



MORPETH
Stobhillgate
FIRST SCHOOL

April Newsletter

We have a very exciting week of activities planned to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. This will form part of our school DT week and end with an exciting garden party and parade on Friday 5th May.



To help celebrate this day children are encouraged to

come into school wearing red, white and blue or anything that celebrates the theme of 'monarchy' (face paint, hats, crowns etc.).

Today is Mr Elliot's last day at Stobhillgate. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Elliot for all his hard work, enthusiasm and commitment to Stobhillgate. Mr Elliot is becoming Assistant Head Teacher of Collingwood School and Media Arts College where he will lead on behaviour, attitudes and attendance. This is a fantastic opportunity for Mr Elliot; we are all incredibly proud of him and know he will do a brilliant job. I am sure you will join me in

wishing him every success in the future! We have recently appointed Mrs Carter, who has already started working with the children and will take responsibility for the class with Mr Henderson from next week.

A reminder that school will be closed next Monday 1st May (May Day Bank Holiday) and Monday 8th May (Coronation Bank Holiday).

EYFS

The children in Early Years have had an exciting start to the Summer Term. In Nursery, we welcomed some new friends as well as a new teacher! Some of the children have also started to practise new skills in preparation for moving to Reception after the summer holidays. This has included finding their name cards independently, practising writing their name and learning some of the first sounds in phonics. We have also been exploring wheat and how it is made into flour, just like in our story, The Little Red Hen. The children have built their own mills in the construction area as well as using the playdough area to pretend to make bread, just like the Little Red hen did. It was very tough kneading the dough!

When Reception returned for the beginning of summer term, they were met with a crime scene in the classroom. There was mess everywhere! After reading our new key story, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, they discovered that it was Goldilocks who had spilled porridge in the classroom. The children have worked hard to create story maps and write their own story book based on this story. We have been using our phonic knowledge to complete independent writing in the classroom too. We have all enjoyed acting out the story with bear masks and costumes on our stage area too. Reception are also working hard on their handwriting, practising forming their letters the correct way, using the letter rhymes to help us.

In Forest school, the children have been exploring flowers. We used our school grounds to collect early spring flowers and create potions with them in our mud kitchen. We froze our potions to explore what would happen to the flowers as the ice melted.



Year 1

In Year 1 we have been very busy with lots of practical lessons lately.

In Maths we have been learning about measuring length and capacity. We enjoyed searching for the longest stick ever outside and getting wet exploring the vocabulary of full/empty etc.

In Science we have started our work all about plants. We have used the magnifying glasses to investigate real plants and set up our first plant experiment this week to learn about the importance of each part of a flowering plant.

In art we have been learning about the sculptor Andy Goldsworthy. We have created temporary sculptures outdoors, inspired by his work with sticks, this week.



Year 2

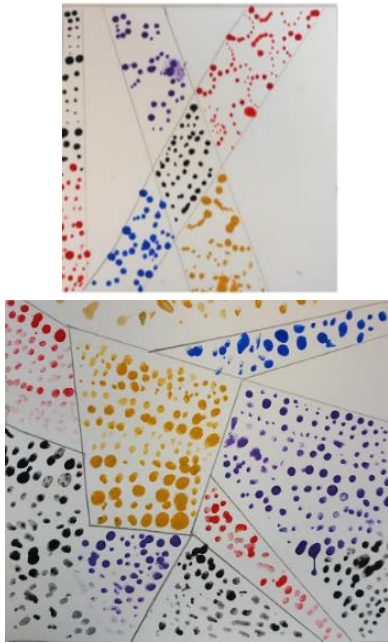
Wow, what an extraordinary start we have had to the summer term in Year 2. We were very shocked to learn that Traction Man had made an appearance in our classroom over the holidays, helping to save the class books that were being held hostage by our scissors! Over the next few weeks we will be producing some newspaper reports linked to this incident. In preparation for this, we have been exploring the inspirational vocabulary that we will need to include, and have used this when acting out some of the key moments in the story.

In Maths, we have completed our units on multiplication and division, and we have started our new unit on fractions. The children have enjoyed sharing their whole into equal groups, and are becoming 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, for example they could help to serve up the evening meal, sharing the food equally across the plates.

For our wider curriculum, we have started a new unit on 3-D structures which explores the work of John Kindness. We began this learning by taking inspiration from the art of the indigenous people of Australia. As we continue the unit we will combine our ideas with sculpture, creating three-dimensional forms which will be decorated with dot patterns.

We have an extra exciting half term in Year Two as we have Forest School with Mrs Bush and Mr Henderson.

