



Autumn Newsletter

I write our first newsletter of the year to you all as a very privileged and proud headteacher of Stobhillgate First School.

The children have returned to school in impeccable fashion as always and it has been wonderful to reconnect with existing parents and build up relationships with our new families in school. We have been working hard on our oracy skills and confidence in school so far this term and I appreciate many of you encouraging your children to say 'good morning' and 'goodbye' when I meet and greet you all at the school gate. It really does make a difference.

The introduction of 'homework projects' has been another roaring success this half term and we have all been blown away by the finished articles. You will see one of the fine examples above that George brought into school based on the work by Vincent van Gogh. More importantly, the collaboration and engagement in school life will have long term benefits to your child. Everything that we do in school always comes back full circle to the children and I ask myself, 'will this benefit the children' before we make a decision.

I hope you all enjoy the half term holidays and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 6th

November. Don't forget the school day starts at 0850 and at 0900 the classroom doors close and children will need to be signed in at the school office as late. Our learning starts at 0850 where specialist members of staff are allocated to support your children to make the most progress they can. If they arrive late, they miss out on this opportunity and then have to join in lessons part of the way through. I look forward to your support with this.

Stronger together

As some of you are aware we are now part of Cheviot Learning Trust which is a newly formed Multi Academy Trust following the merger of the Tyne Community Learning Trust and The Three Rivers Learning Trust in September 2023. We now comprise of 18 schools in total, including, 2 High Schools, 5 Middle Schools and 11 First Schools. We have a roll of approximately 6000 students and 750 employees. As a school, we are already greatly benefiting from wider opportunities for our pupils, more enhanced staff development and additional governance support.

Calling all future Stobhillgate pupils!

It is that time again when we open our doors to potential pupils and parents. If you know of anyone, who is interested in Stobhillgate First School please encourage them to give the school a call to arrange a 1 to 1 visit with myself. This is a brilliant opportunity to really get to know the school and find out what life at Stobhillgate is really like. Visitors are always impressed with the calm and purposeful atmosphere and the outstanding behaviour of our children. This makes me very proud.

We currently have places available in year groups throughout school and new pupils can start at any time! If you know of any families who are new to the area or are just interested in school please ask them to give us a call. We would love to meet them.



EYFS

Nursery and Reception have made a great start to the school year with a busy half term. The children in Nursery have enjoyed exploring their new classroom, but especially our construction area. They have built many models together, showcasing their teamwork and collaboration skills.



It was also fantastic to welcome all of the families to Nursery Stay and Play. The Stay and Play session was an excellent opportunity for our families to come together and experience and connect with school and see the progress their children have made since the start of term. It was amazing to see so many families come and join us and play together. All of the children were so excited to see their parents in Nursery and were so excited to show off all that they have achieved so far.

We have had a great start to Forest Fridays this half term. The children have enjoyed looking at how nature changes throughout the Autumn season. We have explored how the trees and leaves change, how Mushrooms grow and how apples are harvested. We even used the apples to make apple crumble. It was delicious.



Reception have thoroughly enjoyed their core story Pumpkin Soup. They found a collection of different pumpkins in their classroom and used them to make pumpkin soup, following instructions they found in our core book. After chopping the pumpkin, pouring the water and stirring the soup we all got to taste it. Some of us thought it was delicious, others not so much!



In our final week of half term, we have also been completing our first Design technology project; structures. We have used junk modelling to create the cat from our core story. To begin with we practised our cutting skills before moving on to plan our design. We then used different materials to make a cat together with our friends.



Thank you so much for all of your lovely family homework projects Nursery and Reception. They have been amazing to look through and listen to you present them. You were all so brave talking in front of your classmates and staff all about you. Well done!

Year 1

Year 1 have had a wonderful half term with so much exciting learning happening.

