



SPRING ONE NEWSLETTER

SHIELD ROW PRIMARY SCHOOL

It's been a very cold half term and we are looking forward to more sunshine! We have kept ourselves busy. Take a look!

PROBLEM SOLVING WITH Y4



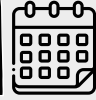
Our Year 4 children had so much fun at Tanfield school with a morning of problem solving.

The event was organised by the Durham and Chester-le-street School Sport Partnership (SSP) and was a great opportunity for the children to develop their communication, resilience and team work skills.

After half term, our Reception children are involved in another SSP event - Going on a bear hunt!



IMPORTANT DATES



Monday 3rd March: School Re-opens

Thursday 6th March: World Book Day

Friday 7th March: Reception Learning Together

Tuesday 11th March: Tree Planting with OASES

Tuesday 1st April: Nursery Parents Evening

Thursday 3rd April: Nursery Parents Evening

Monday 7th April: Reception, KS1 & KS2 Parents Evenings.

Wednesday 9th April: Reception, KS1 & KS2 Parents Evenings.

Friday 11th April: Last day of term

Monday 28th April: School re-opens

Monday 5th May: Bank Holiday (school closed)

Monday 12th May: Y6 SATs week begins

Tuesday 20th May: SEN Parent Meetings

Friday 23rd May: SEN Parent Meetings

LEARNING TOGETHER



Our spring Learning Together sessions have been a mixture of Science sessions and Design Technology sessions. There were investigations to carry out and challenges to complete! It was a joy to see great learning happening with such a buzz. Thank you to all of our parents/ carers who were able to join us. We hope you had fun!

OUTDOOR PLAY AND LEARNING



We are starting to develop our play spaces on the field and would ask that ALL children have a pair of wellies in school, labelled with their name. Children can only access the field if they have wellies.

We would also ask that your child keeps a spare set of clothes in their bags or on their pegs incase of any accidents outside - they can get muddy!

With your help, and the Asda Cashpot for Schools scheme, we have raised £735.83 which is the start of our fundraising for a giant outdoor kitchen play area. We have some future fundraising events planned to help us achieve this goal.



TREE PLANTING WITH OASES



In March, we will be taking part in the 'Trees for Children' partnership project delivered by OASES and Durham County Council Woodland Creations scheme. OASES will be in school, helping children learn about the special role trees play in combatting climate change.

OASES will deliver an assembly and then children in Year 2 to Year 6 will take part in tree/ shrub planting in the school grounds. The plan is to plant some hedging and small trees such as alder, willow and downy birch. This will enhance our play areas, adding an element of exploration; create natural habitats for wildlife; and improve drainage which will help create a drier, safer area for the children to play.

We would like adult volunteers to help us! A letter will be coming home after half term to invite parents/ carers to come and work with the children on the field in 1 hour slots. This will be on Tuesday 11th March. We hope you can join us!

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK



Children's Mental Health Week took place 3rd-9th February. This year's theme was 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself' encouraging children to embrace self-awareness, thinking about who they are and helping them build resilience, grow and develop.

Children in Y1-Y6 took part in a live assembly led by Picture News. All of the children took part in an activity which tasked them to consider different emotions and what can trigger these emotions. The children then selected an emotion that they felt they could manage more effectively and set a personal goal, deciding upon a useful strategy to support self regulation.

NSPCC NUMBER DAY



We had lots of fun with number as part of NSPCC Number Day! The children completed a range of activities and games throughout the day and we had a great time.

Mrs Henderson set some maths challenges for the children to do at home and a winner from each class was chosen. Prizes and certificates were given out on Friday.

Thanks to your very kind donations, school raised a superb £260.88 for the NSPCC.



SPORT



A huge congratulations to our girls who competed in the girls football league this half term. Every week the girls worked hard in training, which resulted in some fantastic wins. Overall, Shield Row finished in 3rd place!

The Spring 2 mixed football league is coming up, starting on 6th March. Matches are straight after school at Consett Football Club. Anyone is welcome to come along and support the school!

Miss Robson will be running football training sessions on a Monday night, starting after half term.

A team of Y5 and Y6 children took part in the Tag Rugby Festival. It was a tough and cold afternoon, but they persevered and played some excellent games. Although we didn't qualify, the children had a great time competing!



ATTENDANCE



Can we remind parents/ carers that if your child is going to be absent from school you should contact the school office before 9:30am. Voice messages can be left at anytime on our attendance answer machine. Failure to provide a reason for absence results in an 'unauthorised' absence on your child's record. Unauthorised absences can lead to a referral to the Local Authority.

CURRENT ATTENDANCE:

Reception = 94.5%
Year 1 = 92.1%
Year 2 = 94.1%
Year 3 = 95.4%
Year 4 = 94.5%
Year 5 = 94.5%
Year 6 = 93.4%

Whole School = 94% Current National Avg = 94.8%

ATTENDANCE MEETINGS

We have a duty to monitor the attendance of all of our pupils. Where children's attendance falls below 90%, they are classed as a 'persistent absentee'. If school has concerns around your child's attendance you will be sent a letter to notify you of these concerns and an offer of support made. In some cases, school will invite you in for a meeting to discuss an action plan to improve attendance. If you feel like you are facing any difficulties getting your child into school, please contact school to discuss this at the earliest opportunity.

WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March. The whole school will be focusing on one book and our work will be focusing on emotions.

Each class has been assigned an emotion. We are asking the children to come to school on Thursday 6th dressed to represent their given emotion. This could be through colour choice, hair style, you could even make your own hat or t-shirt!

We have a fun-filled day planned for the children, including a whole-school quiz led by Mrs Bolton! The children will be immersed in stories and the wonders of books. We will share the outcomes of our day on our Facebook page once it is complete!



HANDWRITING



We are having a big focus on handwriting in school. The children have been working hard to improve and refine their letter formation, positioning, sizing and joins.

Each week, teachers select a 'Handwriter of the Week' for an award in assembly. At the end of half term, one child from each class will be chosen for 'the most improved handwriting' and they will enjoy a hot chocolate with the headteacher treat!

Any handwriting practice at home would be helpful!

INTERNET SAFETY DAY

It was Internet Safety Day on 11th February. We took the opportunity to re-emphasise key messages around staying safe on-line and responsible conduct on-line.

TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Limit screen time to ensure healthy habits
- Set device free zones e.g. dining table
- Set up parental controls to restrict access to inappropriate content
- Install child friendly apps - apps designed specifically for children
- Discuss on-line risks
- Keep devices in shared spaces
- Check your child's device regularly

SPELLING



We are re-launching our spelling challenge for children in Y1 to Y6. Teachers will be sending home a sheet to get your child started!

There are 9 levels to work through in total, each level is made up of bronze, silver and gold sections.

Please encourage and support your child to learn the spellings on their given level and help them improve their spelling, as well as access rewards! For each block completed, the children will be given 10 house points and 3 raffle tickets! Completing certain levels also achieves special badges!