



# Spring Newsletter



Welcome to the second newsletter of this academic year, and as you can see, this term has been a very busy one indeed. We are currently working on different ways to enhance the curriculum by providing exciting opportunities for learning so that the children can achieve their very best. We are also looking at ways we can support others, in order to develop responsibility for the wider community. The Fairtrade work supports this effort, as well as the work of the eco-warriors and the Global Citizen work with which we are heavily involved. I have, however, noticed that our local community is beginning to look uncared for. In particular, the build up of rubbish on the streets and fly tipping on the grassed areas on Hadrian Road. This is so sad to see that some people show a complete disregard for others, and irresponsibly dump their rubbish in the area, instead of using the proper channels to dispose of it. It is shocking to see that our community streets are being spoilt in this way by a small number of families. Please encourage your children to be responsible citizens by caring about our environment and by doing the right thing.

This year our swimming lessons have been dedicated to Year Three. This is because we felt that it would have a greater impact allowing the children time to acquire such important skills. It is our plan to continue with this focus. It does mean that the children who are currently in Year Six have missed the opportunity to swim. So, in order to make up for this, we will be focusing on this year group in the final term of this academic year. Can I take this opportunity to thank those of you who came to parents' evenings this term. As always, they were very well attended. I always collect the figures and present them to our governors. The turn out is always above 80% in each year group which is good to see. We will be looking into changing the format a little and involve the children in these consultations from September, but I will share this with you all next term. Next term sees the introduction of the new lunchtime menus from Chartwells, our catering company. Menus work on a three-week rota system and have been reviewed to include a salad bar, fresh bread, yoghurt and fruit and milk as part of the regular daily offer. Meals are £10 per week, payable in advance on a Monday. The envelopes and post box are all in the main foyer of the school. If you think you may be entitled to a free school meal, please come to the main office and a member of the team will advise you. Did you know that for every child in receipt of free school meals, the school receives additional money in the budget? We use this money to fund extra staff, resources and specialists in order to ensure that all children are given the same opportunity to thrive. See the website for further details about the Pupil Premium spend. May I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy Easter holiday. I hope you can find time to visit new places, so children can share these new experiences with their friends when they return to school on Monday 11th April. Remember we have a training day on Thursday this week and we will therefore be closed to pupils.

*Mrs Mullarkey*



Our representatives did an amazing job of running Wingrove's first Fairtrade stall at the recent parents' evenings. Each class studied the idea of trading fairly as part of Fairtrade fortnight. The children were keen to share the message of Fairtrade, as well as sell a fabulous selection of Fairtrade treats. Thank you to everyone who bought something as it helps us take another step towards achieving the 'FairAware' Fairtrade school award.



## Dance Festival

Our school Dance Club recently took part in a Festival of Dance at Newcastle City Hall. Other schools from across the city were invited too, as Newcastle celebrated dancing within schools. Although it wasn't a competition, a few of us were still nervous before we performed our routine to a song by Meghan Trainor. Once we were on stage, our nerves soon disappeared! I had a really great time and thank you to Steph for choreographing the dance and to our parents for coming to watch us. – Ellie, Y4.



# Visits and Visitors

In February, a group of children visited Kielder Forest for a bike trail. "I had so much fun! It felt amazing, thrilling and tiring all at the same time. I loved riding up and down the tracks and hills, although sometimes it was really difficult to reach the top. Even though it was quite cold, we soon warmed up once we were pedalling hard. I hope there will be more exciting trips like this in the future with our P.E teachers." – Maryam, Y6.



This term, Year 5 went to the Centre for Life to learn more about, and investigate, Science. "First of all, we were able to walk around and explore the Centre for Life. There were lots of fun things to investigate like magnets, circuits and sand machines. My favourite was the sand machine because it was really interesting. Then, we went to watch a 4D motion film and it was amazing. It squirted water at us, the seats moved and bubbles were even blasted at us!



We also got to complete some investigations that involved building the best plane and checking how fast objects fall from a certain height. There was also a robot exhibition on while we were there and we had the chance to look at that as well. It was a great, informative day and we learned lots more about Science. —Saif, Y5.

Wingrove recently entered two teams into the West End Schools' Trust basketball tournament held at Northumbria University's Sports Central. "I really enjoyed the experience. It was amazing to play on a real basketball court used by professionals. Our matches were played before a Newcastle Eagles match and we were able to experience all the music that they play in real basketball matches! The best bit was seeing our team name in lights on the scoreboard. Our teams came second and third out of the five teams that played." – Rafael, Y6.



With thanks to Dave Moore for the photographs.



Lip Lee returned in February for his annual visit to help us celebrate Chinese New Year. He completed a workshop with each class, which involved making traditional Chinese decorations, before delivering a whole school assembly where we were treated to a Chinese lion dance to traditional music. "I really enjoyed the workshop with Lip Lee. We made origami Chinese emperors and empresses and although they looked really difficult to make, Lip helped us to make them step by step. The assembly was really entertaining. The lion was a little bit scary when it hovered over me!" - Basiya, Y3.







