



# Greenhead CE Nursery and Primary School

## Newsletter

Newsletter No. 6 Spring Term 2024  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January

West Tyne Federation of Schools

Executive Headteacher - Mr Mike Glenton NPQH, MEd, BSc (Hons)

Assistant Head Teacher - Mrs Sherry Makepeace, BSc (Hons)

Greenhead

Northumberland

CA8 7HB

Tel 016977 47347

### A Message from the Head Teacher

Happy New Year Everybody! We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and are looking forward to the opportunities and excitement that 2024 will bring. The children have come back to school after the Christmas break eager to learn and full of energy, it has been lovely to see them enjoying their new learning focuses within the classroom.

We continue to have many ways for parents to contact and discuss anything they need to with school, via contacting the class teacher (in the first instance) either by email, phone or catching them on the yard/arranging a meeting after school. Please can I ask that if parents need to contact myself, this goes through the office so that emails to the head teacher are not 'lost' and messages can be passed on effectively or meetings arranged.

This half term sees lots of clubs starting up as well as swimming for Year 5 and 6 and educational visits to the Laing Art Gallery and Great North Museum; we know the children love these learning experiences and the opportunity to take their learning outside the classroom. I know there is often a charge for these activities and we really do appreciate you supporting them. The school always do subsidise the cost of these in regards to transport and entrance or activity charges, but we would not be able to offer them without your kind support.

Best wishes, Mr Glenton

### New School Drivers

Those of you with eagle-eyes would have spotted a change to our school drivers last week, when the curriculum grids were sent out by teachers to inform you what your child is learning this half term.

After a collective meeting with teachers across the Federation, we felt that adding 'Legacy and Making a Difference' to the core drive of our curriculum would be an effective way to teach children about role-models who have changed the world in their own way. Already, Year 5.6 have been learning about Katherine Johnson, the mathematician whose calculations sent the first astronauts into space. We feel that including this focus in our curriculum will not only teach children about these important people but will instil in them the idea that they too can make a difference.



## Class News

### Early Years

Eden class have begun investigating day and night. The children thought of some great questions such as 'Does the moon change shape?' and 'Where do the stars go?' We discussed nighttime routines and carried out an experiment to find out the impact of different liquids on our teeth and the importance of regular tooth brushing. We have enjoyed reading the book Whatever Next! The children hot seated the character Baby Bear and asked how, what, how and why questions. In maths we have learnt about capacity. The children have made milkshake and could represent full, nearly full, half full, nearly empty and empty. At home can your child pour themselves a glass of water and then tell you how much is left after they have drunk some?

### Clyde Class

This week Clyde class have been creating an information text about London and we have learnt some interesting facts about Buckingham Palace. In maths we have been exploring 2D and 3D shapes identifying how many edges and vertices the shapes have. To support your child at home, see which shapes they can identify around the house. In Art we have been making our mural artwork by building them up using cardboard. In RE we have been looking at what special objects Jewish people might have within their home.

### Danube Class

In maths this week Year 3 have been learning about the link between multiplication and division. Year 4 have been continuing to multiply 2-digit numbers by 10 and 100. In English we have been continuing to create our own Playscripts based on Roald Dahl's book 'The Witches' which is also our class reader. The children enjoyed working together in groups recreating a world map in Commando Jo's. The maps showed the route the famous journalist Ellie Bly made around the World in 1889. Thank you all for your continued support with the children's reading and times tables at home. Please could you continue to encourage the children to practise their spellings on Edshed to reinforce their learning.

### Mississippi Class

Mississippi class have been writing nonets in English this week - they produced some amazing pieces of work and are looking forward to performing them to the class next week. In maths, year 6 have been working on ratio and year 5 have been using short division. We are enjoying our new science unit 'Earth and Space' and have already had lots of good discussions about our solar system and the planets in it. Please make sure your child is accessing Spelling Shed weekly.



## 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 - Paige**

**Resilience & Teamwork Award - Jessica J**

**Etiquette Award - Hannah**

**Environmental Award - Layla**

**Kindness Award - Oscar Thomas**

**Inclusion Award - Jasper**

**Friendship Award - Ruby**

**Role model Award - Gracie**



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

Eden - 96%

Clyde - 96.4%

Danube - 100%

Mississippi - 97.8%

**Whole School - 97.5%**

**Our school target for attendance is 96%**

## Reading Buddies at Greenhead Primary School

On Monday, we will be starting up our Reading Buddies provision at the school. Every fortnight, children from across the school will buddy up with a child from another class to share a story, discuss the book they are reading and work on descriptive writing with their partner.

This was a very effective way of sharing a love of reading throughout our school and a great way for children to make friends with children from other classes. Look out for pictures on Facebook and our next newsletter!

### The Great Garden Birdwatch

We are incredibly fortunate to have Mrs Hosking at our school, who is a real advocate for the environment and outdoor learning. As part of her role as eco-council lead, she has organised for the whole school to take part in the national campaign 'The Great Garden Birdwatch'. This will happen next Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> January, where all children will be invited to spot our local birds as they explore our vast Wildlife Area at the back of school.

Please can you ensure that your child has wellies in school for this day and beyond so we can continue to use this area at lunchtimes but still keep the school clean!

### Slippers

On the subject of footwear, can all children please have a pair of slippers in school to keep their feet warm and toasty in the classroom.

Slippers which have a base on are the best as this will ensure children do not get wet feet in the event of a fire drill or emergency where we may need to leave classrooms.

### Dates for the Diary

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January** - Year 3/4 visit to the Great North Museum, Newcastle

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January** - Gill Booth, Diocese Director for Education, visiting the school

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January** - The Big Garden Bird Watch

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January** - Year 5/6 visit Laing Gallery as part of their Cultural Capital project

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February** - Fly tying workshop from the angling society for Year 5/6

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February** - Year 3/4 at HBHS for STEM workshop

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February** - Art afternoon - Day of the dot

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February** - Year 5/6 visit Laing Gallery as part of their Cultural Capital project

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February** - Workshop Wednesday - All parents welcome into school to share in their child's learning 2pm - 3pm

- **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February** - Half Term week

- **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February** - Teacher training day

Year 5 and 6 will continue to attend swimming lessons on a Monday until the Easter holidays.

### A final thought...

It's easy to judge. It's more difficult to understand. Through judging we separate, through understanding, we grow.

Doe Zantamata