

Dear Parents and Carers,

February 2024



As we approach half term, I thought it would be good to celebrate some of our successes since the new year. Thanks to all the parents who were able to attend the Pre-School Stay and Play sessions held. The children always love showing how busy they are in school and how much they enjoy it.



German Club started for the children who will be visiting Berlin in June. They have been reading 'The Wall Between Us' by Dan Smith (the author who will be visiting us in March) learning more about the history of Berlin as well as learning some German phrases and writing to their German peers. They will continue to meet regularly, preparing for their visit.

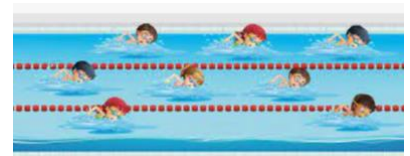
Monozukuri

All Y6 children had a day at Nissan for their Monozukuri Caravan event. They were introduced to the interesting world of manufacturing. They learnt about process improvement (Kaizen) and experienced a production line by assembling models with lego. It's always a great experience for the children and they talked about it enthusiastically on their return.



Swimming Gala

Our Key Stage 2 children competed in the Derwentside Swimming Gala. They took part with great enthusiasm, competing very well and being great sports.



Lego Robotics

Three of our Y6 children took part in a Lego Robotics competition organised by Nissan. They have worked tirelessly preparing for this, spending most lunchtimes working on their robots and the coding required to carry out specific movements. On the day they had to perform a variety of coding activities as well as giving a presentation of the work they have done. The team have overcome many setbacks both in their preparation and on the day. This was recognised by the judges as they awarded them the trophy for perseverance and determination. What an achievement! 😊



A group of children from Y5 and Y6 have been working with a PhD student from Durham University. They have learnt about the functions of the

heart and then had to complete an independent extended piece of writing, like a dissertation, on this subject. They were awarded their 'degree' and

attended a graduation ceremony at Durham University this month. They also had a tour of Stephenson College, having the chance to see the lecture theatres as well as the student accommodation. We are hoping that this could 'open the door' for some to the possibility of considering studying for a degree when they leave school. Special congratulations to Isa who spoke at the ceremony, describing the work she had done.



All who attended **Tanfield's Got Talent** had a great night. Above are some of the performers. We were treated to a great variety of talents and all children should be really proud of what they achieved on the night.

Upcoming events:



Our Y4, choir, Y6 pianist and guitarists will be performing at the Gala Theatre on Wednesday night. Y4 will sing 5 songs with Brandon Primary and they will play 3 songs on the ukulele. It's a great, if nerve wracking, experience for them performing in a large theatre. I know parents will be looking forward to hearing them.

High 5 – Our High 5 Teams (girls and boys) have been selected and will be competing at Brandon Primary on Friday. They'll play against Brandon, Burnopfield and Burnside to try to win the trophy.

Boys' Football

The boys' football league has been completed. They've played really well throughout the season playing 12 games in total and scoring 14 goals. They have come 4th in the league. Well done boys.

Final League Table – Ken Davison 23/24

FINAL											
Position	Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Points		
1	East Stan	12	11	1	0	29	7	22	34		
2	Gland	12	7	3	2	23	11	12	24		
3	St Jos	12	7	3	2	19	7	12	24		
4	Tanfield	12	4	3	5	14	11	3	15		
5	Catchgate South	12	4	1	7	19	21	-2	13		
6	Stanley	12	2	3	7	7	18	-11	9		
7	Shield Row	12	0	0	12	0	37	-37	0		



A huge thanks for your support with the non-school uniform day we held on Monday 29th January in support of Ms Armin and her family. We raised an astounding £667. Ms Armin would like to express her thanks to everyone for donating so generously.

Parent Meetings

An email was sent out to all parents, except Mrs Sparkes' class, with the link to book your Parent Meeting appointment. 62% of parents have already booked for appointments so if you've not done so yet, please do as soon as possible.

<https://tanfieldleacommunity.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Entrance and Exit

Can I remind you again about entering school and exiting.

We have a one-way system in operation.

This reduces congestion and makes it easier for everyone when moving in and out of school.

Other than a small minority of adults who have requested, for medical reasons, that they need to reduce their walking, ALL adults and children should enter by the main entrance gate (the lower entrance) and leave by the exit between the School House and the Activity Den.

Increasingly we have adults and children coming in via the exit and other adults who are leaving via the entrance. This can cause congestion and is easily avoided if everyone can keep to the one-way system.

It's also not fair on the majority of adults who are following the system and are then having to avoid adults coming the wrong way.

