



March 15th 2019 Issue 24

### **Miss Blackburn's Class Assembly**

Today we were treated to an amazing assembly by our Year 2 children. They have become experts on The Bowes Museum and they shared their knowledge with us on its founders, history and collections. This assembly and the book that they are producing are the culmination of their topic and has really captured their interest. Being able to visit the museum, produce fantastic artwork, research through books and by giving learning this purpose has helped with their understanding and I am sure that they will remember this topic for a long time. Thank you to Miss Blackburn for organising this and to the family members who were able to attend. Well done to Year 2 – you are superstars!

### **Miss Lauder's Class Assembly**

The next class assembly in school is Miss Lauder's Year 1 children on Friday 5th April at 9am. Families of these children are very welcome to attend.

### **Year 3 Pedestrian Training**

On March 26th Year 3 will begin their pedestrian training with trained Local Authority providers. Keeping safe around roads is obviously a very important skill and I would like all of our children to participate. Please can all Year 3 parents/carers ensure that consents are returned. Thank you.

### **Year 3 and 4 Spring Performances**

The children in Dr Greenwell's and Miss Scott's classes have been busy rehearsing for the Y3/4 play. They are performing twice, once on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 1.45pm and again Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 6pm. Tickets will be available next week from the School Office.

### **Chess Tournament**

On Monday 18th we will be hosting a Chess Tournament here at school, competing against three other local schools. Thank you to Dr Greenwell for organising this and good luck to the team!

### **Comic Relief**

It is nice that we are able to support Comic Relief. Mrs Bartoli shared some of the good causes that the money raised will support in an assembly this week.

### **Parents' Evening**

We really value our positive relationships with parents/carers and hope that you will be able to attend the Parents' Evenings on March 26<sup>th</sup> and March 27<sup>th</sup>. It is a chance to look at your child's work as well as ask any questions that you may have. To book an appointment, please either call into the School Office or telephone. If the dates are inconvenient, please let your child's teacher know and try to arrange another appointment with them.

### **Local History Books**

Thank you to families who have returned the expression of interest forms for the local history books that the children are producing – we have had an amazing response! So far, I have read the first draft of the Year 2 book and the quality of writing is remarkable! I have learnt some new facts and I am really looking forward to seeing it printed with the children's wonderful illustrations. We hope to have these books printed just after Easter.

### **Parent Pay**

As you will now know, we plan to switch over to Parent Pay on April 1st 2019. Information was sent home this week giving more details about how to open your account and if you have any questions about this please speak to Mrs Hauxwell. If you require separate accounts for parents/carers or a payment card for school dinner use please let the office know and this can be arranged also. The last day for Cash/cheque payments to be accepted is Thursday March 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Montalbo Extra Payments

Balances for Montalbo Extra accounts will be transferred to the Parent Pay system with effect from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2019. Because of the volume of work involved in processing this your Parent Pay account may not be up to date for the first two weeks, however, it will not prevent payments from being made. Final statements for all Montalbo Extra accounts will be issued as soon as possible.

### Mother's Day

On March 29<sup>th</sup> starting at 1.30pm, we will be celebrating Mother's Day and welcoming Mums or other family members to school to do some fun events with their child. More details will follow as we get closer to the time.

### ICT Suite

We have started to use our new ICT suite and it has proved popular with teachers and children. Children are so quick to pick up new technology and the suite is useful to teach the computing curriculum, as well as remind the children of good online habits that they will need in this fast moving area.

Our school website contains lots of good advice for parents and I add messages on the newsletter and on there regularly.

### Extension update

The project is drawing to an end and this week much of the fencing and barriers have been taken away. The site where the builder's compound was has been flattened and when the weather improves that area will be rotavated and seeded. Another longer gate will finish that area off to allow the grass cutters to access the area.

Nursery and reception have had a new sand pit built this week which will enhance their outdoor play.

Most of the building project is now finished and the only some minor snagging issues are to be resolved.

### Attendance for w.b. 4.3.19

Class	Present
Reception	100%
Year 1	98.9%
Year 2	98.9%
Year 3	94.8%
Year 4	94%
Year 5	99.6%
Year 6	92.4%
School overall attendance	97%

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons.

10 minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week.

### Dates for the diary

March 18 <sup>th</sup>	Chess Tournament – selected children
March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Pedestrian Training Year 3
March 26 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evenings
March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Football Competition
March 28 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Multiskills festival
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Band Workshop at Teesdale School 1-2.30pm
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Mother's Day event
April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 3 and 4 Spring Performance 1.45pm
April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 3 and 4 Spring Performance 6:00pm
April 5 <sup>th</sup>	Miss Lauder's Class Assembly

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher