



*During British Science Week, all children worked on Science Art and Writing which focused on the theme 'Heat and cold'. It was a very successful week where the standard of work produced by all classes was excellent. Rosemary Feasey, a science consultant who has been working in school with us over the last year, thought that the*



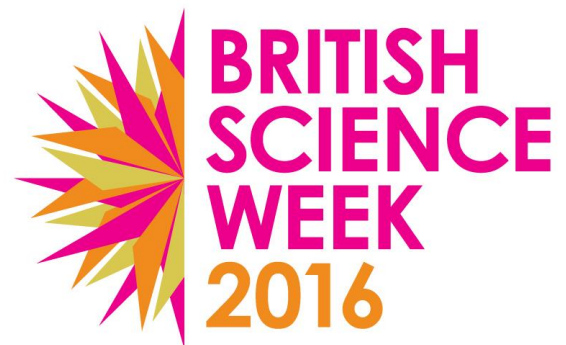
*event and work completed, 'knocked the spots off' anything she has seen in other schools, which is high praise as she works with many schools!*







*Children and parents/carers enjoyed both visiting our Science Gallery of children's work and taking part in the heat and cold activities that had been organised by Mrs Lawson.*



*Thank you to all the parents/carers who visited our Gallery of Science poetry and art on Friday, celebrating work by children from Nursery to Year 6.*

*We hope you were as proud of your children as we are!*







*We hope that you all received your leaflet last week about how we are assessing and tracking the progress of children from Year 1 – Year 6. The leaflet looked like this (below) so if you have not seen it, please call the office for another copy to be sent home.*

*Children in Nursery and Reception will continue to be assessed using the Foundation Stage Profile and Learning Journals as in previous years.*

**Assessment at Laurel Avenue Community Primary School**

In response to Government changes to the way children are to be assessed, essentially removing the national curriculum levels, we have decided to use the Chris Quigley Milestones Assessment and Tracking System.

We believe that learning takes time and that some children take longer than others to achieve. We also wanted the focus for progress to be depth of learning rather than just quantity. We are delighted with the system that we have chosen as it fits seamlessly into the way we plan and teach, as we have followed the Chris Quigley Creative Curriculum for many years, even before the recent Government changes.

**Essentials Curriculum**  
Alongside the new National Curriculum, we use Chris Quigley's Essentials Curriculum that sets out essential coverage, learning objectives and standards and provides progress measures for all subjects. The Essentials Curriculum uses common learning objectives for all year groups. Each learning objective has 3 milestones for progress.

From Year 1 – Year 6 children are assessed against three separate Milestones.

Year 1 and Year 2 – Milestone 1  
Year 3 and Year 4 – Milestone 2  
Year 5 and Year 6 – Milestone 3

Within each Milestone, children will work across three levels of understanding of the curriculum – Basic Level, Advancing Level and Deep Level. These are based on the standards in the 2014 National Curriculum.

Milestone 1	Milestone 2	Milestone 3
The standard of Year 1	The standard of Year 3	The standard of Year 5
B A D	B A D	B A D

Laurel Avenue Community Primary School | © Dartson 2016

**Basic level:** have a higher level of support, will follow instructions and work on activities where the teacher will model and explain a lot more than at other levels.

**Advancing level:** work on activities involving decision making and applying and practising their skills and knowledge. Teacher input will involve more guiding and reminding at this stage.

**Deep level:** will extend their thinking to a higher level, applying their understanding across a range of contexts, often following multi-steps of thinking.

All children will start learning at the Basic level within each Milestone when they start in Year 1 (Milestone 1), Year 3 (Milestone 2) and Year 5 (Milestone 3). They will then progress through the Milestone with the national expectation being Advancing 1 by the end of Years 1, 3 and 5 and Deep 2 by the end of Years 2, 4 and 6.

The expected progress of children within the milestones is laid out here:

Year Group	Milestone	Basic 1	Basic 2	Advancing 1	Advancing 2	Deep 1	Deep 2
Year 1	Milestone 1	Basic 1	Basic 2	Advancing 1	5		
Year 2	Milestone 1	Advancing 2	Deep 1	Deep 2	6		
Year 3	Milestone 2	Basic 1	Basic 2	Advancing 1	9		
Year 4	Milestone 2	Advancing 2	Deep 1	Deep 2	12		
Year 5	Milestone 3	Basic 1	Basic 2	Advancing 1	15		
Year 6	Milestone 3	Advancing 2	Deep 1	Deep 2	18		

Therefore a Year 5 pupil would be making expected progress if assessed at Advancing 1 at the end of Year 5.

**Depth of Learning**  
We believe that learning takes time and that some children take longer than others to achieve so the focus for progress reflects the DEPTH of learning.

Laurel Avenue Community Primary School | © Dartson 2016



*A huge well done to everyone in school who ran a mile in the school hall (28 laps!) as it was raining outside.*

*Everyone who joined in donated £1 for Sport Relief so we managed to raise £66. Thank you.*





# Bird Boxes

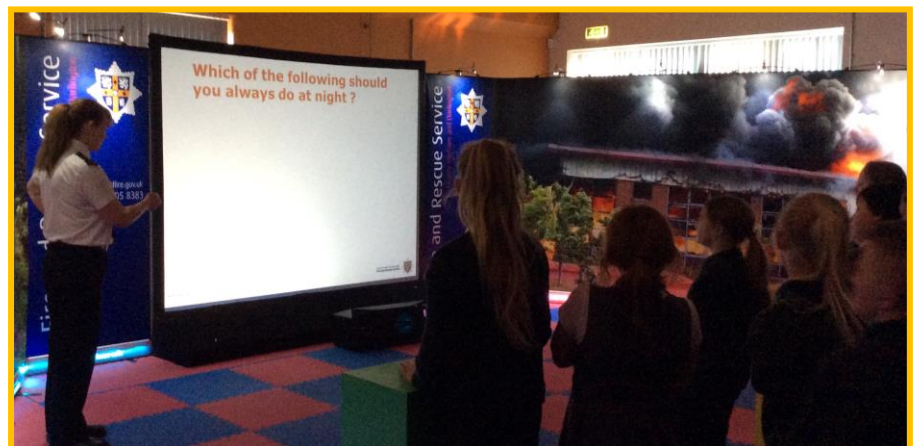
A huge thank you to those parents and carers who worked with their children to build ten bird boxes.



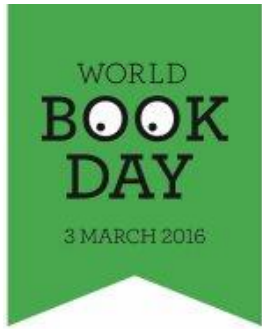
We are looking forward to seeing if we can attract different species of birds who are looking for a suitable place to roost or feed.

# Safety Carousel

Class 4 learnt vital life skills at the safety carousel this term. From fire and road safety to cyber bullying, the Safety Carousel equipped them with essential skills to keep themselves and others safe.







*To celebrate World Book Day a little differently this year, the School Council decided to ask all children to bring into school their favourite book. They then created a human sized version of this book with a front cover, spine and blurb on the back. The results were excellent and we had a whole school hall full of life sized books!*



***Please keep a note of when your child will need their PE kit in school***

***Class 1: Monday and Wednesday***

***Class 2: Monday and Wednesday***

***Class 3: Tuesday (PE kit) and Thursday (swimming kit)***

***Class 4: Tuesday and Friday***

***We recommend children bring their PE kits into school every Monday & leave them on their pegs for the week, bringing them home every Friday.***

## School Uniform

*We have items of uniform and PE kits in school for you to buy if needed. Please see Mrs Lindsay or Mrs Ferguson in the school office if you would like to make any purchases.*

*Reminder about our school uniform...*

*Plain black or plain grey skirt, pinafore or trousers*

*Bottle green sweatshirt or cardigan*

*White or bottle green polo shirt*

*Bottle green/white summer dress*

*We have noticed a number of children who are regularly wearing brightly coloured footwear.*

*We'd like to remind you that brightly coloured/white trainers or shoes are not acceptable uniform and so we look forward to seeing dark shoes back in place after the Easter holidays. Many schools do not allow trainers on the uniform list at all. We currently do but if this is to continue children must wear plain black only.*

*Thank you.*

**Parents' Evening** We hope that the new electronic system made booking appointments a lot easier. This was an important meeting as it gave teachers the opportunity to discuss the new assessment system we have implemented as well your child's progress. Thank you to all who attended. It is so important that we work together to ensure the best possible outcomes for all of our children.

# Governor Mark

*The Governors of Laurel Avenue Community Primary School were thrilled to be recently awarded with the Governor Mark which is recognition of the hard work and dedication that each one of our governors brings to our school, year after year.*



*Governor Mark is a national award. It is a kite mark which provides external evaluation of the quality of governance in a school.*

*This is a challenging award. Not only does a governing body need to show that it follows good procedures and fulfils statutory duties, but there is a high value placed on evidence of impact – the difference the governing body makes to a school.*

*Take a look on our website to find out more about our governors; who they are and what they do.*

*<http://www.laurelavenue.durham.sch.uk/Governors>*





## Mothers' Day Tea



A big thank you to everyone who supported the Mothers' Day Tea. We hope that you enjoyed the delicious treats.

Combined sales  
from the tickets  
and raffle came  
to £239!



Thank you to the  
FOLAS team!



## Gift Bags



*If you have any used gift bags that are still intact lying around, we would really appreciate it if you would donate them to school. It doesn't matter which event the bag is celebrating.*

*Please send any bags into school at any point of the year if you are able to help. We will use them for the 'hook a bag' game during school fayres. Thank you.*





# BREAKFAST CLUB

 GREGGS

Breakfast Club continues to be a great success with 40 - 50 children attending most mornings!

We would not be able to offer this free club without the sponsorship from Greggs and of course without the brilliant support from our dedicated volunteers!

A very warm and great big thank you to all our brilliant Breakfast Club volunteers...

Helen Blakey, Ellen Cottrell, Sarah Fearon,  
Nicola May, June Nichol, Joe Pickering,  
Tracy Pickering, Nichola Watkinson & Amy Winter.



Reminder: Breakfast Club starts at 8.10 am.  
We have a number of children arriving before 8.00 am.  
Please come for 8.10 am and not before, thank you.

## School Fruit Shop

Children in Nursery, Classes 1 and 2 receive a piece of fresh fruit each day for free as part of the Government's fruit scheme.



Children in Classes 3 and 4 can buy a piece of fresh fruit each day for only 50p per week.



# School Nutrition Action Group

# SNAG

Daisy Smith, Betsy Pretty, Oliver Dixon, Oliver Pickering,  
Callum Blakey and Annie Cottrell.



We celebrated Chinese New Year today with this delicious menu, organised by the SNAG.



The kitchen hatch was decorated to add to the atmosphere over lunch.



Congratulations to Callum, one of our SNAG members, who worked with Ms Kelley to organise the Sport Relief menu. He received a special thank you gift from her.



*The Golden Table: Every fortnight, six children are selected by lunchtime staff for excellent lunchtime behaviour and fabulous manners. Congratulations to the following children.*



Andrew Cooper, Fiona Hesk, Alana Robinson  
Jessica Garside, Jasmine Rutherford and Ben Fearon



Riley Haywood, Joseph Davies, Travis Patterson, Rebecca Dixon  
Matty Wild, Ben Gibbons, Nathan Appleby and Chloe Gibbs

