



Safer Internet Day 2020 was celebrated globally with the theme:

#Freetobeme

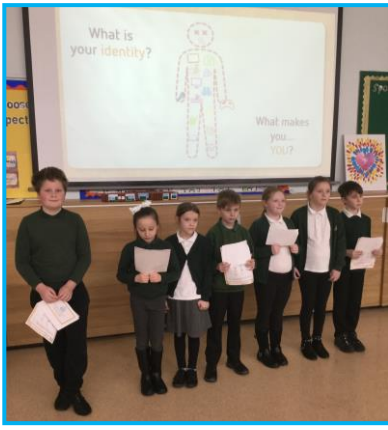


Safer  
Internet  
Day 2020 | Tuesday  
11 February  
Together for a better internet  
[www.saferinternetday.org.uk](http://www.saferinternetday.org.uk)



Connar, Cameron, Finley,  
Savannah, Darcie, Aliyah, Jaxon,  
Ben, Emily, Erin, Jaydan,  
Riley and Sophie.

Hello, we're the Online Safety Group here in school. We work together with our teachers and classmates to make sure that online safety is a topic that is shared by everyone. Recently, we worked together to prepare an assembly we held on 'Safer Internet Day'. During our last meeting we discussed ways we could keep online safety high-profile across school. Keep your eyes peeled for some of our ideas heading your way over the coming months. We want to thank you for your continued support at home, helping to keep us all safe online.

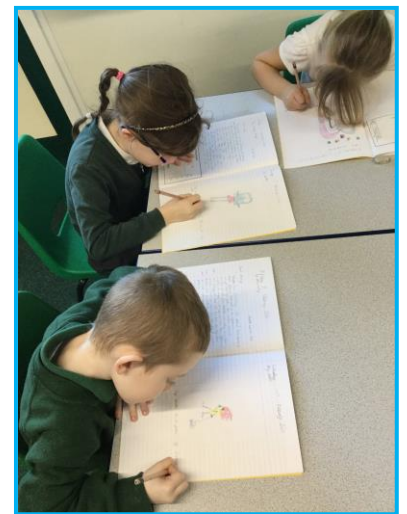


*The Internet Safety Group led a whole school assembly about this year's theme #Freetobeme*

*Over the day, Nursery listened to the story of Smartie the Penguin, our friend who likes to help us stay safe online. They also looked at internet logos to see which they recognised to help them understand what the 'internet' means.*



**#Freetobeme**



*Class 1 designed posters about all the things we use the internet for.*

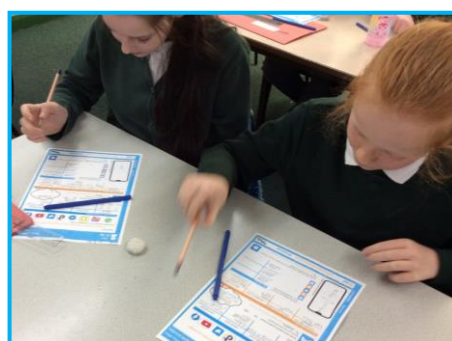
*Class 3 wrote #Freetobeme poetry before learning about their online identity. They also designed posters.*



*Class 2 discussed the theme #Freetobeme, sharing information about how to be safe online and discussing what should never be shared online. They created their own online avatar and then wrote descriptions of their new character friend.*

*Class 4 looked at the theme of 'Free to be ME', exploring the barriers which prevent young people from expressing themselves freely online. They also considered how to make the internet a more inclusive space and reviewed safe practices and good online behaviours.*

**#Freetobeme**





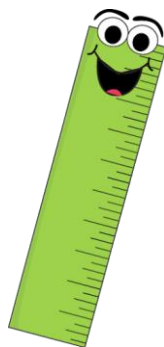
# SCIENCE

## Standing on The Shoulders of Giants Science Week.

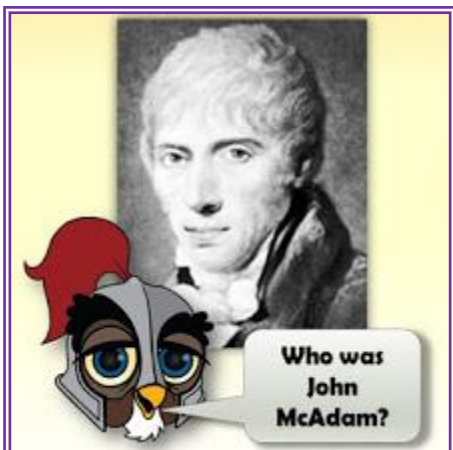
Links between history and science are really valuable for developing scientific understanding and the skills of working scientifically. In January, each class took part in a series of practical investigations based on the scientific work of a historical figure. They were encouraged to generate their own questions to explore and develop their understanding further.



