in town

Mr Minikin, Head Teacher

Punctuality

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons. Remember Wake Up, Shake Up usually starts at 8.45a.m. 35 minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week.