



Diversity Activities

This week, all classes have been finding out about different cultures and countries that are represented amongst our school family. The week began with an act of worship prepared and led by some Year 6 pupils, focusing on the idea that we are all different but all the same. All our learning was brought together in a celebration liturgy this morning.

Special thanks are due to:

- Mrs Lopes, one of our parent volunteers, who led workshops about Indian culture. The children loved learning Indian dance and trying on traditional clothing.
- Mrs Kazmierska and Mrs Wieczorek who helped everyone learn more about Poland by sampling Polish soup, learning songs and dances. We are delighted that both ladies will be working with us again next year providing EAL (English as an Additional Language) Support.
- Miss McLean for overall coordination of the activities which help us to live out the British Values and contribute to our involvement in a Global Learning Project and the Rights Respecting Schools Award.

Most importantly, the activities have helped us to find out more about everyone in our school community.

Special Awards Assembly.

We met this afternoon for a Special Awards Assembly. We were delighted to be joined by a number of governors including our retiring Chair of Governors, Dr. Frank. (Foundation Governor) to the House with the most points:

1 st	St. Andrew's House	8098 points
2 nd	St. David's House	8082 points
3 rd	St. Patrick's House	7875 points
4 th	St. George's House	7855 points

Congratulations to everyone in St. Andrew's House and well done to everyone for all the merits they contributed to their house totals.

Awards were given to pupils for:

- outstanding work/effort/perseverance/making changes
- Sporting achievements both in and out of school
- Outstanding attendance

Mrs Doyle made a special presentation to our Traffic Detectives for all their hard work in raising awareness about safe and healthy travel.

Goodbyes

Today we said goodbye to Miss Craft and Mrs Johnston. We will miss them and we thank them for all their hard work and support for all aspects of school life, leading extra-curricular activities and helping with sports activities.

Year 6

The theme of this year's Leavers' Mass was "Embrace". The children had prepared the readings and prayers, linked to the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Governors and Staff joined the children and their families at Church and afterwards at the Parish Centre. As always, members of the PFA gave up their time to ensure that everyone enjoyed a lovely buffet.

Year 6 had great weather for their Leavers' Bike Ride which included a stop at Archers Ice-Cream Parlour. They have spent the day saying goodbyes. They have been a lovely class, setting a good example to the younger children through their excellent behaviour and positive attitudes. We wish them all the best for the future and look forward to hearing about their continuing successes.

Poetry Recital Competition

Thanks to Dr. Frank and Mrs Guy for adjudicating this year's final. Results will be published in the first newsletter in September

Music Concert

Parents enjoyed ukulele performances by Years 4 & 5 and groups of 'cellists and violinists from across Key Stage 2. We are delighted to have peripatetic teachers who are willing to organise and support the children's performances. Equally the teachers from Durham Music Service, who work with our school, are very impressed by the level of parent/carer support and were thrilled to have such a large and enthusiastic audience. Thank you to everyone.

Refreshments were provided by our Mini Vinnies group. Thanks to the generous donations from our audience and an impromptu cake sale after school, the group raised £120.58.

Reminders

Start of the School Year - Pupils return to school on **TUESDAY 6th SEPTEMBER.**

Term dates for 2016-17 were sent out to families before Christmas and are available on the school website.

Please ensure that your child attends school in the correct uniform, including black sensible shoes.

No Trainers. No jewellery. No nail varnish! No extra large hair ornaments which can cause serious injuries.

Long hair (boys or girls) should be tied back for hygiene reasons and to help children work comfortably.

Holidays

Please remember that I can only authorise term time absence for **exceptional** circumstances. There has been a rise in unauthorised absence for term-time holidays this year. This can have a negative effect on children's learning and progress as well as on the standards and reputation of our school.

THANK YOU:

- to our fantastic PFA who have again raised thousands of pounds to help improve resources and experiences for all our children.
- to everyone who has helped in school - with readers, visits, by attending/supporting/ accompanying/ providing transport to and from events and just by offering their help and good wishes.
- to all our wonderful children and staff who work so hard and make our school such a special place.

Yet again, parents and carers have been extremely generous and supportive through, gifts, cards, messages and words of thanks. Thank you, on behalf of all the staff, for your on-going help and support.

Please read the next page which contains some information about events which will take place early in the new school year.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer.

Mrs M McCollom

Head of School

AUTUMN TERM 2016 - Early Notice

EDUCATION SUNDAY - Celebrating the start of the new school year.

Sunday 11th September is Education Sunday and coincides with our usual Parish Mass for the beginning of the School Year. We hope that as many children and families as possible will attend the 9.15 a.m. Mass that day, as we ask God's blessing on our new school year.

The children sit together at the front of the church - as a school family and children will take on the various minor ministries that day.

Roald Dahl Celebrations

Roald Dahl Day is on **Tuesday 13th September**. This year is extra special - Roald Dahl 100. We would like to have a special celebration day in school. Children can dress up as a character from one of Roald Dahl's books and we will spend the day on related literacy activities.

Dukes House Wood

Year 6 will not be with us for Roald Dahl Day as they will be heading off to Dukes House Wood for their residential visit; returning on Friday 16th September.

Dinner Money

In September 2016 the cost will continue to be £2.00 per day. Please make sure that dinner money is paid on Mondays and includes all meal payments for that week. If you have any problems or queries then please contact the School Office where all matters will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Key Stage 2 pupils will still need to pay for lunch. All Reception and KS1 children continue to be entitled to FREE school meals.

Pupil Premium Funding

It is also important that families who would qualify for Free School Meals because of other circumstances, still register so that school receives the Pupil Premium funding which helps to provide further resources for learning.

Lunch Menu w/b 6th September 2016

Tuesday 6th September	Wednesday 7th September	Thursday 8 th September	Friday 11 th September
Beef Hotpot	Roast Turkey & Stuffing	Lasagne	Oven Baked Fish
Meatball Sub	Neapolitan Pasta (V)	Cottage Pie (V)	Pizza Pinwheel (V)
Boiled Potatoes, Broccoli & Carrots	Crispy Roast Potatoes, Cabbage & Carrots	New Potatoes, Cauliflower & Peas	Chipped Potatoes Mushy Peas & Baked Beans
Fresh Cream Trifle Fresh Fruit	Chocolate Sponge & Custard. Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt	Sticky Toffee Pudding & Custard. Ice Cream or Fresh Fruit	Fruit Jelly Fresh Fruit or Yoghurt