In English we have completed some wonderful story openings, for our own version of Little Red Riding Hood and have created instructions for a magical potion, inspired by the story 'Room on the Broom.' We are loving our new text 'The Rainbow Fish'. We made sparkly scales with sequins and glitter. We thought about how we could show kindness to friends and gave these away to someone else in the class, to help us to empathise with the character of the Rainbow Fish.

In Maths we have been learning how we can represent objects as number sentences. We have written these various ways around and are more recently becoming very speedy at recalling our number bonds to 10.

In geography we have been learning about our local area through lots of map work. We went for an autumn walk around Stobhill and carried out field work, comparing the number of pedestrians and vehicles on different streets. We have also enjoyed treasure hunting for a pirate in the school grounds and making our own maps to show how the land which Stobhill is built on has changed over time.

In Science we have been learning about the human body. We have learned some exciting new vocabulary and have used this to change the words of heads shoulders knees and toes each week. We have been exploring our 5 senses and carried out some wonderful data collecting as part of this. We love wearing our lab coats too, to make us feel like real scientists!!

What a busy but exciting half term. Well done for all working so so hard. You all deserve a well-earned rest over half term, ready for lots more to come in Year 1 next half term.



Year 2

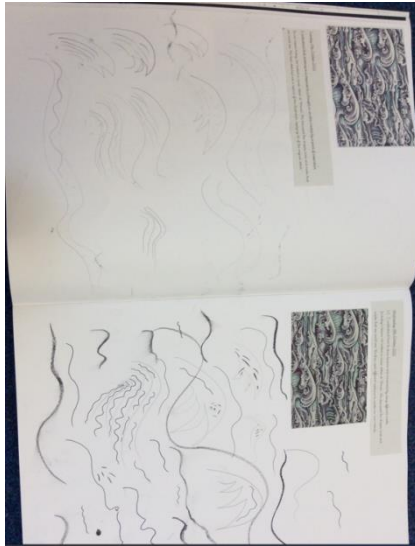
I am very proud of all the children in Year 2, and how each child has started the year with such a positive attitude towards all of their learning.

In English, we began the term with an Australian classic by Mem Fox, called *Possum Magic*. This is a delightful tale about two possums who travel all around Australia in search of human food. In the lead up to writing our own version of the story, we enjoyed trying different foods from both Australia and England, and we loved creating our own settings and characters. Following this, we completed our non-fiction unit, where we wrote some instructions on how to make a Royal Cheese Scone. Again, we loved trying some delicious foods, and making our own Cheese Scones, before writing detailed and precise instructions.

