



# Ellington Primary School



News Bulletin #16

**10th June 2022**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a great half term and the children had a well-deserved break. We have another busy half term ahead with lots happening in school. As events approach, we will send more detailed information home.

## Queen's Platinum Jubilee Family Picnic

It was fantastic to see so many families enjoying the Jubilee picnic together on the school field on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Although it was a little windy, it remained dry and the ice cream van went down a treat - despite turning up an hour late! A huge thank you to all who brought in treats for the children. With thanks to your generosity, we were able to make a donation to a local foodbank with the treats left over.



## Summer Fair - July 9<sup>th</sup>

Our Summer Fair is taking place on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July between 11am and 2pm. Some members of the PTA met last night to organise the fair and we have lots of exciting activities planned. However, we are desperately short on numbers for the PTA and without volunteers we cannot have all of the activities planned. If you can spare a few hours on the day, please let the school know. All profits from the Summer Fair are going directly back into school for the children. The current project in school is redeveloping our Early Years which needs updating inside and outside.



## Wheels to School

Wheels to school will be continuing for the remainder of the academic year:

Monday - Early Years (Nursery/Reception)

Tuesday - Key Stage One (Years 1 and 2)

Wednesday - Lower Key Stage Two (Years 3 and 4)

Thursday - Year 5

Friday - Year 6



**Please note, children should not cycle or scoot when entering school on a morning or leaving at home time. There are too many adults and children around and there have been some accidents occurring.**

Next week, Reception are running their Sparkling Scooters Enterprise where they will be cleaning scooters for £1!

## Fiver Challenge

This week and next week, the children are taking part in the 'Fiver Challenge'. The challenge is a national enterprise programme for young people, aged 5-11, supporting the development of core enterprise and financial educational skills.

### How the Fiver Challenge supports the Curriculum in England

The PSHE1 Association identifies that in the primary age range, pupils should have the opportunity to learn:

- What is meant by enterprise and developing 'enterprising' skills
- About the role money plays in their own and others' lives (including how to manage their money) and about being a critical consumer
- To develop an initial understanding of the concepts of 'interest', 'loan', 'debt' and 'tax' (e.g. their contribution to society through payment of VAT)

How resources can be allocated in different ways and how these economic choices affect individuals, communities and the sustainability of the environment

## Sun Cream

Please remember that sunscreen should be applied before the children come into school. Children can also bring sunscreen with them into school but this can only be applied by the children. Children should wear hats/caps at break times and can we also ask that children still bring a jacket to school with them as the weather can be unpredictable and change very quickly!

Best Wishes,

Mr Hodgson  
Headteacher

# Class News!

## Nursery

It has been lovely to see all of the children back in school after half term. They have come into our classroom ready to learn and have been trying hard with all of their work this week. We have had a fantastic week starting our brand new topic all about 'Growing'. We began our topic with a mystery bag full of clues about our story. The children managed to guess correctly before all of the clues were out of the bag, we were reading the traditional tale 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Once we had read the story we pretended we were Jack and we were in the story. The children discussed how Jack would be feeling at different points in the story. They had some wonderful ideas and gave some super reasons for their answers. We have also talked about and drawn pictures of our favourite part of the story. Some children used a word mat to write what their picture was showing, and others had some help from an adult to do a little bit of writing, how amazing!



In our maths work, we have been counting and colouring magic beans as well as finishing patterns using the magic beans.

In our arts and crafts area the children have used our junk modelling materials to create their own beanstalks, toilet roll tubes were a very popular choice of material. We then decided to work as a team to build a beanstalk using our bricks in the construction area, it was nearly touching the ceiling by the time we had finished.

## Nursery Continued.

Some of our class spotted the babies in the home corner were in need of a clean so we changed the water tray into a baby bath. The children washed the babies very gently with the soap and water, we even made some shampoo to help clean their hair.



The children had a brilliant time having a go at some messy play this week when we got the shaving foam out. The children enjoyed writing their names, drawing and practising their shapes in the foam. We had a lot of fun and didn't get too messy in the process!



## Reception

Our final week of last half term was very busy and exciting. We started the week off by learning about road safety and how to stay safe outside. We had an assembly from Carol Watson who co-ordinates road safety across all Northumberland schools. After the assembly, we did lots of different road safety projects in Reception, including designing posters and playing different games outside using the road signs. We know that when we cross a road we have to stop, look, listen and think. Carol returned to school later in the week and she was very impressed with the work that we did in Reception.



We had a fantastic time celebrating the Queen's Jubilee. In Reception, the children completed lots of different activities including making crowns, flags and a portrait of the Queen. We also found out many facts about the Queen as well as learning about London. Thank you to all of the families that joined us at school for the Queen's Jubilee picnic. We had a fantastic afternoon!



## Year 1

Year One have been busy doing lots of phonic activities. We have worked extremely hard and everyone has done their very best.

In English lessons, we have started our new book the Secret of Black Rock'.

We are writing the story setting using time connectives to help set the scene.

Here are some examples.

"As the sun moved across the sky, the chilly fog drifted around the boat." Finley.