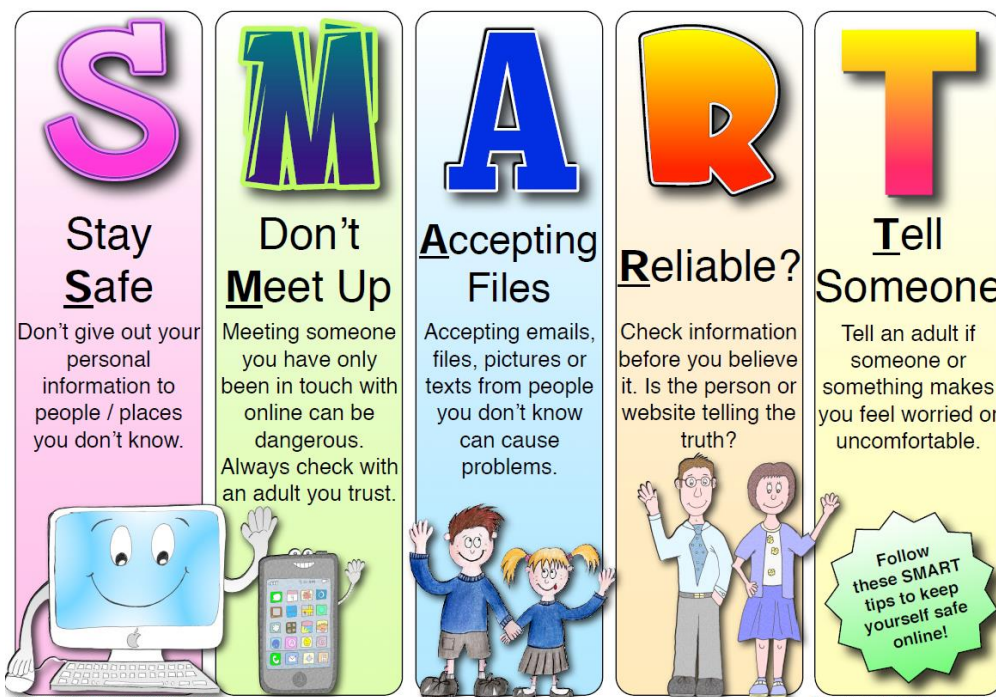


Online Safety is an important part of safeguarding young people, and helping them learn how to stay safe when using technology is becoming more important.

Police remain concerned about children being groomed for indecent images through a wide variety of apps including ooVoo, KIK, Skype and MeetMe. This means parents and carers need to carefully supervise their children's use of technology, and to pay particular attention to who their "virtual" friends are.

The NSPCC have a very good website for parents called Net-Aware <http://www.net-aware.org.uk>

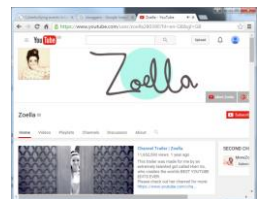
This site explains the risks and benefits of a wide range of apps, and what safety measures are available to parents.





# YouTube Risks – Uploading Video

Many children spend a lot of time watching vloggers (Video Log) such as Zoella. (Zoella can have over 3 million hits on her uploads!) Some children choose to emulate these Vloggers and, in doing so without careful thought, can leave themselves open to bullying or online grooming by revealing personal details and making videos and comments available to anyone. This is not illegal but the minimum age to create a YouTube account is 13. Having an account for a younger child breaks the terms and conditions of the site. It is not possible to upload videos without creating an account.



The following links provide additional information:

[https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802272?hl=en-GB&ref\\_topic=2803240](https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802272?hl=en-GB&ref_topic=2803240) and

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safety-tools/youtube>

## Extract from YouTube Website

We understand that parents and guardians sometimes have questions about children's behaviour online.

We've put together some tools and resources to help you manage your family's experience on YouTube.

What age does my child need to be to use YouTube?

In order to create a YouTube account, you must confirm that you're at least 13 years old. If a video is flagged and we find that the uploader inaccurately stated their age during the account creation process, we will terminate their account.



Exciting news! Following a rigorous application and interview process, we have appointed four Yoyo Instructors. They are currently practising at every possible moment to become even more fantastic with their skills and tricks.



Anthony, Kayden, Paige and Millie will be teaching children to yoyo in our yoyo zone after the Easter holidays. They are drawing up rotas so everyone can have the opportunity to yoyo!





**Star Pupils** These children have been selected this half term to be Stars by their teachers for many different reasons, including excellent work and effort during lessons, as well as being kind and considerate to others.

**Nursery:** Thomas Parker, Douglas Costa



**Class 1:** Jaydan Tuck, Nicolas Costa

**Class 2:** Grace Wild, Alex Scott



**Class 3:** Alan Bentham, Ellie Storey

**Class 4:** James, Tegan France



**Ms Davison:** Caitlin Bowes, Ben Maddison

**Ms Kelly:** Esther Ayo-Jayeoba, Keira Dinsley

Whole School Attendance is managing to stay up  
above national average at



**97.5%!!**



(Just a little decline this half term.)

Let's continue to try and keep our attendance  
above national average by the end of year so that  
each child can achieve the absolute best they can.

Thank you.





