

# Year 5 Giraffes



## Class Report 2015-16





What a busy and exciting year we have had! We have lots to write about and hope you enjoy reading about these things as much as we enjoyed taking part in them.

### Walking with Witches



We started the year with a short topic which taught us about on our local area. We focused our learning around a class reader called "Walking with Witches" which is a story set in Newcastle.

We all enjoyed "Walking with Witches" and produced a class display on it where everyone's work was up on the wall. Some of us made dream catchers as Eleanor is given a dream catcher in the story. Our favourite part of the story was when the girls made hot chocolate for each other. We had a go at making our own.



Megan said this:

*"Near the start of the year we made hot chocolate. We were split into four groups as it took time. We poured some milk into a large pan and turned the oven on so that the milk would be nice and warm. Each person took it in turns to stir the milk and we had to keep the spoon turning at the edge of the pan so that the milk would not*

*burn. Miss Cameron brought in some Cadbury's hot chocolate, whipped cream and some mini marshmallows to put on top of the hot chocolate. Our mouths were covered in whipped cream when we were finished. It was very tasty!"*

## Band in a box- violins and cellos



During the Autumn term we learned to play the violin with Miss McShane and Miss Coleman. This was an exciting opportunity and we had lots of fun!



Abby said this:

*"At the beginning of the year we did band in a box and it was really fun! Some of us learned to play the cello and some of us learned to play the violin. I played the violin. Some parts were really hard and some parts were easier. When we played them with our fingers it really hurt them and the bow was hard to hold, it felt like you were going to hit your head with it. We did this every Wednesday though and got better and better. We learned to play tunes to match songs .I really enjoyed doing this and performing to our parents."*

## School council



At the start of the year we had an election to choose who our class school councillors would be. The people who wanted to be on school council had to do a speech to say what they would do to help improve our school. Some people made posters. We then went to the gym and voted for one boy and one girl. The school council is an important part of our school as then we can make decisions about different events.

## Cinema visit



We went to the cinema with the rest of Key Stage 2. It was really good and we got to watch a film on the massive TV. We even had snacks too and I enjoyed eating the popcorn. We watched the film called "Believe", it was about a boy who played football and he liked it and he played for a team with his friends.

*By Max*

## E-safety play in a day



This year we did a play in a day. We met Amy, she was the lady that came in to teach us the play. It was all about cyber bullying. We had to get in shapes of computers and different devices. She taught us what cyber bullying is and why it was very important to stay safe on the internet. At 2 'o Clock all the audience came in to the gym and Amy introduced us. We did the play and when we finished we got a big clap and we were all proud. It was a really fun day and we all enjoyed it.



*By Katarzyna*

## Mini-chef



In the Autumn term we were visited by three people from Excelsior. They told us that there was going to be a competition to make omelettes. First we learned how to make different kinds of omelettes. After that, we had to split into groups of three and see how fast we could make an omelette. It was competition to see who could be the fastest. Rasan, Maddison and Megan won! They went along to Excelsior a few weeks later but unfortunately they didn't win. We all had fun tasting the different omelettes though.



## Children in Need



We had a special day to raise money for Children in Need. Everyone came to school wearing their pyjamas or onesies, even the teachers did too! We enjoyed doing different activities and there were biscuits on sale too. It was a very fun day and we enjoyed helping a charity. Some of the younger children got to see Pudsey bear.

*By Corie*



## Dance with Dolly



Near the start of the year, Year 5 got to do dancing with Dolly. The first dance we did was a Spanish dance from Spain and we learned that it was called Flamenco. We had to do high kicks and flicks. It was kind of hard at first and some of boys absolutely hated it. After we had finished the Spanish dancing we had moved on to ballet. This was rather tricky. The dance that everyone enjoyed the most was street dancing because there were some cool moves and everyone could join in.

*By Megan*



## Castle Keep trip



In November we went on an exciting trip to the Castle Keep which is in Newcastle. We had a brilliant day despite the miserable weather!

We decided to visit the Castle Keep as this is where a lot of the events take place in our class reader, which was called "Walking with Witches". We also had to choose a place or area of Newcastle for our Reggio project and we thought this building would be exciting to look at as it is extremely old.



When we got there we looked around the black gate and the front of the castle. We learned about why the castle was built and how it was called the "New



Castle" which is where the name "Newcastle" comes from. We then went inside and looked at all of the different rooms including the great hall and even the toilet! We split into different groups and shared what we had found out. One of the rooms even had some ancient graffiti on the wall.

After looking at the different rooms most of the class decided to climb over 100 stairs to get up onto the roof. The view was magnificent and you could see for miles! The buses, trees, trains and people looked so small. You could even see the Tyne Bridge, Millennium Bridge and some more bridges.



When we went back inside some people got dressed up as knights and we also did an activity about the witch hunter. It was such an exciting day!

## Coca Cola Truck



We were invited to visit the Coca Cola truck just before Christmas. It was parked in Asda which was also near the Metro Centre. It was really fun and we got lots of photos taken because we were V.I.Ps. They even gave us a free can of cola each and we could choose which type we wanted.

*By Shane*

## Christmas Celebrations



In the weeks before Christmas we were all very busy! Some of us enjoyed helping Miss Cameron to decorate our class by putting up the Christmas tree. We also had fun making a recycled Christmas tree out of Coca Cola cans for a competition with the other schools in our Trust. We enjoyed wearing our Christmas jumpers and helping to raise some money for charity. We really enjoyed having a party with the Leopards too. Some of the games were extremely funny! Santa Claus also came and gave everyone a special treat. After we had played the games in the hall we enjoyed eating the party food.





