



Henshaw CE Primary School

Newsletter

Newsletter No. 4 Autumn Term 2023
Friday 24th November

West Tyne Federation of Schools

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A Message from the Head Teacher

We have made a great start to our second half of the autumn term with raising over £200 for Children in Need; thank you all for your generosity for this important charity. We have LOTS of enrichments coming up for the children; including a cinema visit for Key Stage 2 and a pantomime visit for Early Years and Key Stage 1. The school continues to subsidise the costs of these visits and it was wonderful to see so many children enjoying The Bedtime Stories event this week, which raised funds for transport to these events.

Year 3 and 4 have started their 'Kids Action Through Science' workshops this week and will be visiting the Life Centre in Newcastle in a couple of weeks. Year 5 and 6 will be visiting Haydon Bridge High School to explore the amazing Art and Design facilities and take place in Art workshops with a specialist teacher.

We love this time of year at school....Although it is a lot of organisation to get ready for Christmas performances, the sound of songs and rehearsals fills the school corridors! I'm sure you share our eagerness to see all the children shine in these plays. As children are learning their words and songs, we have decided to forgo a homework project this half term, but this will be back after Christmas with a Science themed project. Please continue to access Spelling Shed and listen to your child read; it really does make a difference.

Thank you for ensuring your child comes to school with a coat and we are starting to see hats and gloves appear each morning - wrap up everyone and keep warm.

Best wishes, Mr Glenton

Remembrance Day Celebration

We were honoured to be joined by Bishop Mark (the Bishop of Berwick) for our annual Remembrance Day Celebration at Holy Cross Church in Haltwhistle. The children sang beautifully and presented their words and poems clearly and with respect. It was truly moving to see both schools in our Federation perform together with the church choir. Check out the video of this wonderful celebration on our Facebook page.

Class News

Tyne Class

Tyne class have been reading the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears this week. We have enjoyed exploring the story through our 'Drawing club' activities. We have re-told the story in our home corner with props from the story. The children created some super maps for Goldilocks to follow to get from her house to the three bear's house. Next week we are going to be following a recipe to make porridge. Maybe you could make some porridge at home with your adult? Maybe you could draw a map to get from your house to school?

Thames Class

Thames class have been busy in English we have read the book toys in space and researched facts to write our own non-chronological report using captions and sub-headings. In Maths we have been subtracting using a number line and number stories. In Science we have had great fun working scientifically to make slime out of marshmallows. We have also made UV bracelets to test the level of UV rays. IN RE we have been looking at artwork which represents the nativity and thinking about what a king is. In Geography we have used an atlas to locate the countries of the United Kingdom and their capital cities. Perhaps the children could look at maps and find the compass or other key features. We have also enjoyed our gymnastic lessons with Magpie sports.

Rhine Class

In Rhine Class this week, we have completed our explanation texts on how to make a cast fossil. We have been working on multiplication tables and division up to 12×12 . In P.E., we have been working on gymnastics and dance skills and have also started our work on multi-skills. In science, we have tested different soils for water retention and are planting bulbs in the soil which retains the most water, as part of our unit on working scientifically. In French, we have learnt the names of 6 animals. In history, we have been thinking about how the Bronze Age finished. We have also started to practise for our Christmas Play - The Snow Queen.

Nile Class

The children in Nile class have been enjoying gymnastic lessons lead by Mr Hill, a PE specialist. The children work well together as well as independently. This week they have been focusing on balances and movements which were asymmetrical. Can your child explain what asymmetrical means and show you at least two balances? Please can you remind the children to use Spelling Shed weekly. Thank you!



Our School Promise

Our School Promise reminds us of our vision and values that we hold dear at The West Tyne Church Schools Federation.

Well done to the following children for achieving their awards:

Learning Award - Fenn, Georgia, Barry, Reece

Resilience & Teamwork Award - Nile Class, Ivy, Freddie G, Isla

Etiquette Award - Jayden, Macy

Environmental Award - Tobin, Eco Council

Kindness Award - Alex, Emily S, Cole

Inclusion Award - Reece, Aria, Lincoln

Friendship Award - Aria, Riley, Mia

Role model Award - Lewis S, Finley, Ava



Attendance: Every day is important to give children their full entitlement to an exciting learning journey

