



MORPETH
Stobhillgate
FIRST SCHOOL

March Newsletter

This has been a very busy half-term at Stobhillgate and our children have worked extremely hard and achieved so much! I recently visited our Year 1 class and was blown away by the incredible presentation and handwriting! (see photo). This is one example, of the many I see every day, that makes me so proud.



Can I please take this opportunity to thank your contribution as parents and

carers. We massively appreciate everything you do. From ensuring that your children are in the correct uniform to reading on an evening. All these small things add up and ensure your children are ready to learn and achieve their potential. We wish you a happy Easter and look forward to seeing you for an action-packed Summer term!

Thank you very much to Mrs Bush and the Friends of Stobhillgate for running last night's Easter Bingo. It was an 'egg-cellent' event and was enjoyed by all! The money raised by our parents' association is very much appreciated and helps us to continue to develop the provision we provide our children. We recently asked the children which books they

would like to add to our library and the Friends of Stobhillgate have helped us to purchase these exciting new titles. Thank you very much.

IT'S A BOY!

A huge congratulations to Mrs Gentry and her husband who recently announced the arrival of their new baby boy Tobias. We are over the moon for them and look forward to meeting Tobias very soon!



EYFS

The children have been very busy this half term. In Forest School we looked at nests and birds, we looked for nests and talked about the different birds we might see and hear around our school grounds. Following on we made our own nest with straws and painted it brown to look like twigs. The children have been looking for signs of spring and have been painting using any leaves and flowers they found.

We made ham sandwiches for the Tiger who came to Tea, following a method and step by step instructions. We have been looking at seeds and took a guess to find out which fruit/veg would have seeds inside, children then cut open the fruit to have a closer look. We took the seeds into the mud kitchen to plant in pots with compost and talked about what they will need to grow.

Nursery children have been using magnetic letters and name cards to help them recognise their name and to help form the letters correctly.



Year 1

What a busy and full of fun term it has been once again in Year 1.

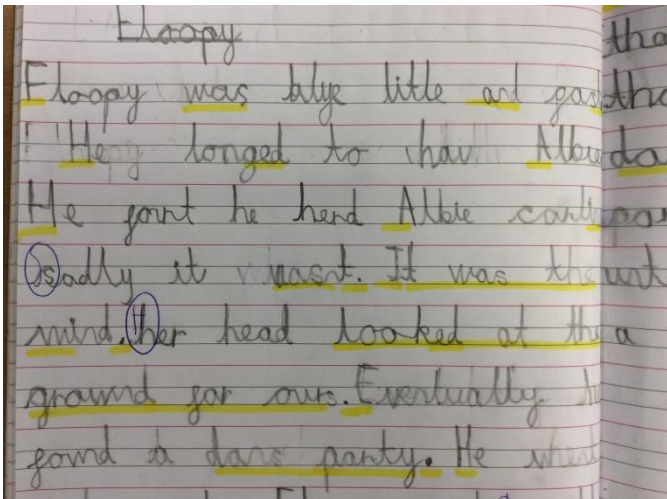
In English the children have worked really really hard on learning to join up their hand writing. Their work is looking so good as a result of it. I'm so proud of the progress they have made with this. Alongside this, we have been learning about characterisation and how authors portray emotion changes from the beginning to the end of stories. We have used Beegu for this. We loved making our own Beegu aliens and a spaceship for them to fly home in. The children have innovated these to become wishing stories of their own. They have been practising reading their work aloud to the class, for others to enjoy and also editing and improving their writing with purple pens.

In maths the children have been gaining confidence with numbers to 50. They have used lots of different maths equipment to count on, back and partition numbers into the ten and ones they are made up from. They have helped Tiny the Turtle lots this month, to help him to correct his work, using the children's new understanding of place value.

In History we have been learning about the First Flight and the Wright brothers. We have once again used a range of sources and been historical detectives to find out about the past. We made our own old fashioned planes and flew them on the playground as we learned about the distance and the time in which the test flights managed to stay in the air for. We even had little Lego men inside to represent Orville and Wilbur Wright. We finished the unit this week by learning about the mystery of Amelia Earhart and how she went missing on her challenge to fly around the world.

The children are becoming rather wonderful glockenspiel players through our music lessons and have particularly enjoyed learning to conduct along to music in 4/4 timing.

