



# Summer Newsletter



Well, as another academic year comes to a close, I would like to extend my congratulations to the hard-working Wingrovians of whom I am immensely proud. You will see from the children's reports that some of them have achieved great success during 2014-15. If they continue with this hard-working attitude, they should continue to do very well indeed. Our youngest children are always so excited to show me their new skills and they work with such dedication, it's lovely to see. We have worked very hard to encourage all of our children to develop a love of reading and this has meant we can celebrate very good phonics results in year one (75%), the best reading levels ever in year six, as well as every child making expected or better progress in reading between key stage one and two. We are also celebrating success with maths in both year two and year six, where we have the best outcomes ever. Progress between the key stages in maths, at 92%, is also good. Progress in writing is also very good (98%) between the key stages, and we will continue to focus on attainment in writing across the school next year. We thank you for all your additional support offered at home, and hope that this can be built upon during the holiday. A suggested holiday reading list will be sent home this week, so children can continue learning over the summer. Our attendance figures, at 96.2% show a huge improvement on last year, and I extend my thanks to many of you for respecting the school terms, and only taking family holidays during the school holidays. In September, we will have different nursery times which means that the gates will be locked between 1500 and 1545 every day. This is for health and safety reasons, and I thank you for your understanding with this. Can I remind you to read our uniform policy which can be found on the website and in notice boards. Some children are coming to school wearing trainers, and this is not part of our policy. We also expect children to wear a cardigan or sweatshirt with the school's logo, headscarves should be in school colours (red or blue) or black, and summer dresses are either blue or red gingham. This week our library and music areas have been converted into a 'Festival of Thought' where children are encouraged to think about different questions about themselves, their friends, family, their community and the world around them. It has been a very thought-provoking experience, and one which we intend to develop next year and beyond. Finally, I'd like to extend my gratitude to my fantastic team at Wingrove, who work extremely hard to give children the best opportunities to shine. I wish everyone a very happy, restful summer holiday and happy Eid to all of you who will be celebrating soon. I look forward to welcoming you all back on September 7th, and wish those of you who are leaving, the very best of luck. In all that you do, aim for the stars!

Mrs. J. Mullarkey

## GREEN SCREEN

We have recently invested in a Green Screen. Through the wonders of technology, it allows children to act and be filmed in front of the screen and then their work can be superimposed onto virtual backgrounds and backdrops, such as a news channel or weather report. Several classes have already enjoyed using the Green Screen, including Year 4 who completed work about the Egyptians.

"Everybody in Year 4 dressed up as an ancient Egyptian and we used the Green Screen to make videos about the River Nile. One of the groups created an extra scene about the finding of King Tutankhamun's tomb. It was great fun and we hope to use it more next year!" – Ozias and Umar.



## Let's Celebrate Books!

In the penultimate week of school, we celebrated our love of reading and books. Events were held across the school to promote reading and we were visited by storyteller Chris Bostock and author of the Kernowland series of books, Jack Trelawny. Year 4 created their own limericks and poems during the week.

The sea is a lion,  
Scary, raging, wild.  
He races back and forth,  
Foaming at the mouth.

But as the day moves,  
The sea is calm,  
And the wild tiger,  
Starts snoring to sleep.

— Othman, Y4.



# Visits and Visitors

“At the end of April, Year 1 visited the Angel of the North as part of our topic work. It was a very windy day, but it didn’t stop us exploring the site and sketching the front and back of the Angel. Lots of us couldn’t believe how big the Angel was! When we got back to school, we learnt more about the Angel and we even included it in our class assembly.” – Tom, Y1.



As part of our WEST Trust, we are lucky to be part of a Science after school club at the Centre for Life. Each year group has been given the opportunity to attend the club over the course of the year. The children have loved taking part in the investigations, experiments and many interactive activities. Some of the groups have even visited the newly refurbished planetarium. We will be offering places again for the club in the next academic year. Alaiya and Rayan, Y1, said, “We were able to create an optical illusion with a picture of a bird and a cage, test water with different coloured potions and we visited the planetarium. It was really good fun!”



In May, Chris from Skipping School came to Wingrove to promote how skipping can keep you fit and healthy to Early Years and Key Stage 1. “He taught us five ways of skipping: leading with your right foot, leading with your left foot, hopping over the rope, moving forwards and backwards. We then had to show off our skills in a school assembly!” – Shafia, Y1.

The calm serenity of the lake and forest of Kielder was happily interrupted by excited Year 6 children in May. Following the hard work and concentration of SATs, they spent three fun-filled and adventurous days at Hawkfirst building rafts, sailing bell-boats, abseiling and zip-wiring, learning archery, and generally having a great time in the outdoors. They also had a go at handling some beautiful birds of prey, an amazing finale to the trip. As well as facing the challenge of scary heights and deep, dark water, they also learnt how to make their beds and how to go to sleep quietly...well, almost!



