



MORPETH
Stobhillgate
FIRST SCHOOL

June Newsletter

Welcome to our June newsletter! The last few weeks have been action-packed, including lots of outdoor adventures, cultural experiences, sports successes and music!

On Monday 15th, our school choir put their brilliant weekly rehearsals and extra lunchtime rehearsals into play as they performed in Morpeth's One Big Performance at Newminster Middle School.

Outdoor Adventure

All of our children in KS2 have had the opportunity to take part in outdoor adventures over the summer term. Our Year 3 children camped on site and our Year 4 children hiked and camped on Hadrian's Wall. Additionally, our Y4s have also been on a residential to Robinwood.



Cultural Capital

Our cultural capital plan has developed further, enabling our children to access a broad range of interesting and exciting experiences. Over the last few weeks Year 4 has visited the Glendale Show and our Reception class has visited a working dairy farm.



Sporting Success

We have been incredibly proud of our children's sporting achievements this term. Our football team has worked hard to develop as a team. Despite a difficult start to the season, they have recently earned impressive victories against both St Roberts and Abbeyfields First School! Congratulations also go to our Y4 athletics team who recently qualified for the regional finals.



Music

Earlier this term our school choir performed at a music festival hosted by Newminster Middle School. This was a brilliant event and the choir received lots of praise from members of the audience. Our Year 4 children have been very busy preparing for their Opera North performance of The Water Diviner's Tale. Additionally all of our children are currently rehearsing to perform in our end-of-year summer concern 'Nights at the Musicals'



Transition Day

On Friday all of our children will take part in a **transition day**. This will not impact drop-off or pick-up, because they will arrive and depart from their current classes.

We have little changes to our staff team in September. However, I would like to introduce our new Year 3 teacher Mr Reilly!

Hello! My name is Mr. Reilly and I am the new Year 3 teacher here at Stobhillgate First School. I have been teaching since 2016 and have previously taught at a number of schools in the Morpeth area, including Chantry Middle School. I am very much looking forward to joining the Stobhillgate community, and can't wait to meet the children in my new class. I love teaching all subjects, especially Art, and really enjoy working in a busy and vibrant school like Stobhillgate!



2023/2024

Nursery	Miss Hardwick
Reception	Miss Wilkinson
Year 1	Mrs. Roberts
Year 2	Mrs. MacAndrews
Year 3	Mr. Reilly
Year 4	Miss Owens

EYFS

In Design Technology week, both Nursery and Reception were learning about threading. They first learnt about paper weaving, practising the skill of moving the paper strips in and out of the frame. They then progressed to threading string and wool. They practised threading through different materials and objects and this was definitely more difficult! Reception then used these skills to design and make their own book mark using hessian and wool. They turned out amazing!

Early Years have also been thinking about special places this half term. They have thought about what makes a place special as well as what their favourite place is. We then went on to explore special places for some Christians. Nursery were visited by Reverend Simon White from St Mary the Virgin Church. He shared a special story box with them and talked about why a church can be a special place. Reception were lucky enough to visit St Mary's church. They took a journey through the church from the font to the altar, learning about key features of a church and what Christians do when they visit this special place.

In literacy, Nursery have been exploring the moon as their core text was 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. The children used their imaginations and went on their own adventure to the moon to have a picnic. They also used their writing skills to make story maps and retell key parts of the story to their friends in Nursery.

Reception also visited Morwick Dairy. We had an exciting day exploring the farm, milking a cow and using that milk to make butter! We found out that the cows are milked really early in the morning and we were able to help lead them to the field once milking was finished for the morning. The farm also uses the milk to make ice cream. Ben the farmer told us that they can make over 200 flavours of ice cream. We taste tested some ice cream once it was ready and it was delicious!



Year 1

Year 1 are LOVING weekly forest school sessions! They have been very busy building dens, shelters, learning to use a fire lighting steel and working collaboratively with others to learn about nature in our school environment.

In Music this term the children have been learning to play the ocarina. They have particularly enjoyed listening to music being played by professional ocarina players too. They have been learning about where to place their fingers, how to hold the instrument and blow effectively. Last week they were getting really good at switching between pitches as we learned our first song!

We have been focussing our English work on the story Bog Baby. The children have been learning a diary entry text, as written by Bog Baby about his adventures out of the bog. The children have shown great empathy with the story characters and Bog Baby himself.

In maths we have been focussing on halves and quarters. The children have been getting to grips with sharing amounts into halves and quarters and have some wonderful maths vocabulary embedded well into their memories.



Year 2

We have had a very busy and exciting start to our final term in Year 2!

In English, we have been learning all about plastic pollution and ways that we can help to reduce the problem. The children have been extremely engaged in this topic and are currently working on some detailed and persuasive leaflets. Please do ask your little eco-warrior to explain what the word 'biodegrade' means, and the three ways that we can all make a difference!

We have completed our 3-D sculptures in Art, which was based on the work of John Kindness. I am sure that you will agree that the finished products were of a very high quality. I was impressed by how hard the children worked, they persevered throughout and worked together beautifully. What fantastic teamwork! This half term we will be completing our final unit of music where the children will master the art of playing the recorder. These lessons have been very enjoyable and it is wonderful to see the children learn this new skill with enthusiasm and focus.

We are very excited for sports days next week. The children have been working together in their PE lessons to develop their techniques. As always, they have been very encouraging of each other. What a kind class I have! I hope to see many of you there cheering all of the children.



Year 3

June has been a busy month for Class 3. The highlight was when they camped on the field with all of their friends. They had a fabulous time together and I'm sure they will remember it for a long time! The children had a BBQ, which they loved, and then polished it off with an ice lolly!