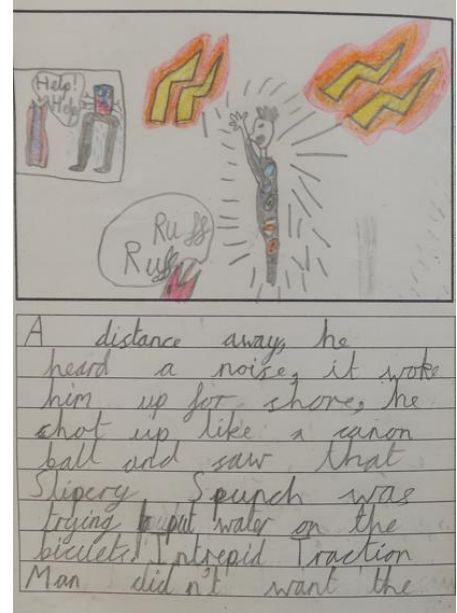
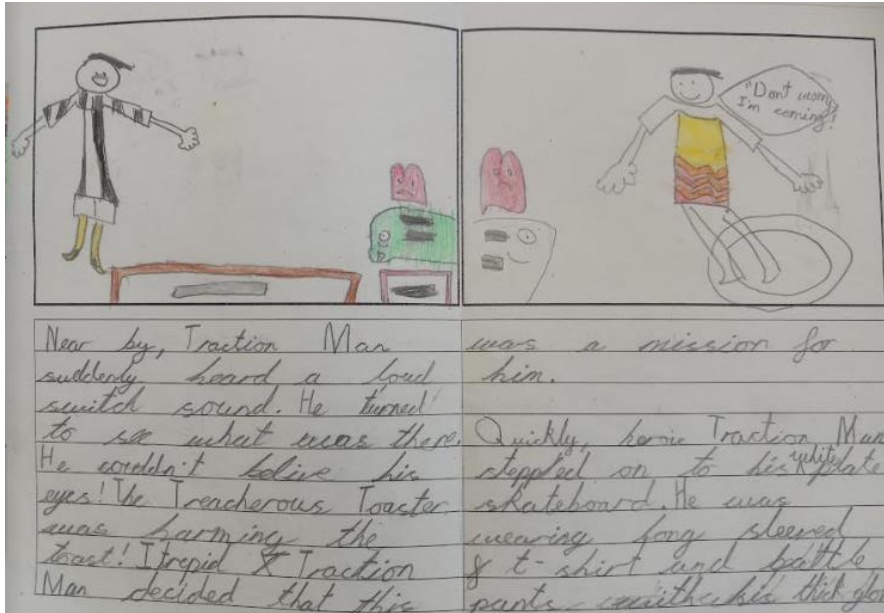
We finished the term by preparing for learning about persuasive writing when we come back after the Easter holidays. As part of this, the children wrote their first persuasive text, whereby they wrote to the Easter Bunny to persuade him they were deserving of some extra chocolate this year! Let's hope he gets their letters in time!



Year 2

From researching the Moon Landing, to writing our own 'beating the monster' stories, the children have once again been engaged, focused and enthusiastic towards all of their learning this half term.

In English, we have studied the book Traction Man. This text was very well received by all of the children, and it was wonderful to read their own versions of the story which included lots of amazing vocabulary and detailed illustrations.



In Maths, we have completed our units on multiplication, division and fractions. The children have enjoyed sharing their whole into equal groups, and have become increasingly confident when explaining why this isn't always possible to do with a given number. You may wish to continue to encourage the children to play 'sharing' games at home over the holidays, for example they could help to serve up the evening meal, sharing the food equally across the plates.

For the wider curriculum, we have been exploring different materials in Science where the children have enjoyed carrying out lots of practical experiments. In History, we have recently started our new topic of The Moon Landing. Having already learnt some key information in our recent non-fiction writing, the children can confidently recall the main dates and events. They have been very engaged throughout this learning, and their enthusiasm has been infectious!

Thank you all for your continued support this half term, and I look forward to seeing everyone after the break!

Year 3

In maths this half-term, we have been working hard on both column addition and subtraction. We learnt that to complete these correctly we must be able to 'exchange'. English has seen us finish off our own information leaflet after studying our model text on St James' Park, which we used to link back to our trip earlier this academic year.

DT Week - Completed projects

Earlier this month we completed our DT projects on building pneumatic toys designed for children in Year 1. We used tubing, balloons and some old, recycled boxes to come up with some very creative designs, which were fit for purpose.. During this unit, we also used syringes attached to either end of a tube to investigate pneumatics further.

Forest School

March saw the majority of our forest school lessons with Mrs Bush. We were lucky enough to get snow one of the weeks, build some snowmen and even a snow caterpillar! As well as this, children have managed to successfully complete their first four badges! To achieve these, children had to do things such as: build a natural shelter, a shelter with a tarp, find different types of wood for a fire and use a flint and steel! They can't wait to use these skills to light their own fire in Year 4.