Nursery and Reception looked at how John McAdam built roads.



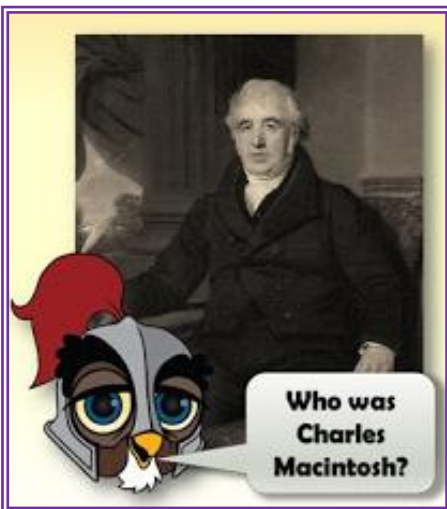
Nursery investigated how cars move on different surfaces.



Class 1 measured how far cars travelled on different surfaces outdoors.

Class 2 explored the work of Charles Macintosh.

Charles Macintosh was a chemist who invented waterproof fabric. Class 2 used a variety of materials to find out which material would be best for a waterproof coat for Mr Grinling.



Class 3 investigated the work of English fossil collector, Mary Anning.

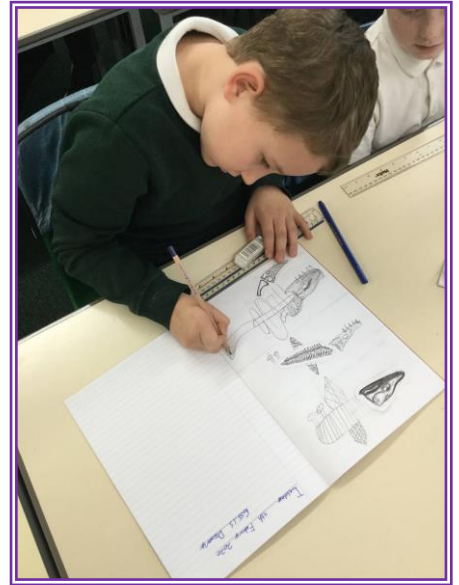


Mary Anning was a fossil collector and palaeontologist who became known for her important fossil finds from the Jurassic period. Notably, she found the first complete Ichthyosaur skeleton, followed by the Plesiosaurus and Pterodactylus.



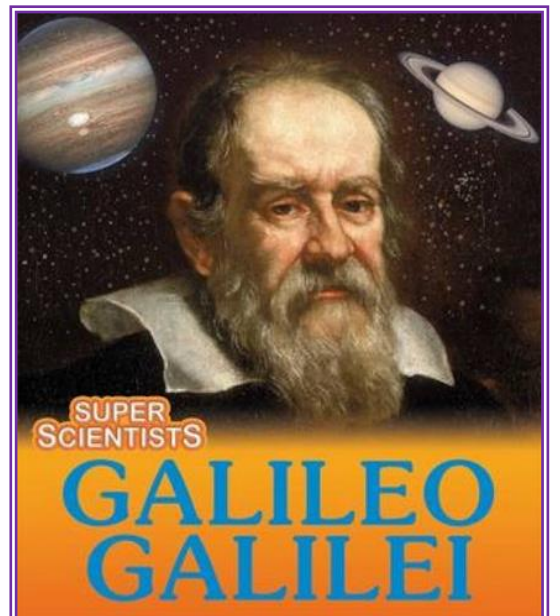
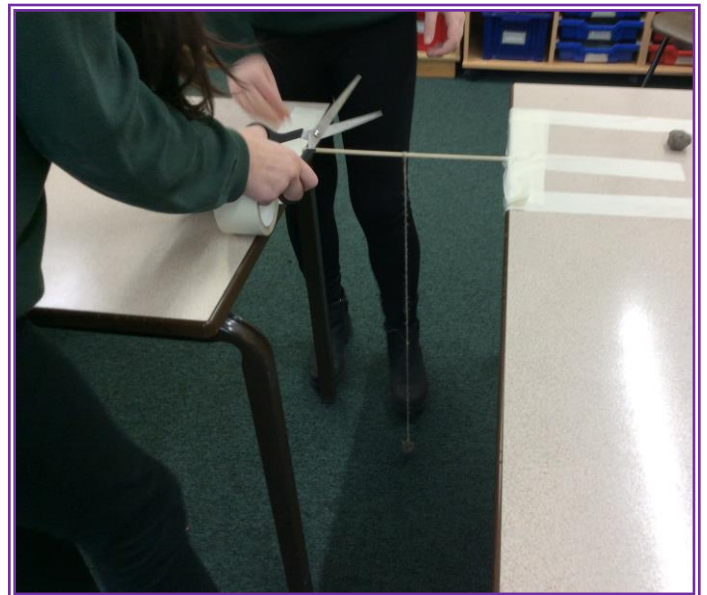