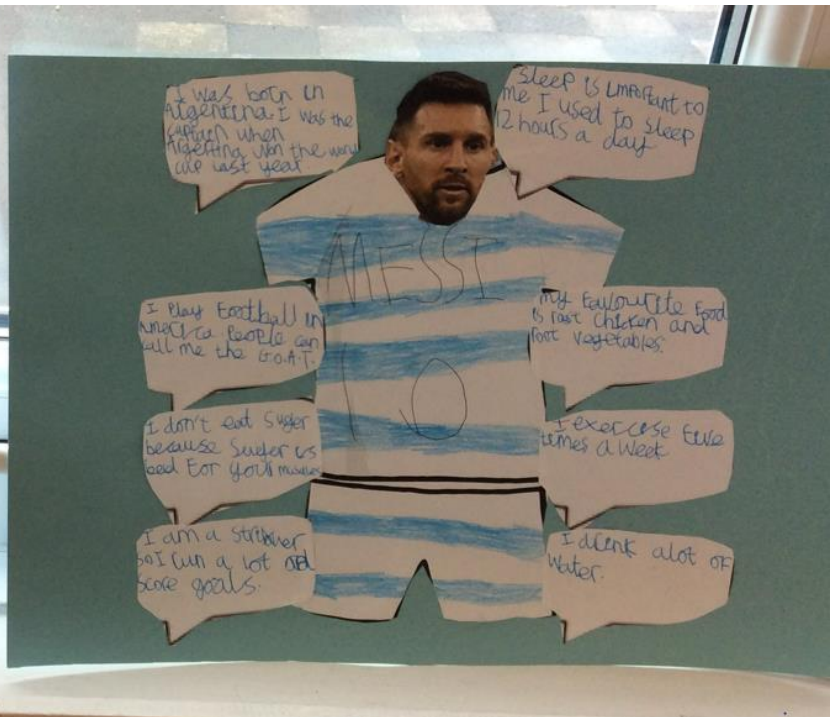
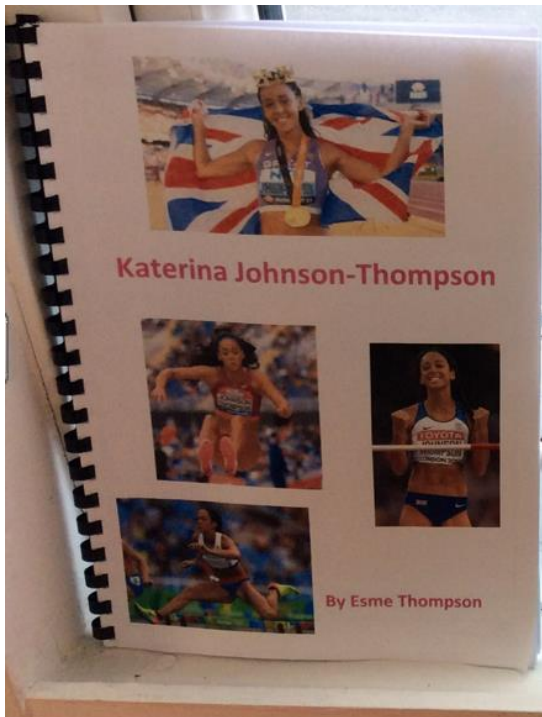


In Maths, we have been working hard to master our understanding of place value, working in both tens and ones with numbers up to 100. We have represented these numbers in many different ways, using a variety of manipulatives.

For the wider curriculum, we have been studying the work of Beth Krommes in Art. The children have loved looking at her famous artwork 'Waves' and thinking about the skills needed to create a replica of this. Using different mediums, the children were able to use the skills learnt throughout the unit to create their own masterpieces.



In Science, we have been learning all about how animals, including humans. We have looked at how they change as they grow, what they need to survive and why a balanced diet and exercise are important. It was wonderful to see the children applying this knowledge to their homework projects. The children were able to speak clearly and with confidence about their chosen athlete, and made references to balanced diets and muscles throughout. Well done Year 2!



Thank you all for your support this half term, it has been lovely getting to know you all, and I look forward to our year ahead!