# Music



The corridors have been alive with the sound of music this half term, as many classes have enjoyed instrumental tuition or a project from Newcastle Music Service. Reception and Morning Nursery have enjoyed 'All Aboard' and



'Tis the Season' with Fran and Janet. They have learned some fabulous new songs and are beginning to recognise and identify the sounds that different instruments make. Pop down to Nursery and ask the children to sing you their new songs! In Year 3, the children have been learning to play the ukulele with Mr Collins. Their rendition of 'Johnny Be Good' is stirring stuff! They have learned how to play several chords and how to change between them. "I've really enjoyed learning how to play the ukulele and I liked how we were able to learn a new song each week. My favourite one was 'Rockin' All Over

the World' by Status Quo. I think the hardest part was changing between 'c' and 'g,' but I got there in the end!" - Kulsuma, Y3. Year 5 have continued their trumpet lessons with Mr Rudkin. They are now able to read music with confidence and can play a variety of tunes with different beats.

This plethora of music making has been recognised by our local music service. We are proud to be able to announce that due to, 'the work that colleagues do to ensure that pupils at your school are able to engage and access with music education,' and, 'our dedication to a broad and balanced curriculum offer,' we have been chosen to be members of Music Mark. This membership gives us access to many new resources to develop music teaching even further.



## International Women's Day

For the second year, we celebrated International Women's Day. International Women's Day is celebrated around the world on 8th March every year. It represents an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of women and we hope to use this worldwide event to inspire all our children to never give up and achieve their dreams.

This year, each class chose an inspirational woman to research. Each child then created a portrait of their chosen famous woman. Some classes sketched, some painted while some created collages. Every piece of art work was entered into a Portrait Competition and prizes were awarded for the best portrait and most effort in each year group. Well done to all of our winners!

We also held our first ever Wingrove Bake Off as part of our celebrations. We were overwhelmed by the fantastic support and brilliant creations. It was incredible to choose the winner because we certainly have some very talented bakers in our school!





# Science Week

11th—18th March



We have had yet another successful Science Week at Wingrove, with all year groups taking part in a range of exciting experiments. Reception to Y6 had the pleasure of meeting John the Magician on Tuesday morning where he performed a variety of scientific magic tricks, with many of our children being his helpful assistants. He also informed us about the benefits of healthy eating. Animal Story worked with Years 3 and 4, providing workshops related to classification and endangered earth. All classes enjoyed writing scientific vocabulary on their lab coats - they have certainly all looked the part! One child from each class was awarded scientist of the week and received a fabulous science book as a prize. Aishah in Y2 said at the beginning of the week that she wasn't keen on Science, but by Monday lunchtime she had changed her mind and was enthralled in our experiments! Neha, Y2, added, "I loved making human bubbles! Our bubble was as high as my waist!" Thank you to everyone for taking part in what was a truly fantastic week! - Mrs Blashford



experiments! Neha, Y2, added, "I loved making human bubbles! Our bubble was as high as my waist!" Thank you to everyone for taking part in what was a truly fantastic week! - Mrs Blashford



## Show Racism the Red Card

Years 5 and 6 have been learning about racism with Show Racism the Red Card. "We took part in a football workshop outside with Richard and ex-footballer, Dean Gordon. They were able to show us different types of warm-up activities and also explained to us how racism can affect everyone no matter who they are. Racism can occur because of someone's skin colour, culture, religion and nationality. We also completed a workshop in our classroom with Tina and we played games, such as Chinese whispers and true or false, to show how an innocent phrase can be turned into a hurtful one. It was one of the best workshops we've ever had and now Years 5 and 6 can help Show Racism the Red Card by teaching others about racism." – Khadeeja, Y5 & Ndiya, Y6.



JOBS • EDUCATION • TRAINING  
Helping you find your way in the UK

Jobs, Education, Training have been delivering weekly sessions to a group of our mothers. This is a very successful group who learn about a range of subjects, from healthy eating to UK Law. The sessions are held on a Thursday afternoon in the Robert Stewart Memorial Hall opposite Wingrove. Please speak to Diane Dick for more information.

## Parents' Group

In March, the parents' group visited Fenham library for the first time. Many of the parents were asking where they could find extra books for their children to read, but they were not registered with a library. We went to the library and registered both the parents and the children with the library. It was a very easy process and now they have access to a huge range of books. It was a highly successful trip! – Mrs Hussain.

## Eco-Warriors

The Eco-Warriors have carried out their Environmental Review and they have decided to target energy, transport and school grounds this year. We are in the process of developing a Sensory Garden in the KS2 yard and have organised a competition for all children (Nursery - Yr6) to design a piece of art (sculpture, mobile, furniture etc) to go in it. Design entries need to be given to Mrs Rutter by Wednesday 13th April. The winning entry from FS/KS1 and KS2 will be turned into a piece of art and have pride of place in the Sensory Garden.