



Newsletter



Monday 20th September 2021



	<i>Pupils Involved</i>	<i>Event</i>
Monday 20 th	Whole school	Photographer to visit - please complete form and return to school. Music
Tuesday 21 st September	Whole school Reception	PE (come in PE kit) Tree-mendous Forest School session (outdoor gear needed!) Reception/Y5 2022 : Open day/evening.
Wednesday 22 nd September		
Thursday 23 rd September	Class 2	Swimming - need swimming kit (costume /trunks, goggles and a towel in a bag) ParentPay is set up for all swimming contributions.
Friday 14 th September	Reception:	Forest Friday - please bring a pair of wellies, tracksuit bottoms and suitable outdoor coat (depending on the weather!) in a carrier bag to get changed into.
Monday 27 th September	Whole school	Music
Tuesday 28 th September	Whole school Reception	PE Tree-mendous Tuesday (Forest school) Open morning : Reception 9am - 10.30am
Wednesday 29 th September	Year 1 Year 2	Open morning: 9-10.30am Open morning: 11-11.45am
Thursday 30 th September	Year 3 Year 4 Class 2	Open morning: 9-10.30am Open morning: 11-11.45am Swimming - need swimming kit (costume /trunks, goggles and a towel in a bag)
Friday 1 st October	Reception	Forest school session



*Please contact school as soon as possible if your child is absent – thank you.
For the safety of all children - please inform school directly if there are any changes
to your child's home time arrangements – thank you.
If your child has any COVID-19 symptoms you will be asked to get them tested with
a PCR test following the latest government guidance.*

*Whilst we all find Class Dojo a really useful communication tool we would like to
ask that it's not used as a method to inform us of absence or changes to home time
arrangements. Staff do not access Dojo whilst in classrooms.
Please telephone the school office to speak to us directly so that we don't miss any
important messages. – thank you.*



Reading books

We really, really love reading in our school and aim to read at least 3 times every week at home to get a Golden Ticket on a Friday, then get put in the draw to win a prize. Reading books need to be brought to school every day – we will change them on Mondays and Fridays (it's okay to read a book again if you finish it during the week) Children have been able to visit our school library and take home a book to change on a weekly basis.



Swimming Class 2 (Years 3, 4 and 5)

Swimming contributions will be accepted using Parentpay (£5 weekly per child or any other amount to go towards the cost of pool admission & transport) Thank you.



Today was our first session with Mr Burns from NCC Music service. Our younger children are beginning with rhythm and song whilst Class 2 are learning to play pocket trumpets.

What are we doing in our classrooms this week...?

Reception: This week we will be continuing to explore our classroom, learning area names and our classroom routine. We will have our first music lesson and I am sure we will all come home singing some of the songs over the next few weeks. We will go to Forest Schools on a Tuesday and Friday afternoon and explore the Forest using our senses. We will continue to read some of our favourite stories and talk about what is happening in the story. We will begin to look at some Oxford reading tree stories and familiarize ourselves with some of the character's names. We will play number games and sing some number songs. We will take part in our PE lesson with Mr Ellison and focus on some key skills and play a range of fun games.

Class 1 : English- Our core book this half term is 'The Jolly Postman'. This week we will be focusing on using capital letters and full stops. We will be creating our own products for Hoblin Goblin supplies and writing a postcard to Jack from the Giant.

Maths- We are continuing with place value. Year 1 will be doing one more and one less of an amount and comparing numbers. Year 2 will be continuing to explore tens and ones using place value charts and comparing numbers using $<=>$.

Science- Our topic this half term is seasonal changes. This week we will be exploring the weather in each season and talking about what we would wear.

Geography- Our topic this half term is 'Where we live'. This week we will be locating Bellingham and Newcastle on a map. We will be sorting key features into a Venn diagram of Bellingham and Newcastle.

Art- Our topic this half term is self portraits. This week we will be focussing on features of our face and drawing them.

P.E- Mr Ellison will be doing games this half term with a focus on team work.

R.E- This half term our topic is 'Why are churches important places to Christians?' This week we will be learning about the different parts of a church and labelling a church.

Computing- We will be using the paint app on the i-pads and chromebooks to create different lines.

P.S.H.E- This week we will be talking about how we keep calm and using Jigsaw Jack to explore how we can be calm.

How to help at home- read 3 times at home. On your way to school talk about the different features in Bellingham such as church, bridge, river, shops.

Class 2: English - We are enjoying reading 'Oliver and the Seawigs' in Class 2 and will be continuing to find out about Oliver's adventure this week. We will begin by writing a diary as either Oliver or Iris the mermaid. The characters use sarcasm in the story and we will be considering what sarcasm is and examples of this, including how to make sure that we stay kind to each other. We will be listening to descriptions and creating our own illustrations from this description, we will then think of words to describe our illustrations and create a poem from these. We will also do some drama this week re-enacting when Oliver, Iris and Stacey met in the story.

Maths - We continue learning about place value this week, everybody was excellent at representing 100s, 10s and 1s (and 1000s for Year 4 and 5) using pictures last week, we will try to represent these numbers in a place value grid this week as well. We will then move on to working with number lines, everybody will try number lines to 100 and 1000 and then we will be finding 1, 10 and 100 more or less (1000 also for Year 4 and 5) than a number towards the end of the week. Year 4 will also try some partitioning this week and Year 5 will be working with some very big numbers up to 1 million!

Science - We started our topic on 'states of matter' last week by learning about solids, liquids and gases. We will use our new knowledge to consider whether gases weigh anything and we will be conducting some experiments with fizzy drinks to check this.

Topic - Our water topic continues this week with learning about the water cycle. We will be recapping what evaporation and condensation are and looking into how these enable the water cycle.

RE - We will be learning about the Five Pillars of Islam this week, we will try some acting and then will be working on some calligraphy also!

Computing - We created our own branching stories last week, we will be using these all half term. This week we are going to try to put them into different slides on Microsoft Powerpoint.

Art - We are working on landscapes this half term and will be creating a sunset landscape this week, considering the colours that we should use to do this.

PE - Games with Mr Ellison and swimming on Thursday.

Helping at home - Please make sure that you are reading with your child at least three times per week. Year 3 would benefit with some practice on their 3 times tables. Year 4 would benefit from practising their 3, 4 and 8 times tables that they learned last year and Year 5 should be practising all of their times tables up to 12x12.



Baseline assessment:

Over the next few weeks the children in Reception will be taking part in a short task-based assessment of their early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills. This is called the Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA) and it is a statutory requirement from the government. This assessment will form the start of a new measure of how schools are helping their pupils to progress between reception and year 6. Your child will not need to prepare. There is no pass mark or score and your child will not realise they are doing an assessment. Miss Newman and Mrs O'Connor will take the children out individually and the assessment will be carried out in a fun and positive way. If you would like any more information do not hesitate to get in touch. Further information about the RBA can be found here -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reception-baseline-assessment-information-for-parents>

School photographs have been taken today – we'll send them home as soon as they arrive.



We're all excited to welcome groups of parents into school once again allowing you to visit classrooms and see some of what we get up to! We've tried to limit our numbers in school and appreciate your support in this.

If you're unable to make it to one of our dedicated slots please give us a call and we'll try to find another day/time.