



# Ellington Primary School



News Bulletin #11

@Ellingtontweets

**4th March 2022**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a fantastic half term and a well-deserved rest! It is hard to believe we are now in March and more than half way through the academic year. As you will be aware, most Covid-19 restrictions in schools have now been lifted and we are moving back to 'normal'. This will allow us to go ahead with many more events including more trips for the children and more opportunities for parents/carers to come into school.

We have a busy month ahead with lots of events happening. We will use ClassDojo and send regular letters home to keep you informed with exact details but all dates are in this news bulletin.



## Thank you!

Thank you to the parents and grandparents who came into school onto Saturday January 19<sup>th</sup> to paint the library and parts of the main school. It makes a huge difference. We will be holding more painting days in school and all help is appreciated.

## Mental Health

The 'Be You' Team are coming to Northumberland from 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> March. Northumberland was chosen as one of twelve trailblazer sites to pilot a programme funded by the Department for Education and NHS England to help improve children and young people's mental health and well-being. All of the content and resources are available at <https://padlet.com/nies1/AshingtonBedlingtonBEYOU>



## Swimming

Our Year 4 children were so excited to start their swimming lessons this week - they had a great time!

## Seven Stories

Year 2 are visiting Seven Stories next Tuesday March 8<sup>th</sup>, as part of World Book Month. Seven Stories is a fantastic venue for all children to visit, filled with books and linked activities. The children will have their own workshop and also have time to explore the seven stories of the building!

## Residential Trips

In the summer term, both our Year 4 and Year 6 classes have the opportunity to go on residential trips. Year 4 are going to Whithaugh Park in the Scottish Borders and Year 6 are going to the revamped Ford Castle in sunny Northumberland. I am sure they have a sensational time!



## World Book MONTH!

Our World Book Month has got off to a great start this week! We have had the author Dan Smith in school delivering a workshop to our Year 5 and 6 children. The children from Nursery to Reception had the opportunity to meet (virtually - unfortunately) with the author Catherine Emmett.

The winners of this week's bookmark competition will be announced in assembly today and also be posted on ClassDojo.

These children can choose any book they wish and we will buy this for them.

Next week's competition is 'BookFace' and Miss Willcock is posting the details for this on ClassDojo.

## The Sword in the Stone

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March, we have a travelling production company coming into school to perform The Sword and the Stone. They will deliver a workshop to all of the children before selecting up to ten children to then take part in the interactive performance.

## Children's Cancer Run!

Ellington Primary School has registered to take part in the 39<sup>th</sup> Children's Cancer Run on Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup>. It would be fantastic to see lots of children and families taking part in the event. It is easy to register online by visiting [www.childrenscancerrun.co.uk](http://www.childrenscancerrun.co.uk)

Best Wishes,

Mr Hodgson  
Headteacher



# Class News!

## Nursery

It was lovely to see the children back in school after our holiday and hear about all of the exciting things they got up to. They have definitely come back refreshed and ready to go! We have had such a busy start to this half term. We have celebrated Shrove Tuesday by enjoying some delicious pancakes where the children had a choice of topping from lemon and sugar, maple syrup or chocolate sauce. While chocolate pancakes were the clear favourite the children had a really good go at trying the lemon but we decided it was too sour for us!



We have also celebrated World Book Day by making our own bookmarks, drawing pictures of ourselves in our costumes and sharing lots of stories. We even had a fashion show so our friends could see our beautiful costumes! There are pictures of our day on the school website.



## Nursery Continued.

We have also started our brand new topic, Puddles and Rainbows. We explored our school grounds on our welly walk where looking for signs of spring. We found some daisies on the school field, some daffodils and crocuses in the planters in our yard and some new leaves growing on the trees in the wild life garden. We also talked about the weather and how there can be lots of different weathers in spring time. Unfortunately, we have mostly seen rain so far but we can't wait to see the sunshine a little more! I would like to set the children a weather diary challenge for next week, please check Class Dojo for more details. Unfortunately, we have mostly seen rain so far but we can't wait to see the sunshine a little more! I would like to set the children a weather diary challenge for next week, please check Class Dojo for more details.



In maths we have been adding 2 numbers to help us find a total. The children were super good at counting on to find a total and were even challenged to work out how many more we would need to get to 10! We have continued our work on 'fast fingers' too, this week we discovered if we hold our fingers like Spiderman we will be showing 6 fingers!

# Reception

Our final week of last half term we finished off our 'Amazing Animals' topic. We looked at a picture of a dinosaur landscape and then talked and wrote about what we could see. We also did a step by step drawing of a dinosaur. We are fantastic artists in Reception.



In literacy this week we have been talking about the exciting things that we have been doing in the school holidays. We then drew a picture and wrote about our adventures. Miss Robinson is super impressed with the fantastic writing from Reception.