Year 6 spent a whole day learning about energy efficiency in the home. Alan Jones, from National Energy Action, came to remind us how saving electricity and gas can also save us money. Switching off unused lights, closing doors to prevent heat escaping, wearing extra clothes in cold weather instead of turning up the central heating, are all simple ways to save energy. They made solar powered cars and acted out simple dramatic scenarios to bring home the message. They need to make sure the message is carried out in their homes, too.



“Children from Year 5 recently visited Kingston Park for a rugby competition with St. John’s and English Martyrs’. Year 5 have been working with the Newcastle Falcons for the last 3 weeks, learning all about rugby. When we arrived, we were shown around the stadium, including the changing rooms, by Phil. After that, we got into 4 teams and played matches against the other schools. We all had lots of fun!” - Amrin, Y5.







On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July, the school took part in our own Race for Life to help raise money for Cancer Research UK. Our youngsters are the generation that could see ground-breaking treatments and cures for cancer in their lifetime. Key Stage 1 completed one lap of our field and Key Stage 2 completed two laps for their run. We raised £477.00 for this worthy cause. Thank you for your support.



## Wear it Wild

The Eco-Warriors arranged a special fundraising event for the whole school at the beginning of June to promote the WWF's initiative. "We organised 'Wear it Wild' Day to help raise money for endangered animals. We enjoyed baking cakes to sell on the day and we also held animal mask making sessions so children had masks to wear. We raised over £400!" – Zaynab, Y3, Eco-Warrior.



## Sports Day

At the end of June, we held our annual Sports Day across the school. John and his team created a series of events to challenge the children's balance, speed, accuracy and teamwork. Air golf, bouncy hopper races, relays and penalty shoot outs comprised some of the tasks set. "I absolutely loved Sports Day, it was so much fun. We worked so well as a team, supporting each other and cheering. I think the hardest task was trying to crawl under the big net. I kept getting stuck!" – Sitara, Y3.



## SUPERHERO DAY

On 2<sup>nd</sup> July, Year 3 had a 'Superhero Day' as part of their creative curriculum topic. All of the children made a superb effort to dress up as their favourite superhero characters. They all had a fantastic day, making capes and other accessories that a true superhero needs to save the world! Well done to Year 3 as Mrs Blashford and Miss Jordan were very proud of the effort that the children made to make the day a success.



## Forest School

Forest School has been enjoyed by all children in Reception this year. It has been a great success and has had many positive outcomes for the children's learning. "On Thursdays, we go to Forest School in the trees at the back of our school. We look for butterflies and ladybirds and we climb on the trees and have fun." – Aws, RJT.



## Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will continue to be available to the whole school when we return in September. It costs £1 a day or 75p, if you are in receipt of Free School Meals. Breakfast is served between 08:15 and 08:35. There is a selection of porridge, cereal, toast, fruit and yoghurts to choose from with drink options of fruit juice, milk or hot chocolate. Following breakfast, children can choose from a range of sports activities or use the computer suite to either go on the computers or play board games. Anisha, Y2, said, "I like coming to Breakfast Club because I enjoy eating toast and jam." Eisha, Y6, added, "I come most days because I like playing on the computers and playing games in the hall after my breakfast."



## Top Table



"My Top Table lunch experience was great! It is a reward for getting lots of ticks in our Skills Passports and two children from each class are chosen by their teachers. On the table, we had a golden cover and we were able to choose any food we wanted from the school menu. For lunch, I chose fish fingers, wedges and beans for my main course and I had a cookie and ice cream for dessert. I also had orange juice as my drink. I hope the Top Table can continue next year because I really enjoyed it." – Sarah, Y2.

## Outdoor Learning



As many of you will have noticed, we have developed our outdoor learning space this term. We have added a canopy over the Year 2 classrooms and an outdoor classroom has been created in the Key Stage 2 yard. We hope that these new areas will help the children have a more enriched learning experience.



## CHANGES TO OUR TEAM

At the end of term, Mr Wilson will be taking early retirement. He has been integral to Wingrove's success over the years and he will be greatly missed. Emma has left her role and will not be returning to school after maternity leave. We also say goodbye to Miss Dick, as she moves on to continue with her studies. We thank them all for their service. We welcome Ms Debra Element as our new Attendance Assistant, Miss Matthews as a Year 6 teacher and Mrs Paxton as a TA in Year 4.

## Track and Field Championships

On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July, 50 children took part in the English Schools' Athletic Association Track and Field Championships at Gateshead Stadium. "We watched the high jump, javelin and running races in the morning. Then we were given special badges and we had lunch. After lunch, we were grouped as a county and we were given exciting souvenirs. At the end of the day, we performed a parade around Gateshead Stadium, waving flags and showing off our banners. We all had a lovely day in the sunshine and I hope we can do it again next year. Thank you to Miss Jordan, Mrs Duncan, Miss Devine and Miss Thorpe for taking us." - Dania, Y3.

## Diary Dates

The summer term ends for pupils on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 14:30.

### Autumn term dates:

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September — Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Half term: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October — Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October

Staff training day: Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

### Spring term dates:

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January — Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Half term: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February — Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February

Staff training day: Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March