

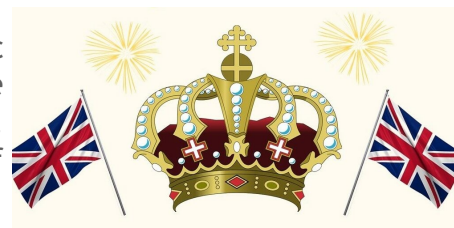


Ellington Primary News

Believe and Achieve

Dear Parents/Carers,

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our Coronation Picnic which was planned for today due to the weather. We are now holding a family picnic on Friday 26th May at 2pm. We hope this will be a special occasion to end the half term and that the sun will be shining!



SATs

**DON'T
PANIC
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PANIC**

Next week, our Year 6 children will be completing their SATs. They have worked extremely hard in recent months and we know that they will all try their best, which is all we ask.

We will be providing breakfast (toast, juice, breakfast bars, pastries) for any Year 6 children who want to arrive at school early next week. We will be opening the Year 5/6 doors from 8.15am for children who would like a breakfast. Children wishing to have some breakfast in school need to arrive before 8.30am.

We would like all Year 6 children to arrive in school by 8.30am. Siblings of Year 6 children can also come into school at 8.30am.

Football Team

Our football team finished their league campaign with a victory V Ponteland Primary and a defeat to Darras Hall Primary. The team have performed brilliantly and ended the season in 7th place out of 17 teams.



Accelerated Reader


We are holding meetings on Tuesday 9th May at 2:45pm and 5:15pm to explain our new reading system - Accelerated Reader. This is being used in Years 2 to 6 but all parents are welcome to attend if interested. We will share key information about the programme and how it will work in school.

Punctuality & Attendance

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

The school opens at 8:40am every morning with registration at 8:45am. We are frequently finding children arriving at school up to half an hour late. This is extremely disruptive to children and staff. If a child arrives once registers have been submitted, they are automatically recorded as absent on our online system. This then affects their attendance.

MINUTES LATE PER DAY	EQUIVALENT OF MISSING	HOW MANY LESSONS THIS IS MISSED
5 MINUTES	3.4 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	17 LESSONS
10 MINUTES	6.9 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	35 LESSONS
15 MINUTES	10.3 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	51 LESSONS
20 MINUTES	13.8 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	69 LESSONS
30 MINUTES	20.7 SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR	104 LESSONS



Ellington's Education Welfare Officer (EWO) is Jenny Mollon. We have half termly visits from her and during these we have a responsibility to identify any children who are classed as persistent absentees. Children with attendance of less than 90% are classed as persistent absentees and automatically trigger an attendance letter. Unfortunately, we have had a number of chicken pox cases across school recently. We fully understand that children become ill and health comes first, but we also need to ensure that children have the best possible start to their education and attend school as much as they possibly can.

Diary Dates

Year 6 SATs	9th - 12th May
Year 3/4 Production (9.30am)	17th May
Family Picnic	26th May (2pm)
Summer half term	26th May
Return to school	5th June
Year 6 Residential - Ford Castle	7th - 9th June
Sports Day	23rd June
Summer Fair	8th July
Summer term reports	14th July
Year 6 Leavers Assembly (9.30am)	21st July
Summer Holidays	21st July
Return to school	6th September

More details about events will be shared closer to the specified dates. Further events are being planned and more information will be shared in future news bulletins.

Attendance 24/04–05/05

Reception— 99.2%

Year 1—85.0%

Year 2— 91.1%

Year 3—87.9%

Year 4—97.6%

Year 5—92.8%

Year 6—94.4%

Whole School—92.5%

Up from 91%

Mr Hodgson—Headteacher

Reception News

We have had a very busy and exciting time in Reception since returning from our Easter holidays. We went on a school trip to Beamish. We thoroughly enjoyed exploring in the Pit Village, the Victorian school, the old houses and the 1950s Town, it was very interesting learning about the history of what places used to look like!



Our new topic is called 'Ready, Steady, Grow' and we have been reading and learning about one of Mrs Cook's favourite stories... Jack and the Beanstalk. Last week, we planted our very own bean plant and we have been watering our plants every day. In Literacy, we have been learning about the life cycle of a bean plant. We ordered the lifecycle and did some writing of what happens at each stage. We also did some writing of the character Jack, in the story. Mrs Cook is super impressed with Reception for their amazing writing. We also used our fantastic colouring skills to colour and then sequence the different parts of the Jack and the Beanstalk story. Mrs Cook then videoed us on the iPad retelling the story.



In Maths, we have been learning about 3D shapes. We matched different items to the correct shape of either a cylinder, a cuboid, a cone or a sphere. We have also been learning about our number bonds and even and odd numbers.