Class 3 discovered and named fossils, and uncovered and inferred information about how creatures may have looked and behaved from their fossils.



Class 4 explored 'the journey of time' through the work of Galileo.

They learned about the development of the pendulum clock and carried out their own investigations, in Galileo's footsteps, to see how the rate of the swing of a pendulum can be altered.



# Reading



Oxford  
Reading  
Buddy

We would like to remind you all that we have invested in an amazing online reading system for children to use at home.

Oxford Reading Buddy is a digital reading service that develops comprehension skills and encourages a love of reading.

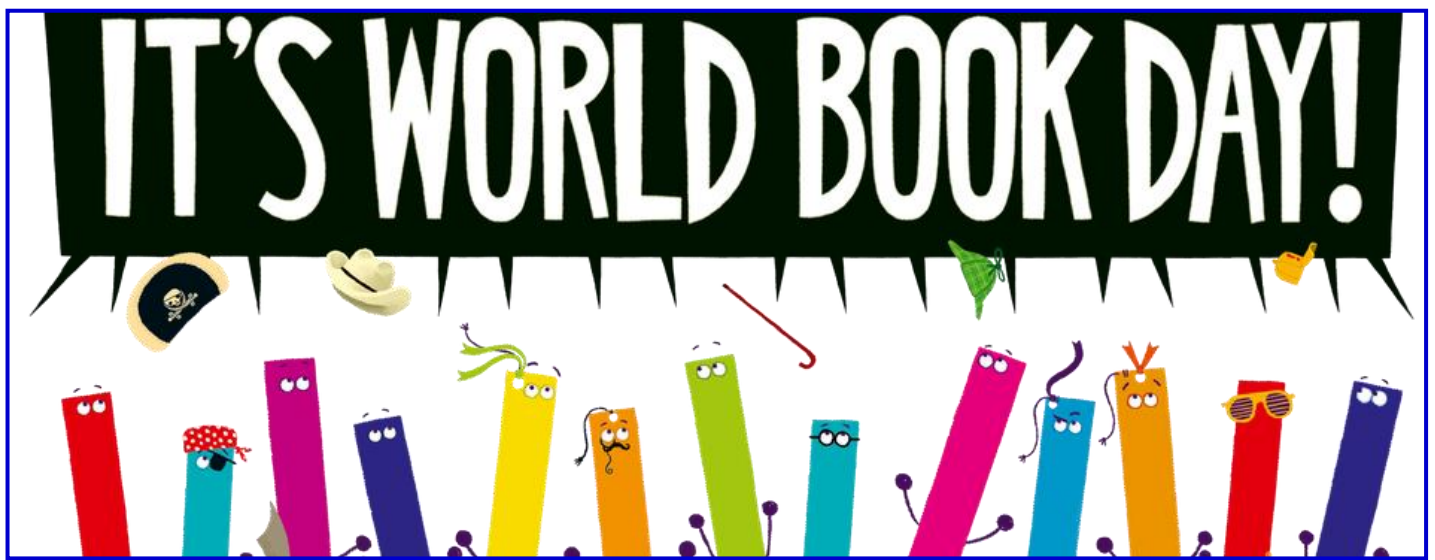
It matches pupils with books at the right level and tracks performance across hundreds of Oxford's print and digital books as they complete comprehension quizzes. All children have their own Reading Buddy to coach comprehension skills and they will earn badges for working well. Every child has their own log in. If you need another copy of the log in, please see your child's class teacher, call the school office or email on [laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net](mailto:laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net)



For more information, please look here:

<https://support.oxfordreadingbuddy.com/parent-support/>





World Book Day is Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020. As this day falls at the end of World Book Week, the School Council thought it would be a great idea to celebrate books and reading across all of World Book Week, leading up to World Book Day. Every day, all children will take part in 'The Big Book Off', completing challenges at school and at home. Here is the list of challenges we will be conquering!

