



# Henshaw CE Primary School

## Newsletter

Newsletter No. 2 Autumn Term 2024  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October

West Tyne Federation of Schools

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### A Message from the Head Teacher

We have made an excellent start to the new school year with lots of fun, hard work and achievements in the short six weeks we have been back.

We are all very proud of our Year 5 and 6 children who represented our school at the Sycamore Gap event at The Sill, what great role models they all were for this important event. We cannot wait to receive our Sycamore sapling (from the original tree) which will be planted early next year.

We continue to incorporate new procedures from our Trust into our school lives, as well as the paperwork this entails! Thank you to our parent community for filling out many forms to keep us on track with these new policies. We are receiving quite a few 'leave of absence' forms for holiday requests. Please be aware of the changed DfE guidance which stops us from authorising almost all holiday requests and the statutory guidance to all schools in England for unauthorised absences which we must follow. Our Trust-wide policy has been sent out to parents and is on our website too.

Within this newsletter, please find details of some great upcoming community events: Harvest Festival, Remembrance Day Celebration and Christingle Service. We should be able to confirm the dates of Christmas performances in our next newsletter.

Best wishes, Mr Glenton

### Harvest Festival at All Hallows Church

We will be holding our annual Harvest Festival at All Hallows Church on **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 1:30pm**. Families are welcome to attend, and parents are invited to collect their children from the school yard once the service is finished. We will once again be collecting for the Hexham Food Bank, to support families in our local area. If you would like to make a donation, please see the items that have been requested below. These can be brought into school in the last week of this half term.

**Reception** - Dried pasta and rice

**Year 1 and 2** - Canned goods

**Year 3 and 4** - Sauces (Jars or condiments) **Year 5 and 6** - Sugar, tea and coffee

## Class News

Tyne class have been thinking about our emotions over the last couple of weeks. We enjoyed reading *The Colour Monster* and thinking about how colours can describe feelings. Lots of pupils said they felt pink for love! We are continuing to read stories about our emotions including, *Ruby's Worry*, *In My Heart* and this week *The Lion Inside*. You might want to read these stories at home or a story that links to feelings. You can talk about your feelings and a time you might have felt a certain emotion. In Maths we have started to think about sorting and matching, we enjoyed sorting socks into similar sizes and colour patterns. You might want to match socks or different items at home. Every week we add our fun learning onto our school Facebook page, keep looking out for our amazing work!

Thames class have been busy continuing their work on place value. They have used practical resources to find numbers greater than a set amount and numbers less. They have made their own number lines and used symbols to compare numbers. In English they have used bossy verbs to write their own instructions on how to make a jam sandwich. In RE they have been finding out how Christians use bible stories to influence their actions in everyday life and have used the Parable of the Lost Son to support their understanding. They have enjoyed a walk to look at the different materials used to build the church. I am sure they will be able to explain to you which materials have been used. During their walk they went to see the trains as part of their history topic about George Stephenson. The children have enjoyed sharing their homework and looking at pictures of their friends as babies. Thank you for supporting your child with this.

We have had an amazing week in Rhine Class this week. In English, we have begun to write our historical narrative based on our visit to Beamish. In Maths, we have moved onto addition and subtraction using our knowledge of place value. In P.E., we are honing our netball skills and beginning to play matches. In science, we have started our grass investigation and also used our new VR headsets for the first time. We found out some information about 'Eric the Red' in guided reading and we have been sharing our wonderful PSHE homework with our peers. Incredibly busy but fun. If you could please continue to write numbers in numerals and words at home that would be very helpful, along with our regular weekly spellings and reading. Our class has won the class Busby for achieving the most times on spelling shed for the last two weeks - the children love having Busby in our classroom.

Nile class had a great time visiting Beamish. During their visit the children had the opportunity to create a clay plaque which will be delivered to school over the next few weeks. The children enjoyed visiting the dentist and the town house, as well as the Victorian classroom. What similarities and differences can the children list between classrooms today and during Victorian times?



### Our School Promise

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

**Learning Award** - Billy, Ella, Jack Bn, Ed, Angus, Fenn

**Resilience & Teamwork Award** - Jamie, Esmae

**Etiquette Award** - Aria, Freya

**Environmental Award** - Finley, Rhys, Harry

**Kindness Award** - Esmae

**Friendship Award** - Ollie

**Role model Award** - Eva, Sophie, Maddie



### Attendance:

Tyne - 90.9%

Thames - 95.0%

Rhine - 99.2%

Nile - 92.2%

Whole School - 95.3%

The Department for Education guidance for attendance changed in August this year. Head Teachers are now unable to authorise holidays in term time. Guidance also states that 5 days of unauthorised absence should be reported to the local authority. Please be aware that we, as a school and like other schools, are duty bound to follow this legislation. A copy of our Trust's attendance policy can be found on the school website.

### Remembrance Day Service at Holy Cross for Key Stage 2

We are thrilled to once again announce that we will be marking Remembrance Day at Holy Cross Church on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November. This time, as well as our sister school (Greenhead) joining us, our other 2 local Trust Schools, Wark and Newbrough will also be in attendance.

This special event will start at 10:40am with songs, poetry and reading before the 2 minutes silence. We hope you will be able to join us in paying our respects.

### Poppy Appeal

We will be selling the Poppies and other related merchandise again in school this year, in support of the Royal British Legion. Items cost between 50p-£1 and are available from the School Office until Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November. Thank you for your support.

### Our Academy Council (formally Governors)

Our Governing Body has now changed names under the Trust leadership and is now known as the Academy Council. Here are a few words from our new co-chairs.

Sarah Smith - I have enjoyed my time on the board of governors so far and have great involvement within the school, either taking photos of the pupils or attending various school trips and school events, all of which have been amazing experiences. Knowing how much commitment, enthusiasm, compassion all the staff give to their pupils, these schools will thrive under the new academy and cannot wait to see what the future holds for both Henshaw and Greenhead Primary School. I'm looking forward to my new role as joint co-chair with Father Steve and learning new skills within this role.

Father Steve - I am the vicar of Greenhead and Henshaw churches (as well as Haltwhistle and Beltingham) and have found it interesting being one of the governors of our schools over the last two years. Being chair of the Academy Council is a bit daunting so I'm glad I'm doing it jointly with Sarah and I look forward to being involved with our schools that little bit more.

### Homework

Thank you for continuing to support your child's homework projects; it has been wonderful to see them so excited and proud of the work they have produced at home as they have presented their work to their classmates.

### Dates for the diary

**Mon 21<sup>st</sup> Oct** - Anti Bullying Day - We are all different; Children to wear odd socks this day!

**Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Oct** - Harvest Festival 1:30pm at All Hallows Church

**Half Term - Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Nov until Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov** - Scholastics book festival after school

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Nov** - Year 3.4 visit to Holy Island, letter to follow

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Nov** - Second fixture for the school football team

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Nov** - Remembrance Day service at Holy Cross for Key Stage 2

**Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Christmas Dinner Day

Christingle at All Hallows Church, families welcome to attend 2pm

### A final thought...

**Openness and honesty is always the foundation for insightful conversations**

**Bell Hooks**