Forest School is an inspirational process that offers all learners regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in a natural setting. During a Forest School session, children have the freedom to explore, play, build, create, imagine and use their senses to experience the outdoor environment and engage with their peers. This half term the children will work towards Forest School badges as they develop their knowledge and skills. These awards will be focused on shelter building and using tools.



Year 3

This half-term, we have been writing both fiction and non-fiction in the form of an information leaflet and a wishing tale. The children are very aware of their audience and are able to tailor their writing to suit using appropriate language features to hook their readers in and engage them.

In maths, we have been measuring length and perimeter and have now moved onto fractions. Over the coming weeks we will cover areas such as: time, money, shape and statistics.

As you can see from the picture below, our children have really taken on board their learning from forest school, as a group of girls made a very impressive hedgehog house out of natural materials!

All that leaves me to say is that it's been an absolute pleasure to teach your children in my time here at Stobhillgate and I wish them, and yourselves, all the best for the future. You never know, our paths may even cross again at some point!

Enjoy the summer holidays!

Mr Elliott



Year 4

Year 4 has had an exciting start to the half term, visiting Robinwood Activity Centre in Alston, Cumbria. Children enjoyed 3 full days of activities from zip wiring through the trees, to taking on the dreaded piranha pool! We all had a fantastic time and are returning home very tired but with lots of stories to tell. Miss Owens, Mrs Bush and Mr Henderson are so proud of the exceptional behaviour, the amazing teamwork and the courage of every single child who pushed themselves beyond their comfort zones.

Our new topics in class this half term are electricity, where there is a real "buzz" getting practical and hands on building circuits.

In History, we are learning about the first humans on Earth in our Stone Age to Iron Age topic. There is a lot of history we don't yet know about because it wasn't written down; this is called prehistory. Historians can find out about the past by looking at primary sources from the time period studied. We kicked off this unit looking at primary sources and discussing what they might tell us about the past.

We are looking forward to DT week next week, where our focus is on Food Technology. We will be adapting a recipe for a coronation celebration!



BASC

Before the holiday, the craft focus in Before and After School Club was Easter. For April the children have been learning about Earth Day.



School Attendance

At Stobhillgate First School, we take pride in the relationships we develop with parents and the support we put in place if a child needs some extra attention to make academic progress. We take the same approach to attendance and if it becomes evident that you may need support in order to achieve the high expectations we have for attendance, we will contact you to see how we can help ensure your child is in school as much as possible.

Research shows that students who achieve less than 96% attendance, statistically will perform less well at school. The table below shows the impact of not attending school regularly:

Attendance	Description	Approx. days lost per year	Approx. weeks lost per year
98 – 100%	Excellent	0 to 4	Less than 1
96 – 98%	Good	5 to 9	1 to 2
94 – 95%	Concerning	10 to 13	2 to 3
91 – 93%	Unsatisfactory	14 to 28	3 to 6
90%	Persistent Absence	More than 29	More than 6

Our attendance awards continue to be a great success in school and they will continue throughout the summer. Our awards are as follows:

- All children with 98% and above will go into a draw to win a prize
- There will also be a prize for the most improved attendance
- The class with the highest attendance gets to have a movie afternoon with hot chocolate and a snack!

Year Three are currently in the lead with two wins and Year One have won once. The competition is heating up as I know Mr Elliott's class are battling to cling onto their title!

Whole school – 95.8%

Reception – 96.1%

Year 1 – 95.5%

Year 2 – 95.6%

Year 3 – 96.6%

Year 4 – 95.3%

Week commencing 15th May we will be running our 'late gate' alongside our Educational Welfare Officer with the aim of improving punctuality. Remember our classroom doors open at 08:50 and close at 09:00. After that, children will have to enter school via the school office.

We will also be carrying out a 'count me in' week at the same time. The focus of this initiative will be to ensure we have the highest possible attendance in school. As a way to support families who may be finding attendance difficult, we may conduct some home visits so we can further highlight the support available to families.

If you would like any further support, or wish to discuss attendance, please speak to Mr Henderson.

Upcoming Diary Dates

May	
Monday 1st	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Friday 5th	Coronation Celebration
Monday 8th	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Monday 15th	Choir Club at Newminster Middle School
Friday 26th	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

SPACE Supporting Parents And Children Emotionally

SPACE is an educational programme aimed at all adults to enable them to support children and young people who may be going through difficult times.

The programme is for any parent/carer who wants to understand why children misbehave the way they do and how as adults, we can support them.