In RE, our new topic is 'Which places are special and why?' We talked about our favourite place in school... The classroom, the outdoor classroom, the big yard and the hall where we have our lunch. We said which was our favourite place and why. In circle time, we then talked about our favourite place outside of school and why that place was our favourite!



Year 1 News

What a great start to Summer term. We have had a fantastic time visiting Beamish to help us with our History work we have been doing in Year 1.

We enjoyed our Transport workshop whilst we were there and we learned all about transport from over 100 years ago.



In English, we have been looking at our new visual text 'Bubbles'. The children have produced some fabulous stories based on the text. I am so impressed with the vocabulary they are using, and conjunction to join sentences together.

In Maths, we have been learning about the value of different coins. We have focused a lot on 1p, 2p, 5p and 10p coins and used these for counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. The children have then focused on understanding how many 1p coins go into different coins. 10 1p coins is the same as a 10p coin etc.



Today we have also enjoyed making crowns and biscuits to celebrate the King's Coronation. Enjoy your Bank holiday Monday and I will see you on Tuesday.

Mrs Horsley

Year 2 News

Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all, just want to wish you all a happy and restful three-day weekend. We also hope that you enjoy watching the coronation on Saturday.

Even with a four day week, we have been super busy over the past two weeks. In English, we have been working on *The Day The Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt. We have been looking at how we can write to persuade. We have been looking at persuasive letters that include the use of flattery, guilt and questions to provoke a reaction. Next week we will write, edit and publish our own persuasive letters.

In Maths, we have now completed our work on Fractions and are focussing on finding unit and non-unit fractions of shapes, numbers and amounts. The children have also managed to identify simple equivalence between $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{2}{4}$ s.

In History, it has been very topical as we have been studying a new unit called *What is a Monarchy?* We have looked at the difference between an absolute monarchy and the constitutional monarchy we live in today. We have looked at what will happen in the upcoming coronation ceremony and this week we looked at how the Bayeux Tapestry told historians how William of Normandy became William the Conqueror, King of England.

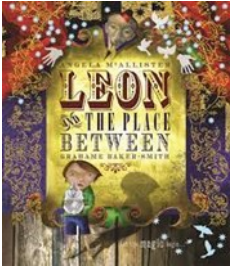
In PSHE we have been looking at our local area and how we can look after it and who helps us to look after the local area.

In Art, we have been looking at making repeating patterns when working with clay. The children had to make clay tiles by rolling out the clay and then used different objects to imprint a pattern.

Finally, in Science, the children have started a new unit on *Living Things and Their Habitats*. The children have classified objects as alive, dead and never alive and have looked at what all living things have in common (MRS GREN)!



Year 3 News



It's hard to believe that we are already well into the summer term, and year 3 have had a really positive start. In English, we wrote some amazing yeti biographies and we have just started a new book with fantastic artwork, 'Leon and the Place Between'. The class explored some props to give them clues about the theme of the book.



Maths has been focused on column subtraction for a few weeks now, and we have been making good use of our practical 'Dienes equipment' to help us understand how the exchanges work in the trickier subtractions.

- Our afternoon lessons have seen us doing a variety of activities, including
- being introduced to our new 'Microbit' devices, which can be
- programmed to do a whole range of things, Year 3 have written programs to light up different LEDs on them as part of a DT project.



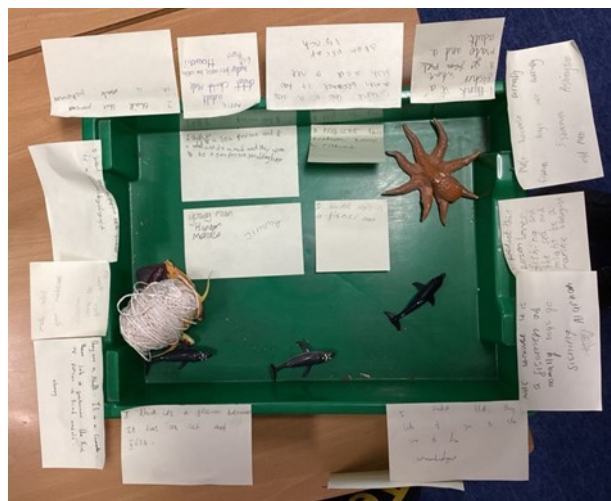
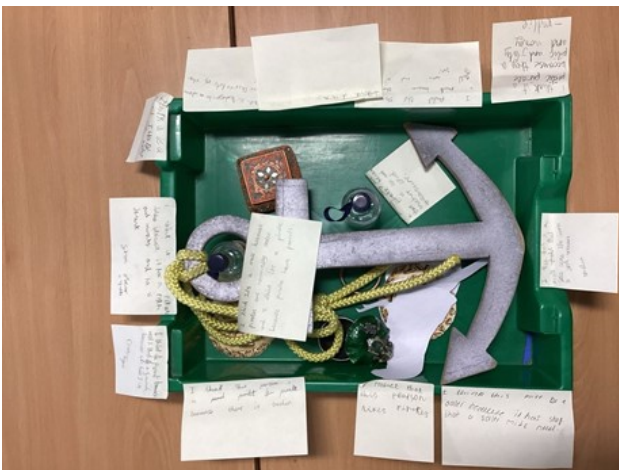
In science, we have started learning about forces, recapping the different push and pull forces that we can name, and we will go on to investigate two forces in particular, friction and magnetism, using a range of practical equipment.