Year 3

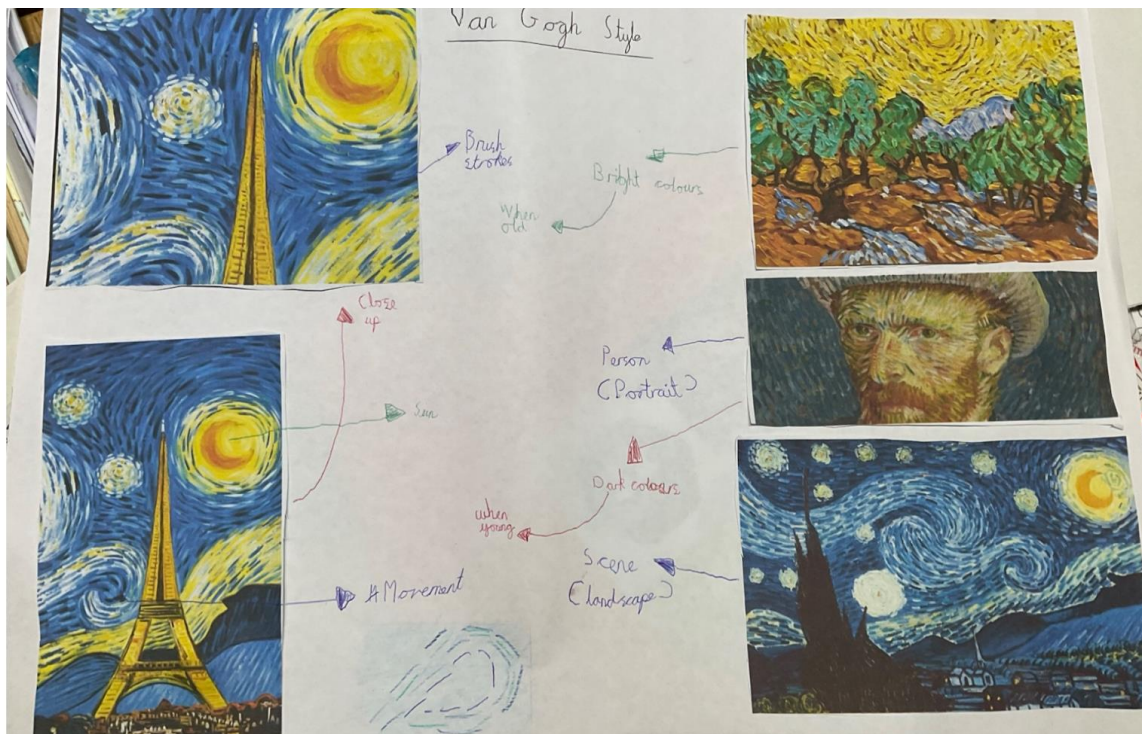
It has been fantastic getting to know the children of Year 3 this term, and we have been very busy since September!

We have loved reading the stories 'The Diary of a Killer Cat' and especially 'The Queen's Nose'. The children have loved making predictions about characters and plot, and have shown off their excellent reading skills.

Maths lessons have covered a range of topics including place value, addition and subtraction, and the children are finding out how fun it can be to learn times tables with Times Tables Rock Stars. We have already seen some impressive performances!

Other highlights this term have included learning about coding and programming in computing, our word of the day challenge, exploring the painting technique of impasto and of course our Vincent Van Gogh homework. This week, the children have been talking to the class about their incredible projects, and it has been amazing to see such creative and inspiring work.

I hope everybody has a wonderful half term break.



Year 4

In English lessons this half term, we have been exploring both fiction and non-fiction texts.

We have learned how to write 'Defeating the monster' stories, exploring the writing techniques that an author can use to create exciting plots.

Continuing the theme of monsters, we then learned how to write instructions; our model text was "How to Trap a Dragon". Through our learning hook, we understood that instructions needed to be incredibly specific!

We gave Miss Owens instructions on how to make a sandwich. She followed our instructions exactly and got into a real mess! We explored writing toolkit features we could use to improve our instructions.

We finished our first reciprocal reading book – The Butterfly Lion by Michael Morpurgo.

We are now enjoying reading Varjak Paw by SF Said, we have lots of brilliant predictions about the story and ask lots of questions while we are reading. Our library slot is every Thursday afternoon. We are enjoying the choice of different stories when reading for pleasure in our school library space.

In Maths, we have revisited place value and have been learning how to add and subtract 4-digit numbers using the column method. Next half term, we will be moving onto multiplication and division. In the summer term, our Year 4 children will complete the multiplication check, a statutory test, which assesses children's knowledge of times table facts up to 12 x 12. We have been practicing in school and have enjoyed tournaments against our teachers! Congratulations to Summer who is currently occupying the top of our leaderboard as a Rock Legend! This means Summer can recall her tables in less than 2 seconds!

In History this half term, we have been learning about the Ancient Greeks. This was the focus for our homework project this half term. I was blown away with the effort and enthusiasm of Year 4 students who have worked incredibly hard over the half term to produce really high-quality work based on their learning and further research at home.