This is for families who live in South East or Central Northumberland

For children aged 6+ years

Session	Aims
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make a safe space To introduce the fight or flight response To answer queries and concerns
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) To explore how this impacts us as parents To explore protective factors
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding behaviours Understanding resilience
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide information on child development To increase understanding of appropriate expectations of children To provide information on the impact of trauma on children To provide information on nurturing children
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore what healthy relationships are between adults Managing difficult emotions our children might have

Upcoming Programmes

Programme 1			
Week	Date	Time (pm)	Venue
1	Wednesday 21st June 2023	12:45– 2:45	Ashington
2	Wednesday 28th June 2023	12:45– 2:45	Ashington
3	Wednesday 5th July 2023	12:45– 2:45	Ashington
4	Wednesday 12th July 2023	12:45– 2:45	Ashington
5	Wednesday 19th July 2023	12:45– 2:45	Aahington

Programme 2			
Week	Date	Time (pm)	Venue
1	Tuesday 20th June 2023	5:00-7:00	Online Teams
2	Tuesday 27th June 2023	5:00-7:00	Online Teams
3	Tuesday 4th July 2023	5:00-7:00	Online Teams
4	Tuesday 11th July 2023	5:00-7:00	Online Teams
5	18th July 2023	5:00-7:00	Online Teams

To book a place click this link,

nland.cc/fhreq

Complete the form, tick parenting 5–19 then state you would like Space Programme on the additional information

Family Hubs
Here for everyone

In partnership with

ESCAPE
Family Support

Howay the Lads & Kids!



**FREE Fun Activities for Dads,
Grandads & Male Carers with
Children aged 0-19yrs**

Family Hubs
Here for everyone

In partnership with
Northumberland
County Council

GET ONSIDE
NORTHUMBRLAND

**FREE Sports Activities,
Crafts, Stories and Activity Area
for Babies and Toddlers.**

**Police and Fire Service
will be coming along too!**

Call to book a place

Saturday 29 April 10:30-12:00
Newbiggin Sports and Community Hub
Woodhorn Rd, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea NE64 6HG
CALL: 01670 812751

Saturday 20 May 10:30-12:00
Ashington Hirst Welfare
Alexandra Rd, Ashington NE63 9HN
CALL: 01670 819988

Saturday 24 June 10:30-12:00
Bedlington Family Hub
Stead Lane, Bedlington NE22 5JS
CALL: 01670 822751

Please ensure you are registered: nland.cc/fhreq

Family Hubs
Here for everyone

In partnership with
Northumberland
County Council

GET ONSIDE
NORTHUMBRLAND

Bedlington Family Hub

April - June 2023

MONDAY

Learning Together Through Play 10:00 - 11:30

Term Time Only

Term Time sessions where Early Years Practitioners lead on craft activities, songs, as well as advice on development

Bedlington Family Hub
Drop In. Children aged 0 - 5 years

HENRY 0 - 5

Morning

Supporting families to make changes to promote healthy living, topics include: portion sizes, praise and reward, being active and setting and achieving goals

Sign up to request a place
Children aged 0 - 5

Bedlington Family Hub

Stead Lane | Bedlington
Northumberland, NE22 5JS
01670 822714

TUESDAY

Learning Together Through Play Term Time Only

Term Time sessions where Early Years Practitioners lead on craft activities, songs, as well as advice on development

Mowbray Primary | 9.15 - 10:30
Drop In. Children aged 0 - 5 years

Tiny Talkers

Morning

Boost your child's speech/language, social skills, routines & more

Sign up to request a place
Children aged 1 - 3 years

Learning Together Through play (AND) 13:00 - 14:00

Term Time Only

For families with a child who are diagnosed, or are waiting to be diagnosed with an additional need, and/or disability

Sign up to request a place
Children aged 0 - 5 years

WEDNESDAY

Learning Together Through Play 10:00 - 11:30

Term Time Only

Term Time sessions where Early Years Practitioners lead on craft activities, songs, stories as well as advice on development

Bedlington Family Hub
Drop In. Children aged 0 - 5 years

Brilliant Babies

Afternoon

Helpful tips, play ideas, communication & your babies development

Sign up to request a place
Children aged 0 - 6 months



THURSDAY

Infant Feeding

10:00 - 11:30

10:00 - 10:30; Focus time for Breastfeeding - Babies under 8 weeks. 10:30 - 11:30; Infant Feeding advice & support, chat to other parents! 0 - 1 years

Bedlington Family Hub
Drop In

Early Explorers

Afternoon

Information, tips & activities to support your child's development

Sign up to request a place
Children aged 6 - 18 months



FRIDAY

Learning Together Through Play

14:00 - 15:00

Term Time Only

Term Time sessions where Early Years Practitioners lead on craft activities, songs, as well as advice on development

Stobhillgate First School Morpeth
Drop In. Children aged 0 - 5 years



Please be aware, there may be waiting times for referral programmes

Registration Form: nland.cc/fhreg

Referral Form: nland.cc/fhreq