Housestead's Roman Fort and Hadrian's Wall

We marched up hill in 'Tortoise Formation' and found out why this was an effective strategy. We found out about why Romans had such short swords and how they used them to kill, as opposed to just injure, like their enemies. We explored the museum and watched a short film of what the fort would have looked like in Roman times. We then explored the fort, learning about each of the areas and what they would have been used for.

We saw how the fort was attached to Hadrian's Wall and took it in turns to stand on top of the wall at the edge of the Roman Empire. In role as the commanding officer, Mrs Roberts told us we had disgraced ourselves as soldiers in our most recent battle and showed cowardness. We were to take a pebble each. 1 in ten pebbles were black, which meant that a fellow Roman soldier was to be killed. We were amazed by the tiny size of the barracks and the gross way in which they used the toilet.





Year 4

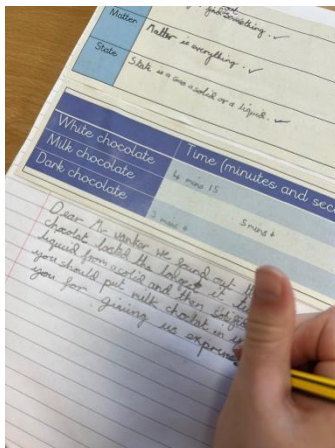
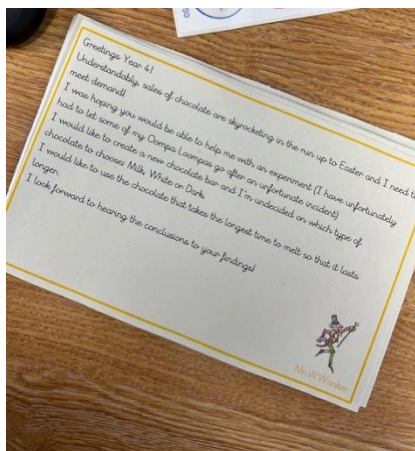
We celebrated International Women's Day on the 8th March. In our most recent History topic, we learned about Famous People from the North East; notably suffragette, Emily Davison. Emily Davison is buried at St Mary's church in Morpeth and there is a commemorative statue in Carlisle Park. Year 4 went to visit both the grave and the statue, completing challenges linked to their learning along the way.



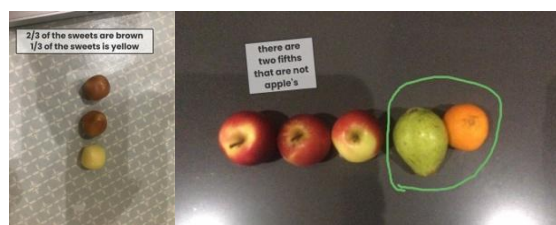
We have really enjoyed this half term's Geography lessons, where we have learned about how the Earth's water is recycled in the Water Cycle; the journey a river takes from its source to its mouth and studying the River Wansbeck; learning about what caused the 2008 floods and what has been done to prevent further flooding.

In Science, we have been investigating states of matter. A memorable lesson being when we investigated if a material can change state. We received a letter from Mr Willy Wonka, asking us to investigate the different melting times of chocolate in order to create a new slow-melting creation!

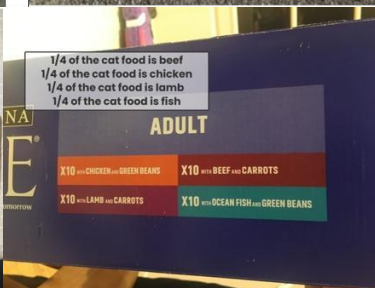
We found out that materials can change state – The chocolate was originally a solid. When it was heated, it melted and became a liquid. We noticed that when the chocolate was removed from the heat, it started to cool and solidify back into a solid! This is called a reversible change!



In maths, we have been learning about fractions (a fraction is an equal part of a whole). We have been consolidating this learning on seesaw, spotting fractions around our home – Super work Year 4!



$$\frac{3}{9}$$



Peporony

We have lots of fun things to look forward to after our half term holidays!

We are looking forward to becoming Chantry-ready, having the responsibility of walking to and from school independently.

It goes without saying that we are on major countdown and are very excited for our Robinwood residential trip! On the 26th April-28th April, Year 4 will be staying at Barhaugh Hall in Alston, enjoying 3 jam-packed days of activities. Children visiting the centre will not only get to experience new and exciting challenges but will have the opportunity to grow in confidence and discover new skills and abilities

BASC

Before and After School Club's craft focus this half term was Mother's Day.



River Safety

As we enter the Easter holidays and the nights are getting lighter, I wanted to share some information about river and water safety that we have shared with the children in school.

