



## Greenhead CE Nursery and Primary School Newsletter

Newsletter No. 4 Autumn Term 2024  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December

West Tyne Federation of Schools

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### A Message from the Head Teacher

I hope this newsletter finds you all well and you are looking forward to the Christmas holidays. It has been a great term at Greenhead Nursery & Primary with fabulous learning in all classrooms, visits near and far and opportunities for our families and specialists in curriculum areas to visit the school.

A letter will be going out in January regarding the Department for Education's renewed guidance and focus on school attendance and a follow-up meeting between all the West Tyne cluster Head Teachers regarding this. Thank you for continuing to support us in achieving good attendance for your children.

We are looking forward to our annual Christmas production at Haydon Bridge High School on Wednesday; we can't wait to show you the acting, singing and dancing skills of our Federation.

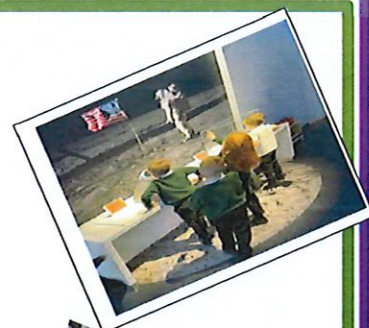
May I take this opportunity to wish all our children, parents and families a very, merry Christmas and a Happy New Year; all the staff at The West Tyne Church Schools Federation hope you have a wonderful Christmas holiday.

Best wishes, Mr Glenton

### A day at the Life Centre

We had a wonderful time at the Life Centre on Friday when Years 1 and 2 travelled to Newcastle to explore the museum and show their skills on the ice skating rink! The children really enjoyed the interactive exhibits on offer and it was a great way to end a fantastic half term.

A huge thank you to the teachers for organising this event and to the parents for their contributions, allowing this visit to happen; without which we would be unable to offer such amazing visits. A great time was had by everyone, with the children asking if we could create an ice skating rink back at school - let's see what the festive weather brings this January and February!





## Class News

### Early Years

In Eden the children have enjoyed reading the traditional tale 'The Gingerbread Man'. We have extended our vocabulary through drawing club, the children now know the meaning and actions for pursue, accelerate, cunning, soggy and disappointed. We followed a recipe and made our very own gingerbread men. The children then wrote their own set of simple instructions using their phonics skills. In maths we have explored shapes with 4 sides describing their properties and sorting them into sets of squares and rectangles. At home ask your child to show you the actions for each of our wonderful new words; pursue, accelerate, cunning, soggy and disappointed.

### Clyde Class

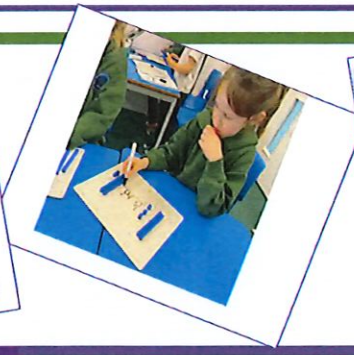
In Clyde class we have been busy practising our nativity play and learning about why Jesus is special to Christians in RE. In maths we have been comparing numbers using base 10 to help us. In English we have been learning to write letters and looking at the features we need to include in letter writing. To help support your child in their learning at home see which 2D and 3D shapes they can find at home. Continue to read with your child and practise their spellings daily.

### Danube Class

Last week in Danube class the children continued to learn and practise their times table facts in maths. We currently have a focus on the times tables and any additional support you can give your child at home with this will be greatly appreciated. We continued to write our Viking non-chronological reports ensuring we made our work eye catching, using subheadings, diagrams and pictures to help explain about who the Vikings were. In RE the children were encouraged to discuss what or who they thought God is, contributing to class discussions. Please continue to support your child at home with their reading, spelling and times tables.

### Mississippi Class

Mississippi class have been incredibly busy at school recently, rehearsing their parts for the Christmas production whilst continuing with their work in class. In English, we have been learning about how to write a balanced argument and have considered the character of Macbeth. We have looked at why he might be considered evil or good, and then making our own minds up. We have recently finished reading *The Tempest*, continuing our Shakespeare journey and are also enjoying our class guided reading book, *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Rauf. In maths, we have had a great start to our multiplication and division topic, learning how to multiply two-digit numbers by two-digit numbers. In science, we continue to learn how to work scientifically and have looked at how water is transported through a flower. Finally, children have been bringing in their fabulous project work using materials.





## 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 - Cooper, Melody and Jack (y1)

Resilience & Teamwork Award - Ruby and Lewis

Etiquette Award - Faith

Environmental Award - Harris

Kindness Award - John Paul and Clyde class

Inclusion Award - Joe

Friendship Award - Katie

Role model Award - Andrew



### Attendance:

Eden - 100%

Clyde - 96.6%

Danube - 96.67%

Mississippi - 98.3%

**Whole School - 97.6%**

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 and we cannot authorise family holidays, except for in the most exceptional of circumstances.

## Swimming for Years 3 to 6

Just a reminder that the children in Years 3 to 6 will be going swimming after the Christmas holidays. Children will require their swimming kits, a towel, swimming cap and goggles on a **Wednesday** from the first week back.

Swimming is a compulsory part of the Key Stage 2 PE National Curriculum. We will continue to subsidise the cost of transport and lessons to ensure that all our pupils benefit from these lessons and are taught this important life skill of staying safe and being able to swim.



### Channel 4 filming at Greenhead Primary

What a fantastic experience for our children to take part in filming for an upcoming documentary for Channel 4. The children very much enjoyed being filmed in and around our school, especially with the arial shots via drone! We will let you know when this footage is being used and when this documentary is aired.

### TA Vacancy at Henshaw Primary School

We are recruiting for a Teaching Assistant at The West Tyne Federation, working with a child 1:1. If you are Level 3 qualified and would like to work with us (9am - 3pm Monday to Friday) we want to hear from you. Please follow the link below to apply or phone Mr Glenton at school. <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/151097/EDV-2024-HCEPS-12367>

### Homework

Wow, is all myself and the teachers can say! It has been amazing the response we have had from our DT homework set this half term by Miss Thompson. As well as creating these games at home with families, the children have shown confidence and ingenuity when describing their inventions and taking questions from their peers. This is what homework should be about; producing something that the children remember and are proud of.



### Christmas Dates for the diary

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Key Stage 2 to HBHS, rehearsal day

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Key Stage 2 to HBHS, Rehearsal and performance at 2:30pm and 4:30pm.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Dinner Day and Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Parties (AM) children can come to school dressed in party clothes but please ensure appropriate footwear and children have a coat.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December -Christingle; St Cuthberts Church at 1.30pm, families welcome to attend

School closes on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December and reopens on TUESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

### A final thought...

The greatest Christmas gift of all is getting to spend time with  
people you love Anon.