In addition to this, adults should not be congregating at the Exit by the Activity Den. If you want to meet your child, please come on the yard and wait for them there.

If you have adults coming to school who do not see this newsletter, could you please explain the system to them. Thank you.

Finally...

Holiday Club

CnS are holding a holiday club this half term on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (19th - 21st).

The link to book has been shared.

The club is free. If you'd like to book, please follow the link below.

<https://cns-sports-stars.classforkids.io/camp/138>

Jewellery and Watches

As stated previously we do not want children wearing jewellery in school other than a pair of studs (not hoops) and a watch. They should not wear necklaces or bracelets.

Regarding watches, we do not want any expensive items in school and therefore do not allow children to wear smart watches. We don't want children having equipment in school that could take photos, send or receive messages, access the internet etc.

However, Fitbits are now becoming more common, and many Fitbits do not have that kind of access to technology.

If your child has a Fitbit and wants to wear it in school purely for the purpose of telling the time and counting their steps, then this is permissible on the understanding that we can't take any responsibility for lost or damaged items and if the use of the watch becomes an issue in school, we will ask your child not to wear it. Thanks for your understanding regarding this.



Dates for your Diary

Spring 2024

HALF TERM	Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February
Monday 26th Feb	Back to school
Tuesday 27 th Feb	Y3 to start swimming this week
Tuesday 27th Feb	Parent Meetings – after school – 3:30 until 5:30
Wednesday 28th Feb	Parent Meetings – after school – 3:30 until 5:30
Friday 1 st March	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund, one per family
Week beg 4 th March	Book Fair in Monday through to Wednesday
Monday 4th March	Local author (Dan Smith) coming to work with KS2
Weds 6 th March	Y3 and Y4 to have an educational visit to Beamish Museum
Weds 6th March	German Club
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day (<i>We will not be asking children to dress up as book characters</i>)
Monday 11th March	Beamish Museum to work with KS2 for Science Week
Tuesday 12th March	Author Victoria Downes to work with EY and KS1
Weds 13 th March	Full Governing Body meeting
Weds 20th March	German Club
Thursday 21st March	Science Day – ‘As Creatives’ coming in to do Science workshops across school
Friday 22 nd March	Assessment information to be shared with parents of children from Reception through to Y6
Friday 22 nd March	Non-School Uniform Day – please donate an Easter Egg – one per family
Friday 22 nd March	Y1 and Y2 Football Competition @ Tanfield
Friday 22 nd March	Ladybirds to bring their decorated eggs to school today ready for the competition on Monday
Monday 25 th March	Egg Decorating: Lower School children to bring decorated egg into school today for competition. Upper School children to bring boiled egg and decorating resources to school to decorate egg – parents welcome to come and work with the upper school children in class on this a.m. (until about 10 a.m.) FRIENDS TO DO COFFEE AFTERNOON THIS AFTERNOON IN LOWER SCHOOL HALL – 2PM
Tuesday 26 th March	Y4 Multi Skills Festival and Anti Bullying Champions (ABCs) @ Brandon
Thursday 28 th March	KS2 Easter Celebration – through music and poetry in St. Margaret’s Church This is for children in Y3 to Y6 only. Parents of children involved are invited to join us for this special service – starting between 1:30 and 1:45. Children able to go home with parents afterwards.
Friday 29th March	Start of Easter Holidays
EASTER HOLIDAYS	Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April
Summer 2024	
Monday 15th April	Back to school
Monday 15th April	Half of Howtown Payment to be made by today
Wednesday 17th April	German Club
Weds 24 th April	Pre-School visit to Hall Hill Farm – all Pre-School to attend for the whole day
Weds 1st May	Vision Tests for Reception Children
Weds 1st May	German Club
Friday 3 rd May	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund, one per family
Friday 3rd May	Half of Grinton Payment to be made by today
Monday 6th May	May Bank Holiday
Tues 7th–10th May	School Assessment for whole school except Y6
Wednesday 8 th May	Y1 and Y2 parents to be invited in during the afternoon to make Rockets with their children We will start this at 2 p.m. but would like to invite parents of children in Y1 in for a meeting before this so they can find out more about the Phonics Assessment. Therefore, 1:30 p.m. Y1 parents invited in for Phonics meeting followed by rocket building with children 2 p.m. Y2 parents invited in to rocket building session with their children
Mon 13th – 16th May	Y6 SATs WEEK It is very important that you do not book a holiday for this week or for the weeks leading up to it. Requests will not be authorised and absence will impact on your child’s attainment.
Weds 15th May	German Club
Friday 17 th May	Y3 and Y4 Cricket Competition @ Burnside
Monday 20 th May	Art Exhibition - celebrating the children’s artwork. Parents will be invited in during the afternoon to see this
Tuesday 21 st May	Y1 Multi Skills Festival and ABCs (Anti-Bullying Champions) @ Brandon
Wednesday 22 nd May	School closed today – Teacher Training Day
Thursday 23 rd May	School closed today – Teacher Training Day