With having both a river in Morpeth and being near the coast, it is important that we build the children's knowledge in how to keep themselves safe around water. Especially for our Year Four children they look towards Chantry and being responsible as they travel to and from school.

The poster below gives four key rules to remember and further information can be found at the [RNLI](https://www.rnli.org) website which explains each part in more detail.



Upcoming Diary Dates

March	
Friday 31st	School closes at 15:15 for Easter
April	
Monday 17th	School recommences
Wednesday 19th	Y4 Camping Meeting at 15:30
Wednesday 26th	Year 4 leave for Robinwood
Friday 28th	Year 4 return from Robinwood
May	
Monday 1st	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Friday 5th	Coronation Celebration
Monday 8th	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Friday 26th May	Class Photos School closes at 15:15 for half term
June	
Monday 5th	School recommences
Thursday 8th	Y4 visit to the Glendale Show
Thursday 15 – Friday 16th	Y4 Camping at Hadrian's Wall
Friday 16th	Reception visit to Morwick Dairy
Thursday 22nd	Y3 Camping on school site
Friday 23rd	Teacher Training Day (School Closed)
Monday 26th	Y4 visit to Brinkburn Priory for Lifepath
July	
Tuesday 4th	Y4 Big Sing Performance at Alnwick Playhouse
Friday 21st	School closes at 15:15 for summer



Stobhillgate First School is participating in the Rag Bag textile recycling scheme which provides regular fundraising for school and raises awareness about recycling.

Please bring any of the below unwanted items in a securely tied plastic bag to our outdoor textile bank which is located next to the bike racks opposite the school kitchen.

Rag Bag can accept good quality clean Men's, Ladies and Children's clothing, belts, bags and paired shoes (tied together).

The bags will be collected when the bank is full and transported to the Rag Bag factory where they will be sorted and graded for reuse or recycling.



Tiny Tiptoes Dance Class

Join the fun!
Limited spaces book now

ONLY £5-£6!



Nursery and Reception (4-4:45) and
Years 1 and 2 (4:45-5.45)

Wednesdays at Stannington Village Hall

Fun based class, designed to grow skills such as confidence, listening and coordination through ballet, tap and modern dances and small performances for friends and family.

Our positive, community atmosphere helps children to build friendships and parents are encouraged to stay to support their child.

Teachers are DBS checked.

MESSAGE TINYTIPTOESDANCECLASS ON
FACEBOOK OR EMAIL
TINYTIPTOESDANCECLASS@GMAIL.COM



Morpeth Fair Day

Morpeth Town Council

CORONATION CUP

UNDER 8 & UNDER 9

Sunday 7th May 2023

Under 8s 11am Start
Under 9s 130pm Start

£25 per team

5 aside, 7 players per squad

Contact 07748767345 to secure a place or for more info

VENUE
Stanners
Morpeth

55th MORPETH NORTHUMBRIAN GATHERING

Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering
continuing Northumberland's traditions

14th to 16th April 2023
We're back!

3-day Festival of traditional music and heritage held the weekend after Easter in Northumberland's historic county town of Morpeth, 14 miles north of Newcastle upon Tyne

Concerts, street shows, crafts exhibition, barn dance, dialect, pub music, workshops, puppets, storyteller's garden, competitions, bellringing and traditional family fun. Over 40 events - many free!

Special Silly Songs for Bairns events, Morpeth Castle open days and a massed Morpeth Rant!

Including: All 3 days: Crafts Exhibition, Stalls, Outdoor Entertainment
Friday: Werca's Folk Birthday Concert, Small Pipes Taster Day, Dance Workshops
Saturday: The Gaddy's Welcome, Family Show, Winners' Concert, Barn Dance
Sunday: Family Art Activity, Town Treasures, Songs of Bagpuss, Elsie Monologues

With: Werca's Folk, Voice Male, Sandra Kerr, Taffy Thomas, The Bakewell Brothers, Megan Wisdom & Mossy Christian, Steve Turner, The Hedgehog's Skin, Ellington Colliery Band, Graham Bell, Pat Dunn, Jim Eldon, Ashington DMV Choir, Storytellers Street Band, Nonsuch Dulcimer Club, Ran Tanners, Prof. Grunermench, Jim Grant, Archaeosoup, John Sadler's Time Bandits, Anna Fancett, Robson's Choice, Auckland Shanty Singers, Blackgate Morris, Hexham Morris Men, Benfieldside Morris and Sword Dancers, etc.

Free vintage bus Park and Ride from County Hall on Saturday 15th April

Programmes, tickets and accommodation information all available from: Morpeth Tourist Information Centre, The Chantry, Bridge Street, Morpeth, NE61 1PD. Tel: 01670 623455. Queries to: 01670 513308
Details: www.northumbriana.org.uk