Our geography topic for this half term is on rainforests, focusing on the Amazon. We have learnt about the different layers that are found in rainforests and we will go on to explore which groups of people live in rainforests.

We have also been dedicating quite a lot of time to rehearsing for our play that is coming up in a couple of weeks' time on the 17th May, 'The Bee Musical'. The songs are sounding great and many of the children already know their lines off by heart. We are excited to share our performance with you!

Year 4 News

The last three weeks have flown by in Year 4! We have been very busy exploring the unusual picture book, *Flotsam*, and using different images to inspire some rather wonderful writing. We've written a very engaging piece of text as a scared crab as well as exploring clues from pieces of "flotsam" left by some mystery characters to create an entertaining backstory for them. In maths, we have been getting to grips with mixed numbers and applying this knowledge in different contexts, such as on a number line, using part-part-whole models and comparing and ordering.



Meanwhile, history has taken us back to the Viking era where we've been creating timelines and considering what different sources tell us about the Vikings to try and answer the question, were they raiders, traders or settlers? In science, we have been looking closely at evaporation and condensation as well as the water cycle.

In addition to all of this, rehearsals for our upcoming Bee Musical have been well underway and we are very excited to perform this on the morning of 17th May. We can't wait for you to see it and - trust us - you'll be singing all the songs on your way out as they're very catchy!

Year 5 News

We had a wonderful time on our class trip to the Discovery Museum in Newcastle. During our scientific workshop, we used our knowledge of forces to build air powered rocket cars where we then measured the distance, speed and time. We then explored the museum in the afternoon and learnt new information through interactive activities.



In English, we have based our writing on the animation video 'Road's End' where we will be publishing our own newspaper report. We have been exploring various newspapers to gather ideas for our own writing. The children enjoyed acting as reporters, paramedics, police and fire fighters in order to gather quotations to include in our writing.

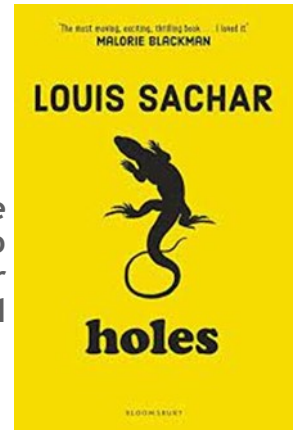
In maths, we have finished off our fractions unit and now progressed onto percentages. We have been understanding the meaning of percentages, calculating percentages of amounts and finding the link between fraction, decimals and percentages.

The children recapped their knowledge on the water cycle before we dived deeper into our new geography topic; Oceans of The World. We have been learning about the five main oceans and listing interesting facts about each one. Over the next few weeks we will be investigating why oceans are so important and what the population

Mr Todd

Year 6 News

We have finally finished reading 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. Year 6 were so keen to have story time that they were begging Miss Gray to continue reading. It's safe to say they loved it and are now 'Sachar fans'! We loved it so much that we will be writing about the dreaded yellow-spotted lizards in the coming weeks.



A red rectangular graphic with the words '5 MILLION' written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The letters are slightly shadowed and appear to be hanging from thin white chains.

We have launched Accelerated Reader in school and Miss Gray has challenged the class to read (a collaborative) 5 MILLION words by the end of the school year. They are very excited and have already made a dent in this number!

We have been making some glorious crowns to celebrate the King's coronation. The enjoyed learning about the St Edward's Crown and also had a go at drawing one too.

It's almost time for Year 6 to take their SATs tests! Everyone at Ellington Primary School wishes them the very best of luck and we are sure they will try their best. Our class is full of characters, with talents and skills which aren't tested: footballers, crocheters, artists, dancers, athletes, historians and curious scientists.

Smash it Year 6!

Miss Gray

