



Spring 1 Newsletter



After School Clubs

The list of after school clubs is available to view and pay for on ParentPay. All clubs still have space to book for your child except **Cookery**.

Upcoming Dates for your diary!

Fri 6th Mar—World Book Day (more info to follow)
Mon 9th Mar—Fri 13th Mar—Year 5 Bikeability
Tues 10th Mar—Y2 trip to the Sage
Thurs 12th Mar—Y1 trip to Temple Park
Thurs 12th Mar—Y3 Campfire Reading
Mon 16th Mar—Y4 Bikeability
Wed 18th Mar—Y5 trip to Durham Cathedral
Thurs 26th Mar—Family Fun Night
Tues 31st Mar—Y4 trip to Urban Factory
Thurs 14th May—Family Treasure hunt (more info to follow)
Wed 1st July—Summer Fayre
Mon 6th July—INSET Day
Thurs 16th July—Family Picnic & Kite Flying
All Easter Crafts dates are available on ParentHub and the school website.

Ofsted

As you know, we had Ofsted in school on 4th & 5th February. The report will be shared with you as soon as it is out, but we would like to thank you all once again for the amazing support you have shown us!

Year 3

Year 3 visited Temple Park this half term to compete in a Multi Skills tournament. The children had great fun competing as a team against other schools. The activities they were involved in included jumping the furthest, running the quickest, collecting the most treasure, scoring the most goals, and throwing the ball without dropping it for the longest time. Although exhausting, the children had a fabulous afternoon and were a great asset to our school. Well done Year 3!



Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who has helped fundraise for the school. This half term, we raised **£650.30** at our Family Fun Night! Everyone had a great night, and we are excited for more events to come! We would also love to hear any suggestions you may have for future fundraisers.



Nursery

This half term, we have been Gruffalo mad! We have really enjoyed reading the story; in fact, we have read it so many times that we don't even need the book anymore! We have made Gruffalo crumble in our fire pit—it was delicious! We have used clay to make our own Gruffalos and have gone on a walk in the deep dark woods. We have been to Temple Park for a sports afternoon. We had a brilliant time trying out all of the games and were very well behaved! We also loved walking to the library and have all picked a new book to read to our friends. We love our phonics sessions—we are so good at them! We can not only identify the syllables in lots of different words, but we can also identify onset and the rhyme! Some of us have even been learning to read and write the sounds: **m**, **a** and **s**. All of this is on top of all the fabulous things we do every day!



Year 1

Year 1 have had a brilliant half term! We enjoyed making crispy kale in the garden, visiting Whitburn library and finding out about lighthouses on our visit to Souter Lighthouse. We have continued to work on our ten times table and have been adding and subtracting numbers to 20 in maths. In English, we have been writing about the naughty seagulls who pinch Mr Grinling's dinner and writing instructions for how to make sandwiches. The children are thoroughly enjoying their PE sessions with Little Movers.



Year 4

This half term, we have been learning all about Greece. In Geography, we have been working on our knowledge of the world, naming the 7 continents and 5 oceans. We have also been comparing the climate in Athens to the climate in London. We even took a day trip to Athens and wandered around the streets, looking at the buildings and monuments and visiting Mt. Olympus (all via Google Maps of course!). In English, we have been working on myths and legends and have developed our ability to use paragraphs and speech punctuation in our written work, and in Maths, we have started learning all about fractions. We have worked super hard this half term and are looking forward to Spring 2.



Year 2

In year 2, we have been learning all about the Great Fire of London. The children have loved reading stories and information texts about the fire during lesson times, and for pleasure in their own time! This has helped us to learn lots of new words which we have used in our own writing. To celebrate what we have learnt, we have created our own fiery street in London by making Tudor houses—they look amazing!



Reception

Reception have enjoyed another very busy half term. Our Space Station roleplay has been a very popular area, and it has afforded lots of learning opportunities. To support our Space work, we made crumpled foil comets and had great fun testing them! The children have been involved in lots of creative activities—we have colour mixed and printed moons, made kites, and Dancing Dragons to celebrate Chinese New Year. This half term's new "sounds" and "red words" are: **New sounds—j, v, y, w, th, z, ch, qu, x, ng, nk. Red words—he, me, be, we, she, no, so, go, do.** Remember, "red words" are those we can't sound out with Fred Talk—we just have to recognise them on sight. As always, it would really help your child if you could practice these sounds and words at home.



Year 5

Year 5 have been continuing our book study of 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' and have produced a range of writing based on the task. We studied formal and informal vocabulary and used formal vocabulary when we wrote letters to the Prime Minister about the current refugee situation. We are waiting to see if we get a response. We also had the pleasure of working with John Kefauver, a composer. We used a range of resources to make music that could accompany detective fiction; having the focus word 'mystery' helped a lot. Some of the resources we used included: cornflakes, bubble wrap and plastic bags. We thought about the tone, pitch and pace of the sounds that we made and worked in groups to compose a range of sounds. Some of our sounds will be used in the new exhibition at The Word. We can't wait to see if we can recognise our sounds!



Year 6

In school, we have been studying recycling and persuasive writing in English. After a few weeks of learning, we created our own persuasive letters and sent them off to the gazette. After that, we wrote fairy tales but the good character is actually the bad guy/girl and the fairy tales were about deforestation. In maths, we have been learning about percentages, fractions & decimals and how they are all equivalent to each other. In Geography, we have been learning about deforestation and endangered animals. Everyone agrees that all of these lessons in Year 6 have been fun! We have also been on 2 school trips: Nissan and The Word. At The Word, we received e-mail logins for the Whitburn school website and we made our own PowerPoint about rainforests. In Nissan, they learned about how the company makes cars—we then made our own out of Lego! Everyone is enjoying Year 6 so far and we are confident for SAT's, and we are also very excited for our end of year trip to Bushcraft!

By Rohan



We return to school on Monday 24th February 2020. We hope you all have a great week off!



Spring 1 2020