This half term, our science focus across school has been Animals Including Humans. Animals Including Humans is the only Science topic which is revisited in every year group throughout the primary age range. Children progress from naming body parts in Year 1 to knowing about bones and muscles in Year 3 to describing the digestive system in Year 4, which lays the foundations for their move to middle school where they will go on to learn about the circulatory system in Year 6.

Year 4 have certainly been getting "hands on" with practical investigation this half term – some highlights were our model of the human digestive system, which we demonstrated to parents in our class assembly!

The final week of this half term was DT week, across school we are exploring Structures. Year 4 have been making pavilions to present at a class expo! We have designed, made and evaluated our structures throughout the week!



How do we keep our children safe?

Children thrive in an environment where they feel safe and secure and this is exactly what we provide for them in school. Not only do we ensure your children are safe and cared for, but we also work hard to teach them how to keep themselves safe through our well planned and progressive curriculum. As an example, children learn how to recognise and be part of a respectful friendship and how we should treat each other, how to stay healthy and how to report anything they may be concerned about. You can find our [Safeguarding Policy](#) on our school website.

If you are ever concerned about the safety, or welfare of a child, please speak to a member of our Safeguarding team:

Mr Henderson – Designated Safeguarding Lead

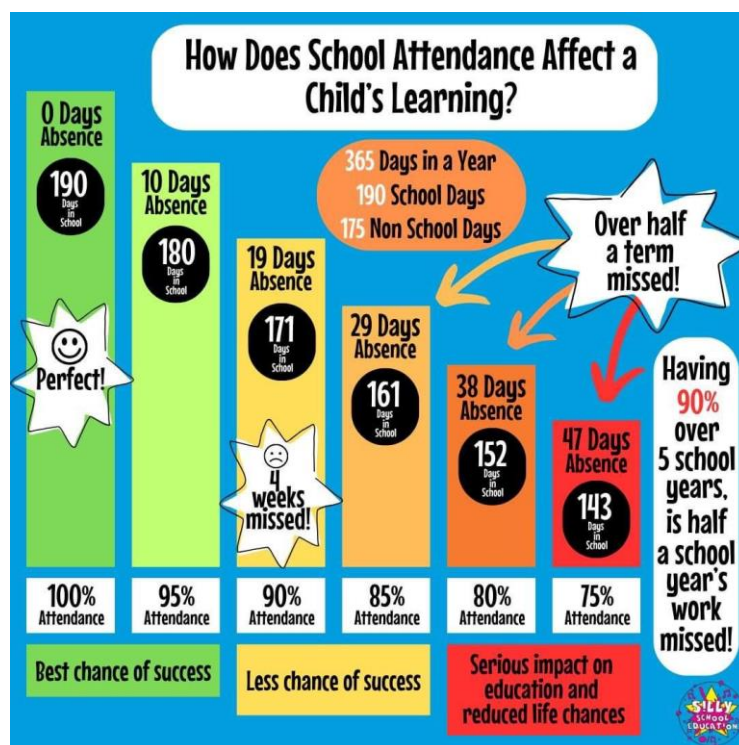
Mrs MacAndrews – Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Gentry - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

School attendance

Although illness cannot be avoided, it is important to ensure your child is in school every day and arrives at 08:50. This allows your child to have a calm start to the day and not miss any of their learning time. We have high expectations in everything we do in school and attendance is no different. We aim to have everyone with an attendance of at least 98%. You will all receive an update on your child's individual attendance for this term very soon. Well done to our attendance winners this half term and especially Year One children who won the class award with 99.1% where they enjoyed a movie afternoon with popcorn and hot chocolate.

If you have any concern about attendance, or punctuality, please speak to Mr Henderson who will be happy to help.



Pupil Achievements

Rugby

Nathaniel and Cameron have been representing Morpeth Cricket Club under 9's at cricket festivals across Northumberland. Nathaniel and Cameron are two of the youngest team members to play for this age group and both have improved significantly throughout the summer and have had lots of enjoyment participating.