## BIG BOOK OFF ACTIVITIES FOR RECEPTION TO YEAR 6

### CREATE

- » Create a storybox
- » Create a soundscape
- » Create a character model
- » Create a book-based game

### DISCOVER

- » Discover a new place
- » Discover a key author/illustrator
- » Discover places to find books
- » Discover how to share Non-Fiction

### EXPERIENCE

- » Experience the art of storytelling
- » Experience the power of words
- » Experience books at their best
- » Experience the joy of stories



### EXPLORE

- » Explore an illustration
- » Explore a character in depth
- » Explore language in poetry
- » Explore how books are made

### IMAGINE

- » Make a puppet
- » Freeze-frame & role-play a scene
- » Respond to a character's dilemma
- » Create a visual representation

### SHARE

- » Recommended Reads

For the 'share' part of the challenge, you will be invited to come into school to share a story with your child. Why not take this opportunity to pop into our library and register for your own barcode so you can borrow books to share at home regularly?



Your child is welcome to come to school on World Book Day, dressed for a bedtime story in their pyjamas and dressing gown, or as a character from a book.



# SCHOOL LIBRARY

At Laurel Avenue Community Primary, we believe that reading is an important aspect of education. As you may be aware, we officially opened our new library last year. This allows all of our children to sign out books and read them at home for pleasure. Children can take books out every week and are able to keep their choices for up to two weeks before returning them to the library. If a book is not returned, or returned in an unacceptable condition, there will be a charge to replace the book to ensure that we always have books available for children to enjoy.

## WE LOVE READING! Reading

As we believe that reading is something that should be shared, we will be opening the library after school to allow parents/carers to go into the library with their child. Adults will be able to sign up for a barcode of their own, which will allow them to check out books from our library to share at home. The library will be open every Friday from 3.10 – 3.30pm for parents/carers to choose up to two books together to keep for up to two weeks. If you wish to be allocated a parent/carer barcode, please complete and return the form that will be sent home soon.

### Bringing books directly to you!



We're making it easier than ever to help you and your child find books to love! From classic children's collections, gripping new fiction and delicious cook books, along with great gifts and stationery, the Book People Book Bus will bring **over 250 great titles directly to you!**



There will be **15% commission** on all sales, helping school to stock our library and classrooms with free books. In addition, with prices from as **low as £3** and up to **75% off publisher's prices**, you get even more books for your budget.

The bus will be arriving in school on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**.



*We are very pleased to welcome two new members of staff to school this term.*



*Miss Rachel Hindhaugh has started supporting in Class 2 this term.*

*Miss Hindhaugh previously worked in our Nursery so we are really pleased to be able to welcome her back to school.*



*Miss Livvy Mortimer will be supporting in Class 1 after the half term holidays.*

*Miss Mortimer has also previously worked in our Nursery so we are looking forward to her joining our staff team.*

## Marvellous Me



Are you not receiving messages via the free Marvellous Me App? Do you need to be reminded of your code? Please call the school office on 3868416 or email [laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net](mailto:laurelavenue@durhamlearning.net) to receive your code. Additionally people in your family can use this code too if they also want to receive the messages and badges.

# RAINBOW CHALLENGE™

Class I have started their exciting and fun Rainbow Challenge.



The children are encouraged to complete a task in each of the 7 different areas in their classroom. For each task they complete they receive a coloured lolly stick and once they have completed all 7 tasks they receive a certificate in Star Assembly. They start new challenges every 2 weeks.

The rainbow challenge encourages children to be more independent and to develop skills in all areas of the curriculum.

Ask your child all about it.



Those children who finish the seven challenges complete Super Challenges, receiving another certificate and a special rainbow prize in Star Assembly.



# Friends of Laurel Avenue School

We are very excited to be able to tell you about how money raised by the Friends of Laurel Avenue has been spent. We have ordered school lockers for every child in Classes 1 – 4, which will be delivered after half term and hopefully will help to keep jumpers, hats and scarves safe! We have also ordered a giant History Timeline to be displayed on both sides of the porch. Keep an eye out on Facebook for pictures! The porch will also be decorated over the half term holidays. Thank you for the hard work of our Friends of Laurel Avenue School, and all your kind support during school events.

## BREAKFAST CLUB

 GREGGS

*Breakfast Club continues to be a great success.*

*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 huge thank you to all our brilliant Breakfast Club volunteers. You all do an amazing job!*

*Special thanks go to...*

*Helen Blakey, Jessica Cottrell, Ellen Cottrell,  
Claire Linfoot, June Nichol, Tracy Pickering,  
Tracy Salmon and Nichola Watkinson.*



THANK  
YOU!

