

As I walked around the hall today (Tuesday) trying to pick three of the best for each year in the egg designs, I was reminded of how imaginative our children truly are. There so many clever creations, it is becoming increasingly more difficult to judge every year. One of the eggs was dedicated to Growth Mindset and it had some interesting quotes, for example: *How come my friends can do it? I can learn from them; Plan A didn't work, time to try plan B.*

There were eggs that reflected the learning in class. For example, Year Two have been studying the Great Fire of London, so this became the focus for an amazing creation. Another used Lego as the theme. There were also presentations focusing on COVID and Ukraine. One celebrated diversity, using our school logo as the theme and another was about saving the seas. We also had lots of superheroes, animals, solar systems and Star Wars themed eggs. It was amazing. See below some examples of the entries:



These and several more have been Tweeted, and can be found on the website and on our learning platforms. A few weeks ago, we took part in Comic Relief and we all wore red and put on rubber noses. At the end of last month, we had a treadmill fundraiser in support of Ukraine. We raised over £400 and the children all contributed by having a turn on the treadmill. Thank you again for all your support with this. All money raised will go towards supporting injustice and poverty across the world. We also celebrated World Book Day by dressing in our pyjamas and sharing our favourite stories. Our Year Six librarians have continued with their reading sessions with younger children in school. We are currently looking to recruit a new group to manage the library, which will enable more children to have the experience.

As we approach the end of term two, can I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and peaceful holiday and holy month of Ramadan. We break up on Thursday 7th April and return on Monday 25th April following the Easter break. Look out for Mrs Paxton greeting you all after the holidays, as she takes up her new role of Attendance and Welfare Officer in school.

Try and get out to visit some of the wonderful places across our city over the break. We have places like The City Library, The Great North Museum, The Laing Art Gallery, The Discovery Museum, The Baltic Art Centre, The Ouseburn and the Quayside in the city centre and then we have the most amazing coastline and countryside virtually on our doorstep. All of these are free places to explore and the children will be so excited to come back and tell their friends all about it after the holidays. As always, thank you for your continuing support. *Mrs Mullarkey*

NUCASTLE

Two months before its official opening, Year 6 pupils had a sneak preview of Newcastle United Foundation's new £8m world-class community hub, NUCASTLE. Located in the heart of the city, the building will provide Newcastle United Foundation with its own city-centre base and offer unique opportunities for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to enjoy sports, leisure, wellbeing and personal development activities. During their visit, Year 6 pupils took part in fitness classes in the sports hall and played games of football on the amazing rooftop 4G pitch overlooking St. James' Park – the home of Newcastle United. The PE team hope to continue their close relationship with Newcastle United Foundation. Four pupils have been chosen to take part in NUCASTLE's spring holiday programme and Wingrove already have a number of visits to NUCASTLE planned for this academic year.



Visits and Visitors

“Up until recently, mostly men were known as scientists, so that is why Newcastle University and Newcastle High School for Girls have partnered up to get girls into STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) with their Science is my Superpower events. As part of this, Mr MacLeod organised a trip for us to the Discovery Museum. First, we went in the minibus to the museum and got clipboards with trails on called Know Her Story and Climate Change. Our first trail was Climate Change, so we went to the room called Newcastle Story where we could find our answers. It talked about all the plastic used during the 1960s, which is really bad for the environment. Then we went to the Science Maze and looked at phones that were made over the years. A lot of them were plastic too. Before lunch, we went to Destination Tyneside and Story of the Tyne to complete a little challenge. We had lunch in the cafe and then went to find answers for the Know Her Story trail. We learnt a lot about pioneering and courageous women from Newcastle. At the end of the visit, we went to the gift shop and I really hope we get to go to the Discovery Museum again.” – Saja, Y5



In February, days before its 20th anniversary, Year 2 visited the Angel of the North as part of their learning about the local area. “It was exciting to go on a trip and see one of the landmarks that we had been learning about. We went on the school minibus and when we arrived, we couldn’t believe how tall it was. Did you know that it is as tall as four double decker buses? We walked around the sculpture and spotted different features on it. When we returned to school, we used our memories, and a couple of photographs that we’d taken, to help us sketch The Angel from different angles. It was a short, but great trip.” – Reem, Y2