# Congratulations!



*Well done to all the following who achieved 100% attendance for February 2016*

*Nathan Appleby ♦ Stephen Appleby ♦ Esther Ayo-Jayeoba ♦ Jay Bainbridge  
Aliyah Barker ♦ Callum Blakey ♦ Luke Blakey ♦ Caitlin Bowes ♦ Tia Burrows  
Callum Collins ♦ Anthony Cooper ♦ Ray Cooper ♦ Nicolas Costa ♦ Kane Costello  
Annie Cottrell ♦ Kayden Crampton ♦ Tyler Crampton ♦ Keira Dinsley ♦ Logan Dinsley  
Rebecca Dixon ♦ Jasmine Emery ♦ Mac Emery ♦ Devan France ♦ Tegan France  
Jessica Garside ♦ Chloe Gibbs ♦ Nicole Gibbs ♦ Darcie Gillespie ♦ Alora  
Daniel Grundy ♦ Riley Haywood ♦ Daniel Hesk ♦ Lainey Jackson ♦ Alfie Johnson  
Lee Jones ♦ Billy Laverick ♦ Samuel Linfoot ♦ Casey Maddison ♦ Danny Mollon  
Ebony Morris ♦ Paige Nichol ♦ Lilly-Mai Niles ♦ Scarlett Pallister ♦ Lilly-Su Parker  
Thomas Parker ♦ Alex Petit ♦ Oliver Pickering ♦ Betsy Pretty ♦ James  
Alana Robinson ♦ Sophia Robson ♦ Jasmine Rutherford ♦ Lewis Rutherford ♦ Alex Scott  
Tommy Scott ♦ Connor Shepherd ♦ Nathan Shepherd ♦ Ellie Storey ♦ Zak Storey  
Tommy Swainston ♦ Brooke Swift ♦ Cameron Thompson ♦ Kierin Thompson  
Jaydan Tuck ♦ Kaiden Watkinson ♦ Kenzie Watkinson ♦ Zac Whittle*



*Well done to all the following who achieved 100% attendance for March 2016*

*Nathan Appleby ♦ Esther Ayo-Jayeoba ♦ Jay Bainbridge ♦ Aliyah Barker ♦ Kai Barrass  
Alan Bentham ♦ Jay Bentham ♦ Callum Blakey ♦ Luke Blakey ♦ Caitlin Bowes ♦ Erin Brain  
Tia Burrows ♦ Leola Christopher ♦ Callum Collins ♦ Andrew Cooper ♦ Anthony Cooper  
Ray Cooper ♦ Kane Costello ♦ Annie Cottrell ♦ Kayden Crampton ♦ Logan Crampton  
Tyler Crampton ♦ Keira Dinsley ♦ Logan Dinsley ♦ Oliver Dixon ♦ Rebecca Dixon  
Jasmine Emery ♦ Mac Emery ♦ Ben Fearon ♦ Teah Fearon ♦ Devan France ♦ Tegan France  
Jessica Garside ♦ Chloe Gibbs ♦ Nicole Gibbs ♦ Alora ♦ Daniel Grundy ♦ Riley Haywood  
Daniel Hesk ♦ Fiona Hesk ♦ Lainey Jackson ♦ Alfie Johnson ♦ Lee Jones  
Michael Kavanagh ♦ Billy Laverick ♦ Jackson Laverick ♦ Samuel Linfoot ♦ Ben Maddison  
Danny Mollon ♦ Ebony Morris ♦ Paige Nichol ♦ Tayven Parker ♦ Thomas Parker  
Harley Patterson ♦ Travis Patterson ♦ Alex Petit ♦ Millie Petit ♦ Oliver Pickering  
Betsy Pretty ♦ Alana Robinson ♦ Sophia Robson ♦ Jasmine Rutherford ♦ Lewis Rutherford  
Anas Sadiq ♦ Alex Scott ♦ Tommy Scott ♦ Connor Shepherd ♦ Nathan Shepherd  
Daisy Smith ♦ Ellie Storey ♦ Zak Storey ♦ Tommy Swainston ♦ Cameron Thompson  
Kierin Thompson ♦ Jaydan Tuck ♦ Kaiden Watkinson*





Congratulations to the children who achieved 100% attendance for Autumn Term. They each enjoyed a treat of a Kentucky Fried Chicken lunch to celebrate.



Each week, children who achieve 100% attendance have the opportunity to win a £3 Tesco Gift Voucher  
Congratulations to:

Tegan France  
Kenzie Watkinson

Class 100% Attendance  
Voucher winners:

If an individual Class has achieved 100% for one week, then an extra draw is carried out for the children in that Class.



