

Dear Parents

Please find below our latest news

On 20th May I travelled to Botswana to establish our new partnership with Letsolathebe Memorial School in the town of Maun. As our partnership with Tanzania has been so successful, we were asked by the British Council Connecting Classrooms team to establish a three way partnership with ourselves, Tanzania and Botswana. Our group of Bishop Auckland Headteachers involved in the project travelled to Botswana and worked in our partner schools over the half term holiday. The Botswana teachers and their education authority are extremely keen for the project to be a success and this was evident in the preparation, work and fabulous performances that all the schools had prepared for us. Our joint project is called 'Everyone – all singing all dancing!' The schools shared their wealth of culture through song, dance and drama. It was a highly prestigious visit – we were even on the Botswana news! I will be sharing the photographs and video clips with our children this week in a series of assemblies. The Tanzanian and Botswana teachers are to visit us from 28th June to 4th July. During their visit we will be sharing our culture with them through dance, song and performance of some local tales.

We live in an area which is not culturally diverse therefore in school we place a great emphasis on forming sustained international links. These links are interwoven into our curriculum so they are meaningful and promote respect, tolerance, understanding and interdependence. We want to ensure that our children are well-prepared for life in modern Britain and to encourage them to be responsible global citizens.

This year our Bishop Auckland Cluster of Primary Schools is holding its Arts Cultural Project at Auckland Castle and the theme is 'What Makes Britain Great' The project is focusing on traditional dance, song and tales. The children in Year 2 have worked with a writer to produce some of their own tales. They have also worked with a folk dancer—parents saw the children perform their dance at our Open Afternoon last week. Today they have worked with a folk singer and learnt some local songs and some actions to accompany them. Every class in school has taken part in a singing workshop too!

Class photographs were taken on 18th May. Information and details on how to view and purchase these will hopefully be with us soon!

On 20th May Year 1 took part in 'Be a Hero for a Day' as their treat for winning the attendance award for the Spring Term. The children enjoyed a fun morning on the climbing wall, playing curling, negotiating an obstacle course, enjoying lots of team games and finishing with an assault course. Ben Trotter from Bishop Auckland College emailed school to say how well-behaved our Year 1 children were and that they were a real credit to our school! Thank You Year 1 and Well Done for being our heroes!

Mrs Naz a teacher from Pakistan who is currently studying at Durham university visited school on 20th May. Mrs Naz worked with Year 1 and Year 4 and shared much about her culture and school life in Pakistan with our children.

On Friday 22nd May we took part in a movie-themed Megamotion Walk. The children dressed up as characters from films or as movie stars and were accompanied on their walk by Jedi knights! The walk was followed by an entertaining assembly where children were reminded of a healthy lifestyle. Congratulations to Kate S whose prize-winning entry won the themed walk for school!

Vision Skills North East were in school on 3rd June and delivered a special assembly to our children. The assembly was fun and informative and made our children really think about what it would be like to be partially sighted or blind.

Our Open Afternoon (Strawberries and Cream) on Tuesday 9th June was a huge success! The weather was kind to us and it was a fantastic opportunity to use our outdoor amphitheatre. It was lovely to see so many parents and grandparents sharing in the event. Thank you so much for your donations of cakes and bottles for the tombola. We are so lucky to have such kind and generous parents and grandparents. I am sure that you will agree with me in saying that the children were wonderful and did a fabulous job of sharing their songs, dance, drama and poetry with you. We raised just over £800 and this will go towards some new staging for the hall. *(Hopefully we will have this before the end of term for the Year 6 performance for their parents and for the start of our Class assemblies in the Autumn Term.)*

On 10th June Y4 visited Cassop Environmental Centre and Quarry. They took part in workshops identifying rocks and flowers and then part of the afternoon involved visiting the quarry to put their skills to the test!

On 10th June Dr Tom Robson was in school to work with our staff and children. He is an educationalist and also a scientist. He worked with the children on building their independence and resilience as learners and demonstrated how to challenge themselves and to believe that they can achieve anything they want to if they have the right mind-set.