"As the sun moved more and more across the sky a salty fog crept in." Ollie.

"Before dusk the big thick fog rolled into the boat. As the day started to draw in that was when the fog crept into the boat." James.

"Before dusk the big black fog crept in! It came silently all around the boat and all over the boat." Logan

In Mathematics, the children have been finding out about fractions. We started by looking at halving objects and the children worked hard to find examples.

We enjoyed the activities about Road Safety and worked hard to learn the song and actions. We designed bright clothing pictures to show about keeping safe when riding our bikes and scooters.

We really enjoyed the Jubilee activities and had a super picnic.

Next week we will be making bird food and selling our bird boxes as part of the Make Five Pound Grow project. Look out for posters advertising this.



## Year 2

In English, we started our new class novel: *The Bear and The Piano* by David Litchfield. The amazing picture book is about a young bear that stumbles upon something he has never seen before in the forest. As time passes, he teaches himself how to play the strange instrument, which then leads him to the big bright city... We are really enjoying the book so far. This week we have focused on the grammar used in the book such as adverbials, expanded noun phrases and prepositions. Year 2 have worked hard to write a description of the bears adventures using expanded noun phrases.

In maths, year 2 have been working on solving one step and two step word problems. We have used a range of manipulatives to help us do this, they have loved the practical lessons. We have also been working on our mental arithmetic and everyone is working hard on their times table recall. It would be great if you could continue to encourage all children to practise their x tables on TT Rockstars.

Leading up to half term, Year 2 worked extremely hard complete their SATS (our special jobs!). They worked **EXTREMELY** hard and their positive attitude and resilience was wonderful to see. Well done Year 2.

Year 2 also had a wonderful time celebrating the queen's jubilee and making a range of crafts to decorate our classroom and the school.



During our afternoon lessons, we are continuing to learn more about 'Magnificent Monarchs'. We have enjoyed learning about past monarchs. We are looking forward to our upcoming trip to Alwick Castle where we will have a guided tour of the grounds and have a workshop designed specifically for us to help us learn more about monarchs!

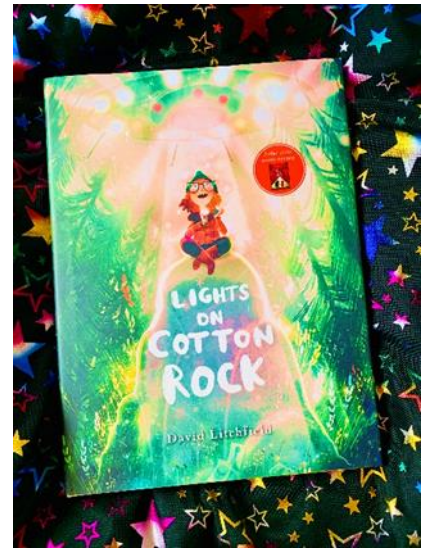
In science, we are continuing to learn about animals and habitats. We visited the wildlife garden where we explore various microhabitats and collected data on the animals found there. Back in class, we represented the data using tally charts and a bar graph.

## Year 3

Welcome back Year 3!

I hope you all had an enjoyable half-term break. It has been great to see all of your smiling faces again this week, ready to learn!

We had a fun week exploring our new text, 'Lights on Cotton Rock' by David Litchfield. We used the tablets to visit the author's website, reading the synopsis of the story and even exploring his fabulous picture book illustrations!



The children have really impressed me with their creative writing skills this week; using a range of similes and metaphors to describe the first scene of our story when Heather is gazing up at the moonlight.



**'The stars looked like rainbow fish, swimming across the sky.'**

In maths this week, we have started a new topic about turns and angles. We all got up and moving to demonstrate making quarter, half, three-quarter and full turns. Year 3 did a great job of using mathematical vocabulary to describe and recognise turns.

### The Queen's Jubilee Picnic

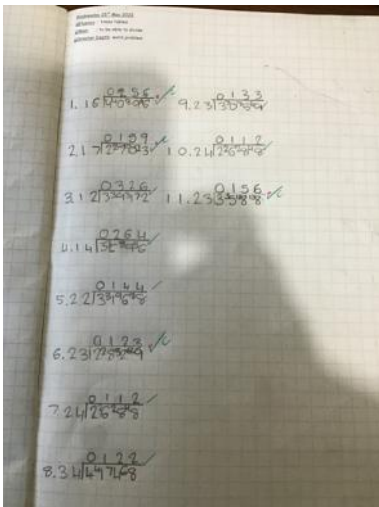
Thank you to everyone who came to our Jubilee Picnic and made it a fun filled family afternoon. We hope you all enjoyed it! Year 3 enjoyed making flags, bracelets and posters using a collage of Jubilee themed pictures for the picnic.





