



October 1st 2021

Fire Service and Police Visit

This week we enjoyed a visit from the Fire Service who worked with each class explaining the dangers of fire and how to react in different situations. They gave the children advice around handling sparklers and the importance of going to organised bonfire events rather than having fireworks at home. The children then had the chance to ask questions, sit in the Fire Engine and squirt the hose. They had a great time! The Fire Service complimented our school on the children's knowledge, attitude and behaviour. Well done Team Monty!

PCSO Singh also attended for part of the morning and worked with the older children, discussing anti-social behaviour: identifying what is anti-social behaviour, how to behave in public, littering and much more. He also spoke to the children about online behaviours and what to do if they were unhappy with the behaviour of others online. He also reminded the children of the age certificates on sites like Instagram and Snapchat which is 13 years old.

Year 2 visit to the Bowes Museum grounds

Yesterday Year 2 enjoyed a visit to the Bowes Museum grounds to make some field sketches of some of the geographical features of the beautiful surroundings. They did so well in such testing weather conditions – drawing on soggy clipboards was not easy. To their credit, they never moaned once and the knowledge they shared with me on the journey shows how much they are enjoying the topic. Well done Year 2! Thanks to all the staff who went and Mr Blackburn too.

Well done Miss Henderson – cricket information

Today we had an inspirational Cricket Assembly from Mr Walker from Barnard Castle Cricket Club and Miss Henderson who is an Apprentice Teaching Assistant here at school. Miss Henderson also volunteers at the club and informed the children of new cricket sessions which will begin for Year 4, 5 and 6 at Teesdale Sports Centre on Friday October 8th between 6-7pm. Sessions cost £2 a session or £15 for all 10 weeks. The first session is free so why not give it a try? As well as these sessions for girls and boys, there are also Girls Only Sessions that run from Friday 8th October between 5-6pm for Year 4 and above at a similar cost.

Online Safety

Did you know our website has lots of useful resources and advice on online safety? More information can be found [here](#). Online Safety forms an important part of our Computing curriculum but as we know, children are spending increasing amounts of time online so it's useful to have advice and be aware of what children are accessing at home.

Reception School Places September 2022

The window for applying for Reception places has opened and runs until January 15th 2022. If you would like to visit school, please contact the School Office who will arrange this with you. Parent/Carers of all children eligible to start Reception must submit an application. Further details on the process can be found [here](#).

Secondary School Places September 2022

The application for secondary places is also open for the parents/carers of children in Year 6. Further information about the process can be found [here](#).

Covid 19

It is really important that parents/carers do not send their child to school with any of the following symptoms. If you have COVID-19, you should not be bringing your child to school yourself and should arrange for others to bring and collect your child.

Please take a cautious approach at this time: -

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

The basic principles are if your child has COVID 19 or any of the COVID 19 symptoms they should not be attending school. A link for ordering PCR tests is [here](#) or you can also telephone 119. It is advisable to have the test as quickly as possible and report the outcome to school as soon as possible.

Year 6 visit to Babuls

To celebrate National Curry Week, the Year 6 children have been invited to Babuls in town to find out more about Indian cuisine. Perhaps I might be needed to help supervise this visit too! The visit is on the morning of October 4th and consent forms must be returned as soon as possible.

School Meals Menu

New Autumn Term menus have been issued for meals which start after half term holiday. Please indicate on the form your choice of main course for each day and return as soon as possible.

If any child currently on packed lunches wishes to have a school meal please contact the office for a menu, alternatively, if your child no longer wishes to have a school meal 2 weeks' notice is required by the school meals provider.

If you have had a change in circumstances and believe you may be eligible for Free School Meals please contact the school office for an application form. This applies to all pupils including those in Reception, Year 1 & 2 who are in receipt of Universal Free School meals.

Morrisons It's Good to Grow

We have registered with the Morrisons It's Good to Grow Scheme. From September, for every £10 spent in store or online, you'll get one Grow Token that your local school can then redeem for a wide range of gardening and growing equipment. Download the MyMorrisons app to donate tokens to our school, you can see how we are doing by visiting [here](#). Thank you to the families who have donated to date.

Diary dates

October 4 th	Year 6 to Babuls
October 7 th	Year 6 to Flatts Woods
October 7 th	Year 5 Swimming
October 13 th	Year 6 to Eden Camp (details to follow)
October 14 th	Key Stage 2 Eco Smart Schools Conference
October 15 th	Year 5 to Bowes Museum and the Locomotion (details to follow)
October 18 th	Year 2 to the Bowes Museum (details to follow)
October 25 th -October 29 th	Half term

Mr C Minikin,
Head Teacher