Friday 24 th May	School closed today – Teacher Training Day
May Half Term	Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May
Monday 3 rd June	Back to school
3 rd June to 21 st June	Multiplication Tables Check – Test period for all children in Y4
Monday 3 rd June	SPORTS WEEK Skipping Activity Session today for all children from Y1 to Y6
Tuesday 4 th June	CnS Active Morning for all children from Y1 to Y6
Tuesday 4 th June	After school - Sponsored Bike Ride after school for children from Y2 to Y6
Wednesday 5 th June	SPORTS DAYS for all year groups – parents invited to join us for this: 9:15 – Years 5 and 6 10:30 – Years 1 and 2 11:15 – Pre-School (Bumblebees only) 1:00 – Pre-School (Ladybirds and Caterpillars) and Reception. Ladybirds to start 15 minutes later today. 2:00 – Years 3 and 4
Wednesday 5th June	German Club
Thursday 6 th June	Y1/2 (a.m.) and Y3/4 (p.m.) – Outdoor Activities in the grounds
Thursday 6 th June	Sleepover for Y6 – arriving at school between 6:30 and 6:45
Friday 7 th June	Activity Day for Y5 and Y6 (Including Climbing Wall) Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund, one per family
10 th to 14 th June	Phonics Screening Check – Test Week – All of Y1 children plus those Y2 children who did not reach the required standard last year.
Weds 12th June	German Club
Weds 12 th June	Full Governing Body Meeting
Weds 12 th June	In it Together Conference for Y3 (no cost for this visit – school will fund it)
Sat 15th June	Group of 30 Y5/6 children to visit Berlin – learning more about Germany, its people, their childhood experiences. They will visit a primary school and see some of the main historical sites in Berlin.
Weds 19 th June	Transition Day for Reception (current Pre-School to move into Reception)
Sat 22nd June	Group of 30 Y5/6 children return from Berlin
Tues 25th June	Y1 and Y2 to visit Northumberland College Zoo - Note the change of date
Friday 28 th June	Letters to go out today to all parents re classes for next year
Mon 1 st – 3 rd July	Transition Days for Tanfield School
Monday 1 st July	Transition lesson for all children at our school (10:20 to 11:20)
Monday 1 st July	Meet the Teacher meeting – 4:00 p.m. + Creche. All parents to be invited to these meetings
Wednesday 3 rd July	<i>Transition afternoon for children and parents of Pre-School and Reception to learn more about how things work in the new year groups and support their children with this progression.</i> Reception to move to Y1 – Parents to be invited to join us at 1:45 p.m. Pre-School to move to Reception – Parents to be invited to join us at 2 p.m. (If attending this you do not need to attend the ‘Meet the Teacher’ on Monday night.)
Friday 5 th July	Non School Uniform Day – please send in a donation for school fund, one per family
Friday 5 th July	Reports go out to all parents
Monday 8 th July	Parent Meetings for those parents who would like an appointment
Tuesday 9 th July	Y2 Multi Skills Festival and ABCs (Anti-Bullying Champions) @ Tanfield
Friday 12 th July	Y5 and Y6 girls v girls/boys v boys Athletics Competition @ Brandon Bastille Day – all to come in dressed in red, white and blue
Monday 15 th July	Y6 Leavers’ Meal – 4:15 until 5:45
Tuesday 16 th July	Thankyou tea for all who have helped us this year – 2:30 until 3:30 Y5 to prepare, serve and take part
Wednesday 17 th July	Lower School Fun Day Y6 Dress Rehearsal for the Upper School and some parents – afternoon Y6 Performance – evening – 6 p.m.
Thursday 18 th July	Y6 Performance – evening – 6 p.m.
Friday 19 th July	Y2 Moving on Assembly for their parents starting as soon after 9 a.m. as possible
Monday 22 nd July	Upper School visit to Craster/Embleton Beach
Tuesday 23 rd July	Y6 Leavers’ Assembly for Y6 and their parents starting as soon after 9 a.m. as possible Last day of term
Wednesday 4th Sept	Back to School

Reminder again re Teacher Training Dates for 2024-2025 No Training Days in May 2025

The only Training Days in 2024-2025 are in November. Children will not be in school on Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd November 2024