In maths we have been representing, sorting and ordering numbers to 10.



On Tuesday we celebrated Pancake Day. We decided which topping we would like on our pancake. The most popular topping was golden syrup. The pancakes were delicious...mmmmm!



On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day. We made our own personalised bookmark, did a self-portrait of ourselves in our World Book Day costume, shared some of our favourite stories, did a guess the story quiz and had some delicious sweet treats.



## Year 1

Year One have had a very busy time. In English lessons they have been exploring the book corner and were surprised to find some wanted posters and paw prints all over the area. The children worked out that a wolf was wanted by Little Red. We made a character description tool kit so that next week we can write our very best piece of writing about Little Red.

In R.E we listened very carefully to information about Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday and Lent. The children thought about some of the things that they would give up for Lent. They listened to the story of Jesus in the desert and watched a power point of the story. The best part was finding out about Shrove Tuesday and we all had some tasty pancakes to eat.



In Mathematics we have been finding out about weight and mass. We have been learning the language linked to this and have all used the balance scales to solve problems. We have measured mass, compared mass and solved reasoning and problem solving questions linked to our topic.



In History we have been very interested in finding out about The Great Fire of London. We took part in guided reading sessions to find out information about the event. The children listened very carefully and were really keen to ask and answer questions about the topic.



In Music the children were very good at finding the beat and the pulse. We had good fun learning to sing "If you are happy and you know it" in time to the beat.

We have made some excellent drawings of London landmarks. The children found the statue in memory of the great fire.

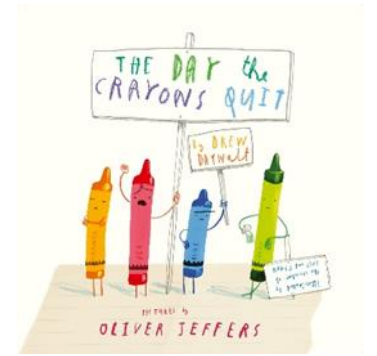
We all really enjoyed dressing up as our favourite book character for World Book Day. The whole class all took part and looked amazing. Thank you for your fantastic support with the costumes.

# Year 1 Continued.



## Year 2

The crayons have arrived! We have begun reading our new class book: *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt. Year 2 are familiar with the book and were so excited to find out it was our new class text. Year 2 have been working hard to identify and use apostrophes to contract. We loved using Lego, and Duplo to build contraction city!



Year 2 have been working hard in maths learning about 2D and 3D shapes. They also enjoyed using their previous learning of Tally charts in these lessons. Year 2 particularly loved making 3d shaped using straws and marshmallows!

We are having so much fun in our afternoon lessons. Year 2 have loved taking part in scientific investigations to find out the best material for a range of objects such as a bag and umbrella. We've also loved learning about recycling and sustainability. We can't wait to start learning more about our new science topic- Plants! We are continuing with our topic: the coastline and this week we have been using our map skills to locate lifeboat stations around the UK.

### WORLD BOOK DAY

Finally, how could we forget World Book Day?! The children looked amazing and had so much fun dressed as their favourite book character. It's wonderful to see how engaged and enthused Year 2 children are with their reading, I love that they are bringing books in from home to share with me.





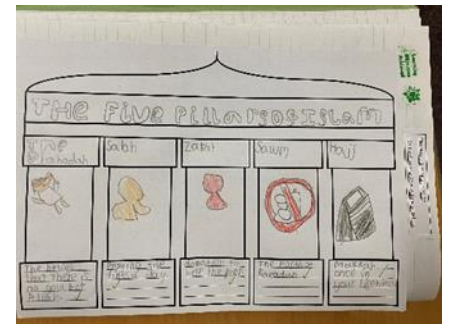
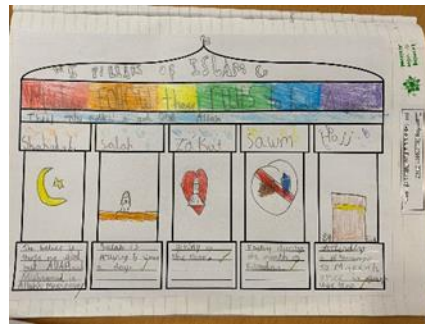
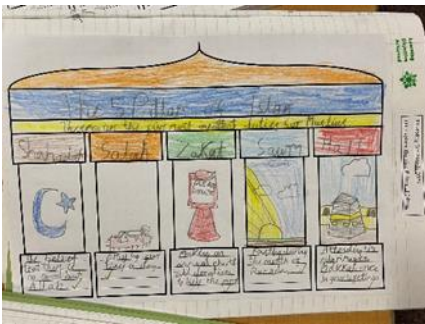
## Year 3

Year 3 have had another brilliant week.