Children in Nursery and Class 1 have continued to enjoy sessions with our Coach, Ben, from Active 2 Learn.







Have a look  
on our  
Facebook  
page for  
more  
photographs.



They have had a fantastic time participating in the Hop, Skip and Jump programme, developing their fundamental movement skills.



# Gymnastics

*Class 2 had a fantastically active time engaging in different activities such as trampolining, and using the bar and beam. They were even treated to a tumbling display.*





# Boccia



*Leon and Jasmine have been working hard during their playtimes to learn a new sport – boccia. They represented school in a Boccia Festival at Trinity School Durham. Both children were a credit to the school and played some very good moves under pressure on the day. Watch out for a new Boccia Club starting after half-term.*

*Circuits Club has started well this term, running before school every Friday morning. Children work on their strength and endurance, as well as completing their own personal challenges in a fun and friendly environment. It's a great way to start the day!*



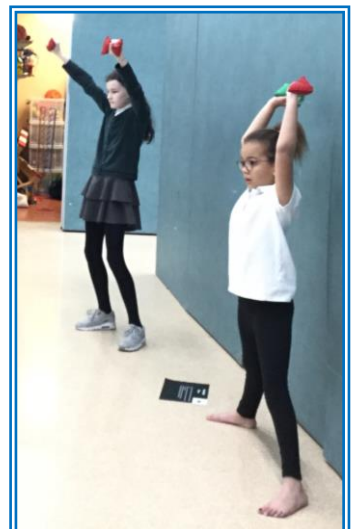
Start each morning  
with a positive thought.



It can change your  
entire day!



*The club is open to any child within Key Stage 2 and there are still places available. If your child is interested in attending, please see Mrs Thompson for more details.*







Jump Start Jonny is a huge favourite with all the children and staff, and his online motivational routines help to promote active bursts throughout the school day.



We now run an after-school club, which is proving very popular. The children enjoy energisers, personal challenges and chill-outs.



WHOOOPA!







We hope that you are remembering to  
**'Once a Week, Take a Peek'**

so we can work together to beat head lice. Please be vigilant and check your child's hair regularly, ideally once every week. The best-known symptom is itching, but not all children will itch at first so don't rely on this.



## Reminder: School is a Nut Free Zone

Please check any food items brought into school, including within packed lunches, to make sure that they are nut free. 'May contain nuts' is acceptable but 'contains peanuts' or 'may contain peanuts' cannot be brought into school.

Please check the ingredients in any birthday cakes before buying them.



Thank you for helping to keep everyone safe.



## Golden Table

Congratulations to the following children for being invited to have their lunch on The Golden Table this term!



Tyler, Ebony, Leah, Luke,  
Ray and Teagan-Leigh



Ella, Bethany, Sophie, Connor,  
Riley and Logan





# Let's get cooking

*Our Let's Get Cooking chefs have been working hard to create some culinary delights again!*



CONGRATULATIONS



*Charlotte,  
Darcie,  
Charlotte,  
Grace,  
Jasmine,  
Lexie, Alex  
and  
Tayven*



# 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:** Oscar, Freddie, Mason, Hollie and Evie-Mae



**Class 1:** Catherine, Tom, Savannah, Tyler and Jaxon R



**Class 2:** Ella, Ben, Leo, Bailey and Bethany

**Class 3:** Sharie, Luke, Kane, Jayden and Mia



**Class 4:** Lee, Jasmine, Cameron, Kai and Betsy



**Ms Davison:** Aliyah, Rosie, Anas, Kayden G and Karam

Whole School Attendance is currently



95.5%



We've continued to have a difficult term for attendance with many absences due to illness, but whole school attendance has risen slightly.

Let's really get our target back on track!

We can administer prescription medicine in school.

If you can't get an appointment after school, please bring your child into school first to get their mark and then return after the appointment. Thank you.