Reception have enjoyed visits to West Denton library this term. We were invited to a special session linked to World Book Day where we were greeted by Willy Wonka and the Oompa Loompas, searched for the hidden golden tickets and enjoyed sampling Willy Wonka’s latest inventions in the tasting room. The children had a great time, were impeccably behaved and came back to school with lots of amazing new books to share in class. We really appreciated all the time and hard work the library staff put in to make it a great visit.

Year 3 have enjoyed visiting the Laing Art Gallery this term, as they have been developing their abstract art skills using a range of Kandinsky techniques. The children were excited to view



different types of art and sculptures in the gallery and they talked about their likes and dislikes within small groups. Ameen said, “I hadn’t visited an art gallery before and I was amazed by all of the different art works. It was great and I look forward to coming back again soon.”

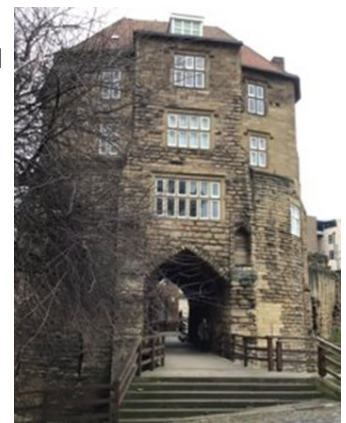
Year 1 pupils were invited to compete in The Balance Bike Derby, ran by British Cycling and Newcastle School Sport Service. Eight pupils travelled to Walker Activity Dome where a large and twisting race track had been set up in the main hall, complete with an inflatable start / finish gate. Pupils were understandably excited, which showed in action packed races that saw handlebar to handlebar racing and many thrills and spills. Both of our teams performed well, coming away with silver and gold medals. Safiyyah was voted Wingrove’s star rider for her great sporting attitude and impressive bike handling skills that saw her win all of her heats.



In the second half term, Year 2 have been studying about how fire changes the world. “To start our new topic at the beginning of March, we went on a walk around the Newcastle and Gateshead Quayside. This was because we wanted to look at the area that was devastated by The Great Fire of Gateshead and Newcastle that occurred in 1854. The fire started in Wilson’s cloth factory and spread to Bertram’s chemical warehouse, creating a huge explosion that could be heard many miles away. Wilson’s cloth factory stood where there is a tower for the Tyne Bridge on the Gateshead side of the river and there is even a plaque to commemorate the fire on the wall of the tower. It was easy to see why the people in Newcastle thought they were safe on the other side of the river, but they hadn’t realised how dangerous the flying fireballs were going to be after the explosion. It was also great to walk along the Quayside as we were also able to spot other landmarks that we had learnt about earlier in the term such as The Baltic, The Sage and Millennium Bridge.” – Khadija, Year 2



“In February, we stepped back in time on a visit around our city, Newcastle, to learn more about its history. We wanted to find out more about Newcastle so we could tell our partner school in Nancy, France, what it is like to live here. First, we visited the Quayside and learnt about the many bridges crossing the Tyne. We also visited Bessie Surtees’ house and Mrs Muse told us all about her escape to Scotland! After lunch, we went to visit the old All Saints’ Church and graveyard – it was fascinating to read about the lives of many local people who had headstones there. Our final stop was the Castle Keep, where we were shown around the outside and discovered the history behind why the castle was built. David then took us on a journey back in time to see Newcastle through the ages and to learn about the different influences on the city (such as the Normans and the Romans). Overall, it was a fantastic trip and we learnt so much about how our city evolved.” – Alaina and Anya, Y6



Schools North East Cycle Ride

Thirty pupils from Years 4, 5 and 6 were chosen to take part in a cycling project kindly funded by Schools North East. Between March and June, the pupils will take part in four bike rides, each of which use the National Cycle Network to visit local attractions and places of interest. The first ride took place on March 22nd and saw pupils cycle from Blyth Beach to St Mary’s Lighthouse where they had a tour of the island before bravely climbing to the top of the lighthouse. Pupils then cycled back to Blyth beach where they enjoyed a well-deserved lunch at Coastline Fish and Chips, having clocked up over 8 miles in the saddle. The next ride will take place on May 5th and although the routes and landmarks of each ride are kept secret, pupils have been told that the next visit will involve another island with a longer causeway.