This month we had another DT week where the children made their own cushions. They did really well practising their sewing skills and made some superb cushions. In English, we have been doing work around warning tales and the children have written their own. Next, we will be learning to write a persuasive letter. In maths, we have been learning more around fractions, focussing on adding and subtracting them and now we have moved on to learning about money. Next, we will be learning about time and answering problems around it. The children have been working extremely hard and we are proud of them.



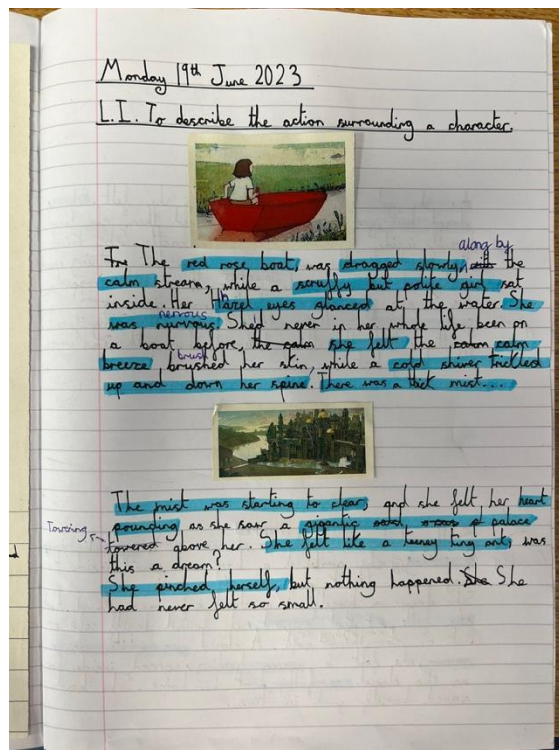
Year 4

What a month we have had in Year 4! The half term started with DT week, our focus being on textiles. Year 4 children designed and made book covers with a fastening.

Check out a couple of our finished products:



In writing lessons, we have been learning how to write wishing tales. Our focus has been on character description and using dialogue to enhance character. Children have really impressed with their written work.



In Maths we have been learning about decimals. In the coming weeks, we are going to apply this knowledge to our money unit. Where possible, at home, please encourage your child to experiment

with using money; this could be working out change from a receipt, adding the total of items in a grocery shop and looking at how many of each coin make a pound.

We also completed the multiplication check. We have worked so hard to learn our tables up to 12 x 12 and this was reflected in their results which will be shared with parents/carers in upcoming end of year reports.

We have been fortunate to have lots of fun trips in Year 4 this month.

We had a fantastic time at Children's Countryside Day at the Glendale Show in Wooler. We loved learning about agriculture and about different careers. Some of us ended up in the back of a police van (fortunately only for a photo opportunity!) and we even saw some dancing sheep! Huge "Thank You." to Mrs Haddon who accompanied us on our trip and helped us to ask lots of fantastic questions!



Back in the classroom, we have had a real "buzz" for Science...Literally! We have loved investigating the different components within a circuit, making a bulb light and especially discovering how to make a buzzer (noisily) buzz!

We have been learning about using maps in Geography and we have found it interesting looking at both human and physical features of an area.

We especially enjoyed using our acquired knowledge of Ordnance Survey maps to plan a route and carry out fieldwork on our camping trip to Hadrian's Wall. Children stayed at Windshields Campsite and mapped out a route along the wall, looking out for landmarks along the way before eventually completing the walk at the tourist information centre at Housesteads. We had a fantastic overnight stay and were really blessed with the weather! A highlight was bumping into some Romans on our walk and a well-deserved ice cream when we reached our final stop!



On Monday we visited Brinkburn Priory, along with some other schools for Lifepath where we learned about the story of Saint Aiden, a monk who came over to Northumbria at the request of the King, Oswald, to teach locals about Christianity.

We learned about his Lifepath and took part in a lot of fun workshops throughout the day including felt making, gardening, craft, drama and much more!



I can't believe how quickly this term is going and that soon we will be saying farewell to our lovely Year 4 children. They have shown such maturity and kindness over the last few weeks and are so ready for the transition to middle school!

Pupil achievement

Seren competed in the Regional Trampolining Finals this month for Wansbeck Gymnastics and Trampolining Club and came in first place in her category! Well done Seren.

Alexander did well at the Morpeth Fair Day Fun Run! Well done Alexander.



Upcoming Diary Dates

July	
Tuesday 4th	Nursery and Reception Sports day (10:50am) Y4 Big Sing Performance at Alnwick Playhouse
Wednesday 5th	Y1 – Y4 Sports Day (1:15pm)
Thursday 6th	Y4 Transition to Middle School
Friday 7th	Whole School Transition Day Y4 Transition to Middle School
Monday 10th	Y1 visit to Warkworth Castle and Druridge Bay
Wednesday 12th	Reception Stay and Play (2pm)
Thursday 13th	Nursery Stay and Play (10:45am)
Tuesday 18th	School Performance (9:30am) Summer Fair (3:15pm)
Thursday 20th	School Performance (1:30pm) Y4 Pizza Party (3pm – 4:30pm)
Friday 21st	School Performance and Y4 Leaver's Assembly (9:30am) School closes for summer (3:15pm)
September	
Monday 4th	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 5th	School recommences

Stobhill Link

Stobhill Link Stall at Summer Fair

We are looking forward to having a stall at your summer fair. Come along, say hello and find out more about what we do.

We need your help: we have a pre-loved School Uniform Bank and are short of Stobhillgate uniform. We will have a lot of people looking for uniform over the summer holidays and would love it if you can bring along any uniform you no longer need to our stall. Alternatively, drop it off at Stobhill Link, 37 Shields Road between 9am and 2pm, Monday to Friday.