*Well done to all the following who achieved 100% attendance for January 2020*

**Nursery:** Kris, Aiden, Fearne, Rosie, Liam, Hollie, Luke, Presten, Charlie, Joedn, Emily and Jasmine

**Class 1:** Hamoodi, Tyler, Elisha, Madyson, Emma, Tom, Savannah, Shakya, Jaxon R, Tala, Jack and Charlie

**Class 2:** Callum, Logan C, Tristan, Ethan, Rubie, Harrison, Bethany, Finley, Riley, Ben, Julia, Shahid, Bailey, Leo, Lilyan, Karam, Connor and Simon

**Class 3:** Aliyah, Luke, Erin, Leah, Ray, Saliha, Harvey, Daniel, Emily, Samual, Casey, Ebony, Scarlett, Lilly-Su, Tommy Sc, Mohanad, Zak, Summer, Kaiden, Zac, Matty and Matthew

**Class 4:** Kai, Tia, Tyler, Jasmine, Nicole, Darcie, Lee, Ben, Lilly-Mai, Tayven, Charlotte P, Frankie, Anas, Alex, Connor, Lexie and Cameron

Each week, children who achieve 100% attendance have the opportunity to win a stationery prize of their choice.

Congratulations to:

Tommy Swainston, Callum Collins,  
Presten Grundy, Logan Dinsley  
and Tyler Crampton





# *Laurel Avenue Community Centre*

## *Half Term Holiday Club*

*Monday 17th - Friday 21st February, 9.00 am - 3.00 pm.*

*Holiday club is free and includes free lunch.*

*Limited spaces available, please book via Claire Linfoot at the Community Centre office.*

## *Laurel United Youth Groups*

*Senior 11+ years - Mondays and Thursdays 5.00 - 7.00 pm, 50p entry*

*Junior 5-11 years - Tuesdays 4.00 - 5.30 pm, 50p entry*

## *Tea Club*

*Tuesdays 3:15 - 4.00 pm (straight after school), £2.00 per child which includes entry to youth club. Money must be sent into school or Community Centre clearly marked with child's name by no later than Tuesday morning.*

*Any additional spending money for the tuck shop can also be included.*

## *Toddler Group*

*Thursdays 9.00 - 11.00 am. Sessions are for children aged 0 - 5 years.*

*Breakfast and activities are FREE.*

*Credit Union savings club is also held during this time; school children may also bring their savings books into school on Thursdays. To find out how to join please contact school office or Claire at Community Centre office.*

## *LA Rising Stars*

*Tuesdays 6.00 - 7.30 pm, all children welcome. This session is FREE. Activities include cheerleading, drama, musical classes, singing and dancing.*

## *Lunch Club*

*Thursdays 12.00 - 2.00 pm, everyone welcome.*

*£3.00 includes a 2-course hot meal and activities.*



## *Caff Gaff*

*Coffee morning, every Friday between 9.00 - 12.00 pm.*

*FREE - everyone welcome. Come along and meet new friends.*

*The distribution point for Foodbank has now moved to  
Durham Baptist Church, Edge Court, Gilesgate.*

*For further information about referrals or other distribution point  
opening times, please contact Durham Food Bank: 0191 3037559.*

*Tel: 0191-3845427 Mobile: 07825956094*

*Email: Claire-laca@hotmail.co.uk*

# Diary Dates



Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February: Second half term starts

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February, am: Year 2 Multi Sports Festival at Maiden Castle

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February, am: Class 4 - Centre for Life Dino Maths Workshop in School

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March: Book People Book Bus in School all day

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March am: Firefighters' Charity Clothing Collection

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March: World Book Day. Information is in this newsletter and the School Council will send a letter out soon

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March: British Science Week

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March: Sport Relief

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March, am: Class 1 Infant Agility at Framwellgate School Durham

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 3.15 pm: Mothers' Day Tea in School Hall

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 9.30 am: Reception Hearing Tests in School

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 3.30 – 6.00 pm: Parents' Evening for Class 1, 2, 3 & 4

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, am: Class 2 and Class 4 performing in the Dance Festival at Durham Gala

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 9.00 – 12.00 am & 1.00 – 3.00 pm: Nursery Open Day

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March: Year 6 visit Gilesgate allotments for sculpture opening

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April: Non-Uniform day for an Easter chocolate donation please for raffle held during the Easter Assembly

Easter Egg Decorating – Parents/Carers invited into school as follows:

Nursery: All day Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April, in classroom

Class 1: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 2: Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 3: Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Class 4: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March, between 1.30 and 3.00 pm

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 9.15 am: End of Term - Easter Assembly

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April: Summer Term starts



**IMPORTANT**

Year 6 Key Stage 2 SATS: 11<sup>th</sup> May – 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Year 2 Key stage 1 Assessment Period: Month of May 2020

Year 1 Phonics Tests will take place during the week beginning June 8<sup>th</sup> 2020

Year 4 Multiplication-Tables Check will take place within  
the three-week period from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020