Children North East Project

Since its creation in 2006, the David Dockray West End Young People’s Fund has been a very generous supporter of Wingrove Primary School, funding a number of projects and purchases including our school minibuses, camping trips and sports equipment, used by both pupils and the wider community. For 2022, the fund has employed the services of Children North East to consult the young people of the West End and find out how the David Dockray West End Young People’s Fund can best support them. Cathryn Gathercole of Children North East, worked alongside a team of Year 6 pupils who, in just 7 days, were able to create a questionnaire, survey 360 pupils and then analyse the results. Needless to say, staff from both Children North East and Wingrove were extremely impressed with the organisation and work ethic shown by the Year 6 pupils and would like to thank Jaafar, Zainab, Fahima, Uthman, Areeb, Taqwaa, Ahmed and Mahdia.

WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS

In response to the recent parent survey, sent out in October, we arranged different workshops for parents in school. The first one was a Parenting Workshop, run by Andrew Scott, an Educational Psychologist, and Mrs Radu. The sessions were very informal, every parent had a chance to discuss issues they struggle with and together we came up with ideas, solutions, strategies and routines to put in place. The next workshop starts on the first Monday after the Easter holidays and is a Wellbeing and Resilience Workshop. These sessions will not involve someone standing up and talking at you or delivering set information, as we know one size does not fit all. The group sessions will allow discussion around your own life and the best ways to help navigate it, especially when things become complicated. We all experience moments of stress and confusion. These sessions will be designed to help you during these times, even if you are not experiencing these things right now. The aim of this group work is to give you skills and reassurance so that when stressful events occur you will be more resilient and able to recover. In addition, we continue to hold Mums' Fitness Workshops every Wednesday in the school hall. We still have places available if you wish to sign up; forms and more information are available at the school office. We look forward to having many more parents attending them!



School Council



School Council members have been looking at ways they can help us reduce plastic waste. As a school, we go through hundreds of pens, so they decided to start by trying to recycle them. Every class now has their own pot to collect worn out pens. The School Council are then going to drop them off at a local recycling point to ensure they can be recycled. They have made a fabulous start and are keen to find out other ways we can help reduce plastic waste.

In February, Wingrove's School Council worked alongside Newcastle City Council on their "No Child Left Behind" strategy. Voice and Influence Officer, Rosemary Plummer, met with Mrs Jobson and the School Council to discuss how they would like to see the city improve over the next eight years. Pupils were asked a number of questions, including how they felt about where they lived, how Newcastle could best shape their future and what spaces, places and things pupils wanted to see more of. Rosemary and the councillors talked about many issues, but almost all pupils said they wanted more provision for young people and for Newcastle to become a cleaner and more sustainable city.



SCHOOL OF SANCTUARY – FUNDRAISING

To celebrate his 50th birthday and to raise money for the Disasters Emergency Committee (www.dec.org.uk), John decided to set up an event at the end of March, which we are sure you all had an important part in, as we raised a large amount to support a cause close to our hearts. The DEC raises funds to provide emergency aid and rapid relief to people caught up in disasters and humanitarian crises around the world. Two of their current appeals are the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal and the Afghanistan Crisis Appeal. John and Ryan, with help from children and staff, managed to run over 50 miles on treadmills, which were set up in front of our school entrance. Children were encouraged to wear blue and yellow clothing representing Ukraine's flag colours. We have also managed to collect huge donations of clothing, toys and other requested items. We sincerely thank you for all your help towards our common cause in supporting refugees and asylum seekers around the world.

