

**26th January 2018—Our Latest News . . .**

Dear Parents,

This is our first newsletter of 2018! I know it seems rather late but Happy New Year to everyone! Children have settled back into school and are working hard. Our Value for this half term is **COURAGE** and our SEAL Theme is **GOING FOR GOALS**.

Each class has set its own goal to achieve.

Reception: To show courage when talking in front of a group or whole class.

Year 1: To show courage when talking in front of others.

Year 2: To have the courage to join in and 'have a go' even when unsure.

Year 3: To show courage when swimming in the large pool.

Year 4: We will have the courage to try new things in gymnastics.

Year 5: We will show courage by working and playing as a team, keeping to class agreements.

Year 6: We will be courageous and try all the activities at Winmarleigh Hall.

**SUPER SCIENTISTS**

Dr Tom Robson visited school on Tuesday 16th January. Dr Tom worked with every class and staff to help support the development of science investigation skills with a particular focus on questioning to help children develop and extend their thinking. He also weaved in his 'Gem Power' approach that we use in school to help children develop their independence and resilience.

**VISION ASSEMBLY**

On Tuesday 23rd January John and Louise from Vision Skills North East came into school to deliver an assembly to all the children. The presentation was lively and engaging and helped to show our children what it is like to have a visual impairment and showed them some of the everyday equipment that visually impaired people use in everyday life.

**INTERNATIONAL LINKS**

During half term Mrs Collings and I will be travelling to Mozambique as part of a Connecting Classrooms Project. We will be travelling with staff from other schools in our Bishop Auckland Cluster and from across the local authority. Whilst there we will be working with our partner school CN in Maputo to plan a research project that both our schools can work on. It will be centred around pupil leadership and improving local environments. Obviously we will be spending time in school whilst there but we will also be attending conferences where we will have to present our ideas. We will let you know how the visit goes and about our project when we return.

**SUPER SWIMMERS!**

Year 4, 5 & 6 swimming team took part in a gala for Wear Valley Schools on Thursday 11th January at Woodhouse Close Leisure Centre. Every single member of the team excelled and were just pipped at the post for first place by 227 points to 222. Well done to every single member of the team for their individual performances and team races: Ellie S, Abigail B, Lilia W, Jamie W, Lucy W, Alfie J & Patrick in Year 5, Jack R in Year 5 and April G, Jessie B, Ethan R, Harrison S, Jayden B & Connie H in Year 4. We are so proud of you!

**AMAZING ATHLETES!**

Year 6 took part in the Sports Hall Athletics Competition at King James I School today. They did fantastically well and won overall by 50 points! A fabulous achievement Year 6—Well Done!

**SAFETY MATTERS!**

As you know the school yard is really congested at the end of the school day and so is the area directly outside the gates. There are also a number of parents who bring their dogs to school when collecting their children.

We have had an incident where a child has been nipped by a dog and we also have children who are frightened of dogs. This is all making it very difficult for parents and children to leave school safely. Please could we ask parents who come with dogs to be mindful of this. Please could we also ask parents to keep the area directly outside the school gate and inside the school gate clear. This will allow for easier access and it will also enable teachers on duty to supervise the school bus children safely.

**We have a vacancy for Parent Governor**

Applications for a Parent Governor will be sent home on Monday. Governors play a crucial role in the Leadership and Management of the school. If you would be interested in applying for the post, please complete the form or if you would like to discuss the role further please contact Mrs Gill.

Completed applications need to be returned to school by FRIDAY 9TH February 2018..

Thank you for your continued support.

Wendy Gill and Staff



## Congratulations



### Star of the Week Award

**12th January 2018**

#### **Class Nominations**

Reception	Seb G
Class 1	Darcey B
Class 2	Joe W
Class 3	Layton M
Class 4	Connah R
Class 5	James S
Class 6	Michael S

#### **Superstar of the Week!**

**\*James S & Joe W \***

### Star of the Week Award

**19th January 2018**

#### **Class Nominations**

Reception	Isabella W
Class 1	Ivy R
Class 2	Finley H
Class 3	Lewis A
Class 4	Finlay B
Class 5	Adam F
Class 6	Lilia W

#### **Superstar of the Week!**

**\* Lilia W\***

### Star of the Week Award

**26th January 2018**

#### **Class Nominations**

Reception	Oscar D
Class 1	Connor C
Class 2	Charlie C
Class 3	Joey D
Class 4	Jessie B
Class 5	George R
Class 6	Leah A

#### **Superstar of the Week!**

**\* Joey D\***

#### **ATTENDANCE MATTERS!**

Please note that school starts at 8.55a.m. Registration closes at 9.05a.m. If your child is not in school when the bell goes then this is marked as late on the register.

Any child who comes to school after this time is classed as 'late after register has closed' and this is recorded as an unauthorised absence. This does negatively affect your child's overall attendance %.

It is really important that your child is in school at the start of the day to line up with his/her class. Children coming into school late on a regular basis means that they are missing out on the first part of the day which often can leave them feeling anxious and unsure about the day ahead.

We appreciate that there are times when being late is unavoidable due to exceptional circumstances but this should not be the norm.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Week Beginning: 8th January  
2018

Class 1

99%

**Well Done**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Week Beginning: 15th January  
2018

Reception & Class 5

98.3%

**Well Done**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Week Beginning: 22nd January  
2018

Class 5

99%

**Well Done**