On 11th June Y6 took part in the annual Leaver's Service at Durham Cathedral. It is always an emotional ceremony but a wonderful event to attend as it celebrates seven years of primary school. Our children performed a rap at the service and did a terrific job!

On Saturday 13th June some of the school choir performed at Escomb Village Fair. The children sang three songs and were the stars of the afternoon! Well Done to: Chloe R, Rachel S, Ellie J & Abbie J in Year 6, Evie-Mae B & Jamie-Lee in Year 5, Emma P & Tilly R in Year 4, Lilia W, Indianna R & Mia H in Year 3, Brianna T, Lara R, Leah R & Macey D in Year 2. Thank you also to parents and grandparents for coming along and supporting the choir.

Sporting Events

On 4th June Year 6 girls took part in a cricket tournament. They had a great day and thoroughly enjoyed taking part!

On 5th June Year 6 took part in a Rugby Tournament at Bishop Auckland Rugby Club. We had two teams; one was the overall winner and the other

was placed fourth! Well done to all our players. They are to be presented with their trophy in assembly this week by the tournament organisers.

On 8th June KS2 Mixed Cricket team took part in a tournament at Hunwick Cricket Club. Again our children enjoyed taking part and enjoyed the day.
Thank you for your continued support

Wendy Gill & Staff

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE TRAFFIC LIGHTS OPERATING AT THREE LANE ENDS FROM WEDNESDAY 17TH—FRIDAY 19TH JUNE. THIS IS SO NORTHUMBRIAN WATER CAN CARRY OUT ESSENTIAL WORK TO THE WATER AND SEWERAGE SYSTEMS IN THE LOCAL AREA.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU DRIVE AND PARK SAFELY!

Calling all Dads and Grandads . . .

To celebrate **Father's Day** we are holding a

'Butty & a Brew'

On Friday morning in the school hall from 9-10.30a.m.

Please come along!

Tea and coffee and a bacon sandwich will be on the menu!

Your child will be able to join you for this!

We look forward to seeing you! Please return slip below.

Star of the Week Award

5th June 2015

Class Nominations

Reception	Thomas B
Class 1	Abi T
Class 2	Lewis A
Class 3	James D
Class 4	Lucy E
Class 5	Josh A
Class 6	Isabelle D

Superstar of the Week!

*** Thomas B ***

Writer of the Week

5th June 2015

Reception	Daniel B
Class 1	Lucy O
Class 2	Reece S
Class 4	Michael S
Class 5	Daniel W
Class 6	Ellie J

Well Done for producing such fabulous writing!

ATTENDANCE

Week Beginning: 18th May 2015

Class 4 and 5

96.3%

Good to Be Green

Lucky Dip Winners

KS1	Ethan
KS2	Sol B

Please allocate _____ (places—Max 2) at the 'Butty & a Brew' event which is to be held on Friday 19th June 2015 from 9 a.m.—10.30 a.m.

Child's Name _____ Class _____

Signed

Star of the Week Award

12th June 2015

Class Nominations

Reception	Lucy R
Class 1	Anna T
Class 2	Logan E
Class 3	Whole Class
Class 4	Tilly R
Class 5	Whole Class
Class 6	Millie F

Superstar of the Week!

*** Logan E ***

Writer of the Week

12th June 2015

Reception	Caelan H
Class 1	Francesca M
Class 2	Hannah D
Class 3	Indianna R
Class 4	Emily O
Class 5	Jessica I
Class 6	Abby B

Well Done for producing such fabulous writing!

Good to Be Green

Lucky Dip Winners

KS1	Joel A
KS2	Harry B

ATTENDANCE

Week Beginning: 01/06/2015

Class 5

97.7%

Rights Respecting Award

May 2015

Year 1	Esme S
Year 2	Sophie A
	Brianna T
	Macey D
Year 3	Kaine R
	James D
Year 5	Caitlin B
Year 6	Zak L
	Joshua A
	Erin B