Tyne - 76%

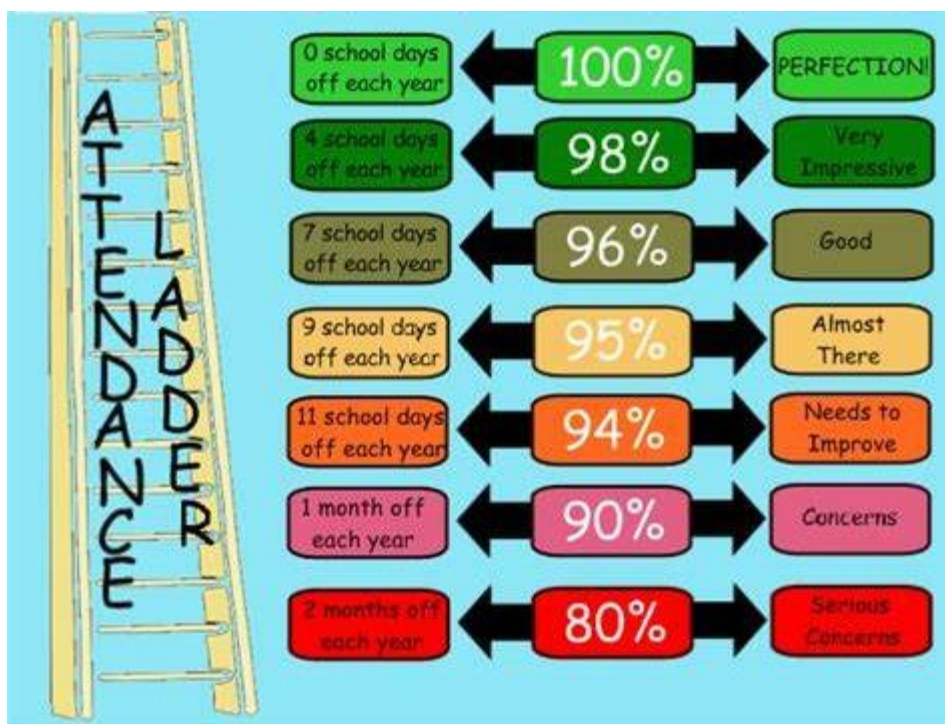
Thames -95%

Rhine - 93.9%

Nile - 93.7%

Whole School - 90.9%

Our target for attendance is 96%



Bikeability - week commencing 4.12.23

If your child is in Year 3,4,5 or 6, you should have received a letter regarding Bikeability, which is taking place the week commencing 4th December. For these sessions, children will require a working bike and helmet (**please let us know if this is a problem**). Sessions will be run by external, trained professionals and children in past sessions have really enjoyed this opportunity. We are looking forward to seeing the children in action.

Just a quick reminder: Christmas Dinner, Nativity and Performances

Year 3-6 will once again be performing their Christmas show at Haydon Bridge High School this year on **Friday 15th December** and the performances will be at **2pm and 4:30pm**. The school will again subsidise the cost of transport for 2 days but we are asking for parents to purchase tickets for £2.00 each, which will help pay for the remainder of this cost. Please see attached letter.

Reception and Year 1/2 Christmas performance on the **6th December at 2pm**.

Our Christingle service at Henshaw Church will be on **Wednesday 20th December at 2pm**, with adults welcome to attend.

Christmas Dinner will be on **Thursday 21st December**.

Author visit

Year 5 and 6 were joined by published author, Andy Ruffell this week and had a wonderful time exploring his books and how he writes his stories. It was a great opportunity for the children to ask questions to a 'real-life' author and experience the process of using imagination and skill to write a novel.

Dates for the diary

Thursday 30th November - Green Day

Friday 1st December - Kids Action Through Science - Workshop 2 for year 3.4

Friday 1st December - Art workshop and specialist teaching - Year 5.6 to HBHS

Week commencing; Monday 4th December - Bikeability training

Wednesday 6th December - 2pm, Early Years and Key Stage 1 Nativity

Friday 8th December - Year 3 and 4 visit to The Life Centre in Newcastle

Wednesday 13th December - Santa Dash at Breaktime (bring in a Christmas hat!)

Thursday 14th December - Year 3 to 6 to Haydon Bridge High School - Performance practice

Friday 15th December - Year 3 to 6 to HBHS - Performances 2pm and 4:30pm

Monday 18th December - Year 3 to 6 to Hexham Forum Cinema

Wednesday 20th December - Reception to Year 2 to Queen's Hall Hexham - Pantomime

Wednesday 20th December - Christingle Service at the church - parents welcome to attend

Thursday 21st December - Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas jumper day

Friday 22nd December - Class Christmas parties, information to follow

A final thought...

What is Christmas? It is the tenderness of the past; courage for the present and hope for the future. Agnes Pahro