

Thought of the Week: "A book is a dream that you hold in your hand." – Neil Gaiman

celebrating success

Attendance

Oak class had the highest attendance last week with 99.1%. Whole school was 94%. Please don't forget to ring 01670 822326 if your child is going to be late or unable to attend school. Thank you.

Star of the Week

Star of the Week Certificates were all given to the following children: Daniel Lang, James Edelson, Lennon Gibbon, Chelsie Packer, Lucas Rushton and Natasha Olsen. These children all had Star Tea with Mr Sutherland due to their exemplary attitude.

Head Teacher Awards

The following children were all given a Head Teacher Award Certificate for their outstanding work last week: Dominic Long, Thomas Hanlon, Joe Jamieson, Georgia Fullen, Thomas Kerry and Zak Parkin. Well done to all of you and keep up the good work!

Ice Cream Friday

The following children all had ice cream sundaes at Ice-cream Friday last week: Simon Philpot, Lewis Botterill, Liam Brown, Harlee Jobson, Keira O'Brien and Andrew Dodds. These children were rewarded because of their good attitude and their tremendous effort last week.

Mathletics

Chestnut class had the highest score with 22,129 points. Liam Brown had the highest score last week with 5,238 points. Well done everyone.

important information

"Be Safe" Initiative at Bedlington Station

I have arranged for a visiting professional to work with some of our older children for an hour in school over the past few weeks. The focus has been on Anti-Bullying Awareness and has been developed to educate young people on how to recognise various forms of bullying and how best to deal with it, should it occur. You will know that school already has measures in place to tackle this such as our Behaviour Management programme, Rainbow Station, Bubble Time and the work Mrs Johnston and Mrs Rozgowska carry out with children and families. In addition, our Anti-Bullying Policy has been reviewed and is on our website should you need to refer to it. These workshops are an additional tool to support children in making the right choices around friendships, exploring what bullying means and what it looks like and informing them how to stand up to it and deal with any situation that may arise. The gentleman delivering the courses has worked with many schools in the area including Stead Lane and has been highly recommended.

Years 5 and 4 had their session in March and April respectively and it was the turn of Year 6 on Monday 15th May.

The have been differentiated slightly in content depending on the age to ensure they are appropriate. The children have responded very positively to them I think they will be very valuable for the children as they enhance and augment our PSHE and reinforce some of the messages that we have been giving to the children through this academic year. My aim is then to tailor some of these workshops for some of our younger children so that they are able to hear a similar, age-appropriate message.

We have also designed some brand new posters and flyers which will be distributed around school to help support children should they face friendship issues in the future. If you have any questions about this provision, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Operation Encompass

I thought it would be helpful to remind you about Operation Encompass, which has now been running across Northumberland since the beginning of April and follows my letter to all parents and carers at that time. Operation Encompass is a new innovative project in which schools in Northumberland are participating, and which is run in partnership with Northumberland County Council and Northumbria Police. Many other Local Authorities both nationally and locally have successfully implemented Operation Encompass.

Operation Encompass which commenced 3rd April 2017, aims to support children and young people who are affected by domestic abuse. Witnessing domestic abuse is really distressing for a child or young person, who often see the abuse, hear it from another room, see a parent's injuries or distress afterwards or can be physically hurt by trying to stop the abuse. As a result, following any domestic abuse incident being reported to the police, the Police will make contact with Children's Social Care who will then communicate relevant and necessary information to nominated school staff. This will ensure that the school is made aware at the earliest possible opportunity and can subsequently provide support to children in a way that means they feel safe and listened to.

Each school has members of staff (key adults) who have been fully trained in liaising with police and Children's Social Care when required, and will ensure that the necessary support is made available to the child or young person following the disclosure of a domestic abuse incident.

I believe that this project demonstrates our school's commitment to working in partnership to safeguard and protect children, and to providing the best possible care and support for our pupils.

In the meantime, if you would like to speak to someone further about the project or require further information please contact our key adults in school who are Mr C Sutherland, Head Teacher or Mrs M Rozgowska, Inclusion Mentor.

You can also find out more information here <http://www.operationencompass.org> and <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p03y9r5h>

Rowan Class – Anglo-Saxon Presentations

I spent some time in Year 5 on Wednesday afternoon as the children were presenting information about the Anglo-Saxons. In groups, the children had spent time on research and fact-finding and, using PowerPoint, had created different presentations focusing on life during the time of the Anglo-Saxons.

I was really impressed with the information that the children had uncovered and learned lots of things about the period that I didn't know. It was lovely to see the children working together so well and confidently and clearly presenting their information to the whole class. The topic has really engaged them this half term and it's been wonderful to observe their enthusiasm for learning first hand. I am very proud of their efforts and I am sure that we have several budding historians in our midst!

Half Term Reminder

Just a reminder that school will close at **3:00pm next Friday 26th May** for the half term break. Please note that this is a normal school day and I would greatly appreciate all children to be wearing uniform as usual. Thank you.

We will re-open again on **Monday 5th June 2017 at 08:00am for Breakfast Club and then at 08:45am for the whole school.**