

East Herrington Primary Academy

January Newsletter



Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and peaceful New Year. We are excited to be back and are looking forward to an action packed Spring Term.

The children have returned to school ready to learn and already we have dived into their new exciting topics. This term, assemblies will take place for children from Reception to Year 5 and we will continue to provide refreshments after the assemblies to allow you to talk to your child and their friends and family after each assembly. Please see the diary dates for when your child's class assembly will take place.

We are continually improving the building of the school and last term we built a small sensory room and a lovely children's reading area which is outside the year 1 classrooms. We will continue to make improvements this term.

We hope that you find the information on this newsletter useful

Mrs Hair

I hope that everyone has received their letter about Marvellous Me and their own individual logins to access this new app for parents.

All staff have received training on how to use this but please be patient over the first few weeks whilst all staff get to grips with this. This is aimed at promoting and celebrating how well your child is doing at school and helps to improve communication between home and school.

I must stress that we will only be able to send photographs of the whole class and trips and all other events if we get permission from the whole class or group. The reply slip is vitally important so please return this as soon as possible.

I aim to share some excerpts of the Christmas performances but again can only do so if all parents give permission.

We will also be able to send reminders and messages on this app to allow communication to improve. We hope that you enjoy using Marvellous Me and I will welcome any feedback from parents.



Let's support NSPCC

We will be supporting the NSPCC charity this term and children will receive an assembly from a visitor about how to keep safe. Parents will receive a letter about the content of the assembly and Year 5 and 6 children will all receive a workshop to allow the children to cover the points in assembly in more detail.

On Friday 1st February we aim to hold our sponsored day event for NSPCC. It is also NSPCC's number day so we are going to hold a **non uniform day** where the children will have the dressing up theme of anything to do with numbers. The full day will be dedicated to maths activities both inside and outside the classroom and will link other curriculum areas to maths. We will also throughout the day hold various flash mob dance-athon.

Please look out for a more detailed letter about this event.

Year 1 - 6 have all taken part in an assembly from the lifeguards. They have shared with children the importance of water safety. The children found this very interesting and I am sure that they told you all about it!



A fantastic start to our new topic in Year 3!



On Monday 7th January, Year 3 had a visit from Lucius Felix, a Roman soldier! He explained all about life in Roman times and we were able to have a go at some of the activities ourselves. We became governors and experienced a Roman feast, prepared by cooks



and presented by servants. Did you know that Romans enjoyed eating roasted dormouse dipped in honey? Then came the entertainment – the Emperors allowed us to watch and take part in a chariot race and a gladiator battle with wild animals. The Emperor decided who should win and then the crowd helped decide whether the winner should be freed. We are very excited to learn more about the Romans in our new history topic!

We are very proud to announce that the school choir have reached the National Finals of the Under 12 Choir Competition. We sent a recording into the competition and have just found out that they have been selected for the finals. The competition to get to this stage was very high and the children should be very proud of their achievement.

The choir have a very busy term ahead of them. Outlined below are the key events:

Wednesday 6th February - KS2 competition of the year.

Saturday 9th February - Durham Cathedral Showcase of best choirs

Sunday 10th February - Music for Youth Festival - Sage Gateshead

Monday 11th February - Singing Festival - Sunderland Minster

Sunday 3rd March - City Sings - this date was changed

Monday 4th March - National Choral Competition - Festival Hall, London.

More information will follow for the children involved.

Music lessons have started back so please make sure all payments are up to date as we will be sending out new letters and adding payments to parent pay in the next couple of weeks.

I am still trying to organise a school rock band. If your child plays guitar, piano/keyboard or drums and are in Year 4 - 6 and would like to join - please send me a letter or an email to request a place. It is £2:00 per week and would run on a Wednesday after school.

Diary Dates

These dates are subject to change as sometimes events will have to be reorganised in school due to unforeseen circumstances.

Thursday 24th January	Swimming Gala for some of the Y5 and 6 Wednesday morning swimmers
Thursday 24th January	Year 4 Victorian Day
Tuesday 29th January	NSPCC assemblies for KS1 and KS2
Friday 1st February	NSPCC Number day/ dressing up as numbers or maths related - sponsored event
Tuesday 5th February	E- safety assemblies in school for KS1 and KS2 NSPCC workshops for Year 5 and 6
Wednesday 6th February	Choir - KS2 competition.
Thursday 7th February	RSPB in school working with Y4 and Y1
Friday 8th February	Mrs Cable's class assembly- 9:00am
Saturday 9th February	Durham Cathedral - choir
Sunday 10th February	Music For Youth Festival - Sage Gateshead - choir
Monday 11th February	Year 4 and 5 choir singing festival
Monday 11th February	Parents Meetings
Tuesday 12th February	Parents Meetings
Tuesday 12th February	War Horse workshops - Year 5
Wednesday 13th February	NSPCC sponsor money collected
Thursday 14th February	Mrs Oxley's class assembly - 9:00am
Friday 15th February	Miss Lavelle's class assembly - 9:00am
Friday 15th February	School finishes for half term.
Monday 25th February	School returns
Tuesday 26th February	Tag Rugby at Farrington—Y5
Tuesday 26th February	Girls Football 3:30-5:00 at Barnwell
Thursday 28th February	Mr Cawley's class assembly
Sunday 3rd March	City Sings for choir
Monday 4th March	Choir - National Choir Competition - Royal Festival Hall
Tuesday 5th March	Dance at Farrington—Y1

Diary Dates Continued

Wednesday 6th March	Miss Offer's class assembly
Friday 8th March	World Book Day (The official day is Thursday but we have decided to do this on the Friday instead)
Tuesday 12th March	Science workshops in school KS2
Wednesday 13th March	Science workshops in school KS1
Thursday 14th March	Miss Weir's class assembly 9:00am
Friday 15th March	RSPB in school working with nursery and reception
Thursday 21st March	Mrs Naile's class assembly 9:00am
Friday 22nd March	Mr Amundsen's assembly 9:00am
Thursday 28th March	Miss Millburn's class assembly 9:00am
Friday 29th March	Reception assembly. Both classes will do their assembly together. 9:00am
Monday 1st April	Rainton Meadows Area Trip—Y4
Thursday 4th April	Mammal Web Working in school –Y4
Thursday 4th April	Year 3 Trip to Vindolanda
Friday 5th April	Miss Baxter's class assembly 9:00am
Friday 5th April	Finish for the Easter Holidays
Monday 22nd April	Start of the Summer Term

Can I take this opportunity to remind all parents in Year 6 that SATs week is Monday 13th May - Thursday 16th May

- Can I please remind everyone to
- continue to collect and recycle plastic
- bottle tops. We will be collecting them
- until half term and longer if we need to.
- This will be the start of a full school art
- project using recyclable materials and
- creating some outdoor art for the
- Nursery entrance.
- Our aim is to create something like the
- picture below.



We strive constantly in school to help children to foster a love of reading and to give them the skills they need to be able to access reading for the rest of their life. We aim to allow children to 'learn to read and read to learn'.

We would like to try to read 1 million words as a school. We will be counting the words we read in class and the children will need to count the number of words they read independently or with yourselves at home. This can be recorded in their reading record.

On a Friday each class will total the amount of words they have read and send these to Miss Offer.

More information will be sent out next week.

However, when we reach our total, 1 million words, we will celebrate for a full day in school doing activities that the children have input into.

So come on - get reading and earn words and let's see how long it takes us to get to 1 Million!!