Football

U9 girls team (The Cheetahs) - Molly, Corinne, Carys, Ellen, Georgia and Louisa

U8 boys team (The Raptors) - Harry, Lachlan and Jake

U8 boys team (The Mavericks) - Mason

All these boys and girls have made their coach very proud. They have mixed with other boys/girls from different schools and created real team togetherness. They have fun together, celebrate together and have been very supportive of each other.

Trampolining and Gymnastics

Well done to Catrin and Seren who have been busy competing in sporting events. The girls received medals and trophies for their achievements in trampolining and gymnastics.

Northumbria Mounted Police Force

Lilly had the opportunity to ride with the Northumbria Mounted Police Force. They featured on an ITV segment called Pass, Ride & Slow.



School Council

This is our new school council, voted in by their class mates. They have attended their first meeting where they are off to a great start sharing ideas, discussing possibilities and feeding back with their class. They have been wonderful helpers for encouraging food donations for the food bank, helping to set up our harvest display for the food bank and meeting the people from Wansbeck food bank when they came to collect the generous donations earlier this is week.




Diary Dates

October	
Thursday 26th	School closes for half term (15:15)
November	
Monday 6th	School recommences
Monday 13th	Year 4 Robinwood Parent Meeting (09:15)
Tuesday 14th	Usborne Book Fair Parents Evening
Wednesday 15th	Usborne Book Fair Parents Evening
Friday 17th	Children in Need
Wednesday 22nd	Y4 Family Lunch

School Business Support Officer Vacancies

There are currently three of the above positions being advertised on the Trust's website for Stobhillgate First School, Abbeyfields First School, and Morpeth All Saints First School.

If you would like further information, please click [HERE](#).



ENCORE PANTO GROUP
proudly presents

Aladdin
by Stuart Morrison

TICKETS £6
FRIDAY 24TH - SUNDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2023
FRIDAY: 7PM
SATURDAY: 2PM, 7PM
SUNDAY: 2PM

At Pegswood Welfare Centre
Book Online: www.encorepantogroup.com



MORPETH
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB LTD

Fireworks Display

SUNDAY
5TH NOVEMBER 2023

GATES OPEN AT 5PM
BONFIRE LIT AT 6PM SHARP!

Adults - £7 Under 12's - £5

CASH ONLY

Refreshments available to purchase in the clubhouse

IT IS AGAINST THE THE LAW TO IGNITE A SPARKLER IN A PUBLIC PLACE

Photograph by Darren Taylor Photography

Interested in developing your cycle skills?
Why not sign up for one of our free sessions?

Our friendly knowledgeable cycle trainers can offer support with

- Complete beginners cycling
- Cycle confidence training
- Journey planning

Why not try out one of our E-Cycles?
Experiences include a 2hour session under the guidance of our cycle training instructors, with all E-Bikes provided

Training can be customised to meet your needs for example

- Exploring your route to work
- Discovering local cycle routes
- Combining training with your family and friends (over the age of 16)

What are you waiting for?
Get in touch to book your free session!

To book your place or discuss a session please contact:
Cycling4Everyone
Email: info@cycling4everyone.co.uk
Tel: 07718906358

Northumberland County Council are pleased to offer residents and those who work in Northumberland funded cycle training places to help equip you with the skills you need to cycle confidently



Tiny Tiptoes Dance Class

Join the fun!
Limited spaces book now

£5 PER CLASS!



"I want to stay at dancing forever and ever and ever!"
Dancer: Age 6

"The kids really engage, you can see how much fun they're having whilst learning to dance"
Parent

3-5 (3.45-4.30)
5-7 (4.30-5.15)
7-9 (5.15-6.00)

Wednesdays at Stanington Village Hall

We are a 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 a love of dance. Parents are encouraged to stay to support their child.
Teachers are DBS checked.

MESSAGE TINYTIPTOESDANCECLASS ON FACEBOOK OR EMAIL
TINYTIPTOESDANCECLASS@GMAIL.COM