Class 1: Daisy Smith



# Laurel Avenue Community Centre

Family Easter Activities - Monday 28th March 10.00 – 12.00 noon  
Come and join in our Easter Egg Hunt, prizes for everyone!

Junior Youth Club Easter Trip - Tuesday 29th March  
Destination to be confirmed  
(All JYC children will receive an invitation)



Tea Club (Ages 5 – 11 years) - Tuesdays 3.10 - 4.00 pm for £2.00  
Junior Youth Club (Ages 5 - 11 years) – Tuesdays 4.00 – 5.30 pm



Laurel United (Ages 11+) Re-Launch Monday 18th April 5.30 - 7.30 pm



Foodbank - Every Saturday Morning  
Activities for children and free breakfast for all, 9.30-11.30 am  
You do not need to access foodbank to qualify for the free activities  
and breakfast, everyone is welcome

## Message from Reverend Alan from St Giles' Church

### Easter Activities morning in St Giles' Church

Lots of Easter craft activities and a short child-friendly service.

Refreshments including hot cross buns!

10.00 am -12.00 noon on Good Friday morning



St Giles Church T: 0191 384 2452 E: [vicar@stgilesdurham.co.uk](mailto:vicar@stgilesdurham.co.uk)



## ***School Holidays 2016/2017***

<b><i>Holiday</i></b>	<b><i>Closing Date</i></b>	<b><i>Date Re-open for Teaching Purposes</i></b>
<b><i>Summer 2016</i></b> <i>(6 weeks 3 days)</i>	<i>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016</i>	<i>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016</i>
<b><i>Autumn Half-Term 2016</i></b> <i>(1 week)</i>	<i>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016</i>	<i>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016</i>
<b><i>Teacher Training Day</i></b> <i>(1 day)</i>	<i>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016</i>	<i>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016</i>
<b><i>Christmas 2016</i></b> <i>(2 weeks 2 days)</i>	<i>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2016</i>	<i>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017</i>
<b><i>Spring Half-Term 2017</i></b> <i>(1 week)</i>	<i>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017</i>	<i>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017</i>
<b><i>Easter 2017</i></b> <i>(2 weeks)</i>	<i>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017</i>	<i>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017</i>
<b><i>May Day 2017</i></b> <i>(1 day)</i>	<i>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2017</i>	<i>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017</i>
<b><i>Summer Half-Term 2017</i></b> <i>(1 week)</i>	<i>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017</i>	<i>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017</i>
<b><i>Summer 2017</i></b>	<i>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017</i>	<i>To be determined</i>

*These dates only relate to Laurel Avenue Community Primary School.  
Each school in the area may have slightly different closing and re-opening dates.*

# ***Summer Term starts: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016***



***Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April:*** Newcastle Falcons will be working with Class 3 during the afternoon for one hour of healthy eating and lifestyle education followed by one hour of tag rugby coaching.

*Please ensure PE kits are in school, thank you.*

***Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April, am:*** Soccer Tots Festival for Reception and Year 1

***Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April, pm:*** Multi-skills Coaching Key Stage 2

***Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April, 3.15 – 4.15 pm:*** PE Multi Skills Club for Reception and Year 1 starts for half a term

***Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April:*** Famous Scientist Day

***Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April:*** Class 4 will be working with an Ancient Greek Theatre Group from Durham University

***Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April, am:*** Outdoor activities for Year 1 and 2 at Durham Johnston

***Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May:*** Bank Holiday, school closed

***Week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> May:*** Year 6 SATs

***Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, am:*** Year 3 and 4 Tennis at the Riverside

***Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May:*** Science through Stories Week

***Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May:*** Happy Shoesday! Children wear the shoes that make them happy, e.g. shiny, decorated, wellies and donate £1 to support the work of Living Streets who supply our Walk to School badges.

***Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May:*** Year 5 Mini Police Helicopter Viewing at Shincliffe

***Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May, am:*** Judo taster sessions for all classes

*Please ensure PE kits are in school, thank you.*

***Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May:*** Half Term Starts

***Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June:*** Back to school

## ***Important:***

***Year 6 will be doing their KS2 SATS: 9<sup>th</sup> May – 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016***

***Year 1 Phonics Tests - week beginning June 13<sup>th</sup> 2016***