In English, we have been exploring our new class text - **The True Story of the Three Little Pigs**. We have been producing some excellent writing using our knowledge of adjectives and adverbs to help us describe parts of the story and compare traditional vs non-traditional characters.

In maths, we have been learning how to draw, measure and compare lengths using cm, mm and m. I have been so impressed with Year 3's ability to convert between different units of measure (using their knowledge of multiplying and dividing!), helping them to solve more challenging problems. Well done you lot!

In RE, we have started our new topic for the term - all about Islam. This week, we learnt all about the 5 Pillars of Islam and why they are important for Muslims. Year 3 presented this work beautifully in their books, using illustrations to demonstrate their understanding of each pillar.



## WORLD BOOK DAY PHOTO GALLERY

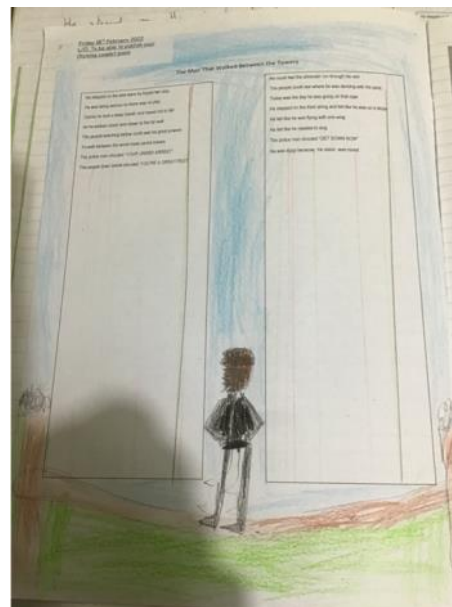
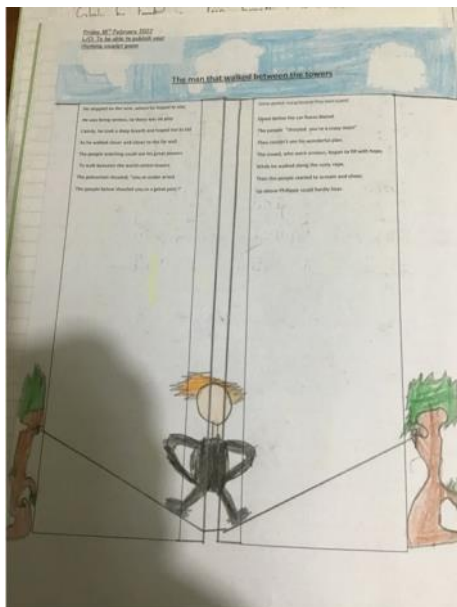
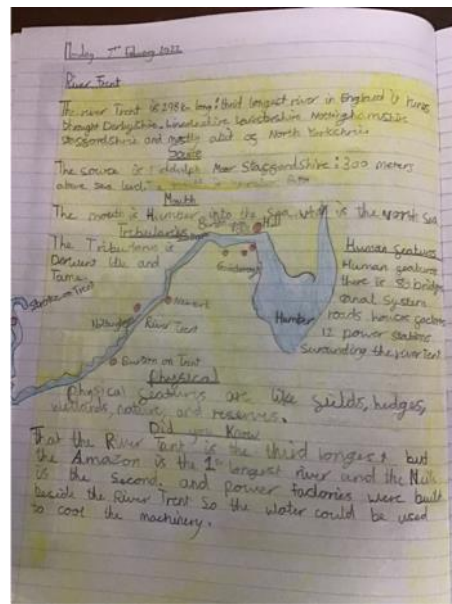
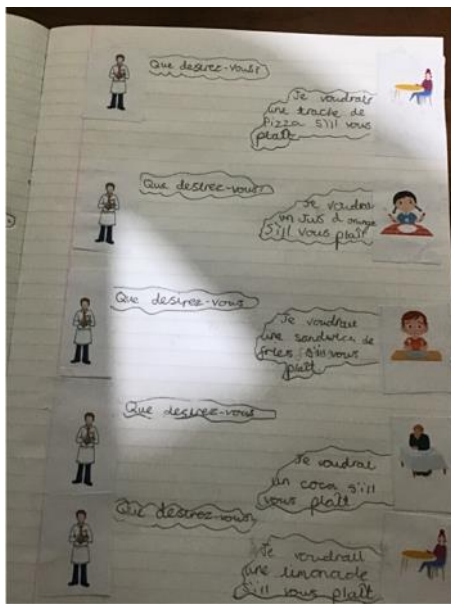


Year 3 all looked FANTASTIC in their creative costumes for WBD! As well as dressing up, we enjoyed some class reading to celebrate our love of books. We even got to take part in a live author workshop on Friday with a special (virtual) visitor - much fun!