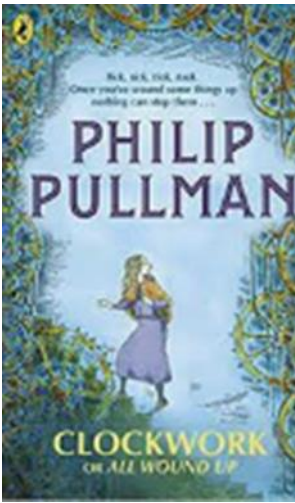
## Year 4

We rounded off last half term with some fabulous play script writing and acting! We based our final piece on a silent video clip called, 'Dreamgiver', so in the acting we had children cracking eggs on each other to bring their dreams alive - lots of giggling! We have kick started our final half term in Year 4 (L) with a fabulous new book called 'Wonder' that was written by RJ Palacio; you may have watched the film. A heart-wrenching story of friendships and prejudices. We will be consolidating a range of literary concepts over the next few weeks so that we can incorporate them into our own writing dealing with these issues. In maths, we looked at long division and I have to say the children were absolutely fantastic; I'm putting this down to their immense knowledge of their times tables. This week, we are honing our skills of recognizing different angles and measuring with accuracy. In science, we wrote classification keys and this Friday, we are all looking forward to going out to measure trees! We had a visit from a road safety representative and after a very informative talk, we made road safety posters and fluorescent tags to attach to our bags for the dark nights that will not doubt soon be here! In D&T, we continue with our simple machines learning so we made our pulleys. We had some very simple but effective pulley systems to some well thought out designs. Swimming continues to be a firm favourite each week and the progress the children have made is exceptional; four more sessions to go. We rounded off last half term with the family picnic where we all enjoyed a lovely, relaxing afternoon on the school field. During this half term, we have our times table test and I feel extremely confident that the children will do brilliantly, and the buzz in the classroom at the moment is that we are going on a residential very soon - we are all super excited!

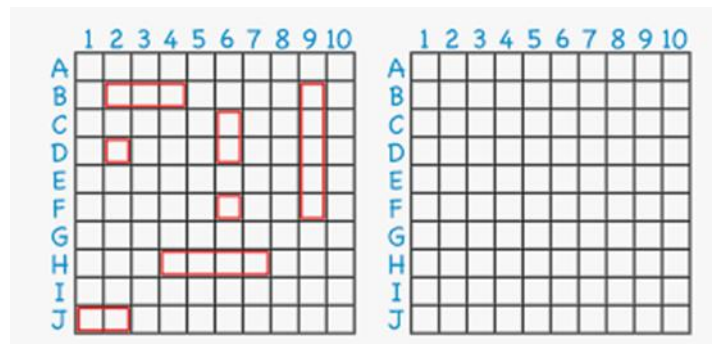


## Year 5

This week, year 5 have begun studying a new novel 'Clockwork' by Philip Pullman. We have written postcards and researched the country of Germany, where the story is set.



In maths, the children have had a great time this week, playing Battleships as part of our work on co-ordinates. This encourages the children to become more fluent in their plotting and reading of co-ordinates, and they don't even know that they're doing maths!



Finally, we have been very busy and excited about our Youth Enterprise challenge. We have been designing and advertising our product and service, and hope that you enjoy Tuesday's soaking as much as we will!



## Year 6

Year six had a really enjoyable end to last half term, as we got ready for our jubilee picnic. We did a maths project that week all about baking, where we looked at a cupcake recipe, scaled it up, compared prices from different shops to work out the best products to use, designed packaging by creating 3D shapes from nets, and finally on Thursday and Friday, we were able to bake the cupcakes and ice them. As you can see from the pictures, we went for a jubilee colour scheme to tie in with the picnic and some of the decorations were so creative and professional looking!



We also enjoyed creating pieces of jubilee art for the celebrations which we hope you spotted on the way into the picnic! Anya did a lovely portrait of the queen, there was a big 70 collage, as well as fabric bunting and some very effective artwork using the Queen's silhouette.

It was so lovely to see lots of families joining in with the picnic on the last day of the half term, and many of the year sixes had a lovely time playing with and helping out the younger siblings who came along.



Since starting back after the half term break, in maths we have started a unit of work on statistics and this week we have been reading, interpreting and drawing line graphs.

In English, we finished off a project just before the half term break using the short film 'Alma'. We have just started work on a new text, Cogheart. We have been doing a lot of work using the front cover of the book, talking about what we can infer from looking at it closely.

Afternoons this week have been spent gathering ideas and making plans for our 'fiver challenge', where we are employing our best entrepreneurial skills to come up with ways to make a profit and raise some money for the class. We have been thinking carefully about how to invest the money that we have been given to spend, and how to resource the ideas that we have had. We hope that you have already seen some of the marketing materials that we have produced and that you will enjoy seeing the results of all this hard work next week!

## Diary Dates

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>
Year 6 Residential Meeting	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> June—5pm
Year 2 Alnwick Castle Trip	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June
Year 4 Residential	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June
Year 1 Northumberland Zoo Trip	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> June
Sports Week	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> June - Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July
Year 6 Residential	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> July - Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> July
Move Up Morning	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July
Summer Fair (11am - 2pm)	Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> July
Sports Day*	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> July
End of Year Reports	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> July
Year 6 Leavers Assembly	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July
Break up for summer	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July

\*EYFS will have their sports day in the morning, Years 1 to 6 will have their sports day from 1pm.