# Year 4

Our final week of last half term had us putting the finishing touches to our fabulous non-chronological reports on exotic fruits. I was able to lay my hand on some persimmon and lychees; persimmon went down well with most of the children but lychees got a resounding YUK from most of them! ☹️ The display looks absolutely amazing as you will no doubt agree from the photo I sent on Dojo. We had a flurry of poetry writing in the final few days which we based on the story of Philippe Petit who walked between the World Trade Centre Towers on a tight rope - eek! As you will see from the photos below, their published pieces were completed on the computers and they then drew the image of Philippe that was in the book that we read. In maths, we beavered away to convert fractions to decimals and percentages; the children did this brilliantly. I was super proud of them. In RE, we learnt all about Holy Week and Easter (I know it is a bit early but it rounded off our topic on Christianity). We had great fun trying different foods from the Seder Plate; I was astonished at how many of them would eat horseradish sauce and we made some simple palm crosses using paper! In our fabulous Misty Mountain topic, we learnt facts about the River Trent and sharpened our knowledge on key vocabulary such as tributaries, the source and the mouth to name a few. Sadly, we had our final session with Bear but I am happy to say that rugby will continue in the afterschool club where I will be putting them through their paces.



## Year 4 Continued.

Our first week back has seen us starting a fabulous new book called Varjak Paw. He's a Mesopotamian Blue but with amber eyes unlike all of his family that have green eyes. He's the family outcast but we know that he is going to be the hero of the story and defeat the mysterious man in black that has entered their home. We have been writing some fabulous descriptive writing full of emotive and figurative language. I can't wait until to finish reading and honing our literary skills to be able to write our own cat hero story! In maths we have been consolidating our knowledge on am, pm and elapsed time; soon everyone in the class will be able to tell me when it is home time! In French, we have been writing simple sentences asking for particular foods and in science we planned and then carried out an experiment on melting ice - water everywhere! As you will be aware, the great excitement of the week was swimming. You would think we had got on a bus and travelled to Mauritius with the squeals of delight! They all plunged into what looked like freezing water from the facial expressions, so that they could be assessed by the instructors. I look forward to seeing them master their swimming strokes over the next few months.



## Year 5

The children have settled back in well after the half term holiday and seem to have taken all the staff changes in their stride.

In maths we have been looking at subtracting fractions. In English we have started to read the book, 'The Nowhere Emporium' by Ross McKenzie. We finished 'Kensuke's Kingdom' before the holidays, and the children seem to have enjoyed it.

The children very much enjoyed the visit from the author, Dan Smith, on Tuesday. They listened carefully as he talked about how he retreated into books as a child to escape from his misery at boarding school, and how this influenced him in later life to become an author.

In science we have moved on to a new topic - Human Reproduction and Ageing. We began by exploring a lot of the vocabulary relating to the topic, so don't be thrown if you hear your child talking about foetuses, adolescence, embryos and puberty.

In RE we are now studying Islam and began the topic by looking at the five pillars of Islam. In PE the children have been practising their football skills with Mr Robertson.

In our geography topic we are continuing our study of farming. This week we have been looking at how the varying climates in North and South America influence the types of farming that are to be found there.

World Book Day was great fun. Thank you to all the parents who got their children dressed up as characters from books. We had an exciting range of characters in the class that day.



## Year 6

We have had a very busy and enjoyable first week back after the half term holiday! We enjoyed eating delicious pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and had lots of fun dressing up to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday!



In maths, we have continued to build our knowledge with algebra. In particular, we have been learning about solving equations and finding pairs of values.

In English, we have started a unit of work on narrative poems. Our main text for this work is 'The Highway Man' by Alfred Noyes. We were also very fortunate to have a visit from an author this week. Dan Smith gave us a very interesting talk and signed some books and postcards for us.

## Year 6 Continued.



In geography, we are continuing with our topic on Frozen Kingdoms. This week, we have been learning about the indigenous peoples of the Arctic. We used the I-pads to research different groups of people to find out about their lifestyles and traditions.

Our science work this term is also linked to the Frozen Kingdom topic where we will be exploring polar flora and fauna. This week we have started by reminding ourselves about how to classify animals.

In PE we have started working on our football skills.

## Diary Dates

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>
The Sword in the Stone Performance	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March
Red Nose Day	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March
Parents Afternoon	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March
Easter Egg Hunt (EYFS)	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April
Break up for Easter Holidays	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April
Return to school	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April
KS2 (Year 6) SATS	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> May
Queen's Platinum Jubilee Family Picnic	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May
Break up for May half term	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May
School Closed - Additional Bank Holiday due to Queen's Jubilee falling during half term	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June
Return to school	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June
Year 4 Multiplication Tests	WB Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June
Year 4 Residential	Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Friday 24 <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
Summer Fair	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