We enjoyed wearing our Christmas jumpers when we had our Christmas dinner! We were able to wear them twice this year and help to raise money for charity.

We tried really hard on our recycled Christmas tree and were inspired by our visit to the Coca Cola truck. Unfortunately, we didn't win the competition but it was great to see all the other interesting designs from the different schools who entered.



Some of us also took part in the "Cinderella Rockerfella" performance and put on a fantastic show for all of our friends and parents to enjoy. Some of us had main parts and had to learn a lot of lines. We were really proud of everyone for working so hard!



## Road Safety training



We were visited by Schools Go Smarter. We took part in a road safety workshop and learned how to "Walk Smart". Firstly we were inside and listened to a talk about safe places to cross. We also looked at why it is important to wear a seatbelt and to use a bike helmet. After that we went outside in groups and we practised crossing the road safely using the Green Cross Code.

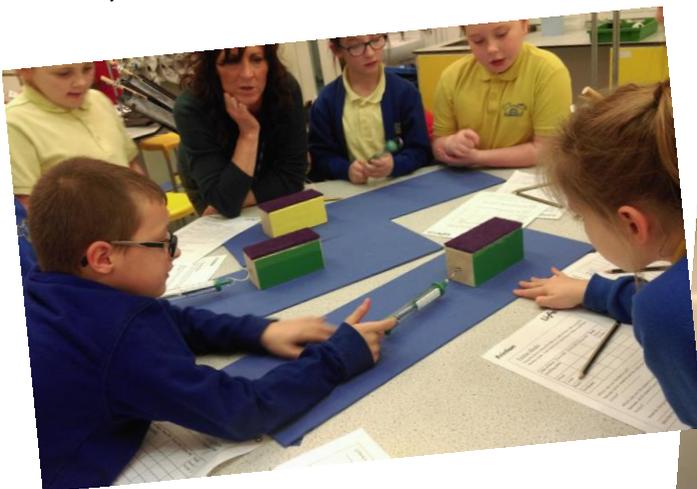
*By Rasan*

## Science Club



This year some children from our class have been going to a science club which happens on a Tuesday at Centre for Life. Miss McIver took us each week on the minibus and Miss Cameron decided to come for a visit. We learned lots about being a scientist and covered some interesting topics. We particularly enjoyed learning about forces and measuring friction. We also liked when we went into the planetarium and found out about space.

*By Ella*



## Hoops 4 Health



Year 5 were visited by some of the Newcastle Eagles basketball players. They told us about the importance of keeping fit, not smoking, eating healthily and also some basketball skills. We were able to take part in three workshops and enjoyed working with a coach and learning to play the game. After some practising we went along to

Sports Central for a competition against other schools from all over the city. It was a tough competition but we were an excellent team and worked very well together. We were even on the news!

Gary said this:

*"In January basketball players from the Eagles came to our school to talk about basketball. Year 5 did a basketball competition and some people went and even though we didn't win we had a lot of fun and worked together as a team. The Eagles coach came to teach us basketball and we did a little game at the end."*



## Swimming



Every Friday we go swimming. I really like swimming and I am good at it now. My favourite is backstroke and I am really good at that and I can go fast. Sometimes we get some balls and floats and we have a fun day! I like going in the deep water and diving in.

*By Jimmy*

## PE and sports competitions



This year we have really enjoyed our P.E. lessons! We have covered lots of different sports and activities and have learned lots about keeping fit. We have really enjoyed having lessons with Ian and Dolly, our P.E. coaches and have covered lots of exciting sports and dances. We all try our best and aim to continue to get better and set ourselves personal targets.

Macaully said this:

*"This year in Year 5 I have enjoyed P.E. and I went to the athletics competition with Rasan, Holly, Shanice, Max and some of the Year 6s. I have been to all of the competitions! We were racing with other schools in Newcastle and the Trust. The other things that we were doing were: racing, jumping, throwing rockets made out of foam. Ian, our P.E teacher, added up all of the scores and told us who had the most points. We all tried our best."*



Maddie said this:

*"Some people out of Year five went to a hockey competition at the Turf. They really enjoyed it and they played against other schools and tried to win the competition. At first I didn't even think I would be good at it but it all turned out pretty well."*

## Band in a box- Samba



After Christmas we learned to play Samba music with Franco and Steve. We worked on learning the different rhythms on the different instruments and practised together for 12 weeks. We then put on an amazing performance!

Maddie said this:

*"All KS2 children had a band in a box performance for their parents and also other children came to watch. Each class either did samba or djembe, it was amazing and outstanding just like Bridgewater is. All classes were fantastic and Mrs Stoker welcomed everyone that came. Someone from Year 5 went to help some of the younger ones and that was Macaully, he was very supportive."*

## Mr. Gray



This year we have been lucky to have an extra teacher for eight weeks. In February we found out that we would be having a new teacher called Mr. Gray. Miss Cameron would still be the original teacher but Mr. Gray was going to be teaching some of the lessons. Everyone in Year five wanted Mr. Gray to teach so they could see what he did differently to Miss Cameron. Mr Gray has been helping out in Year five for a few weeks and is a very good teacher. He is really funny and teaches well and helps you. He laughs at half of Miss Cameron's jokes because they are funny.

*By Holly M*

## Respect Week



During Respect Week we learned about ways to be respectful. We came up with our own poems about respect and kindness and learned a cool respect rap. We worked in groups to learn the rap off by heart and came up with our own actions. We earned lots of respect tokens and won the competition across the school.



## Cycle Smart

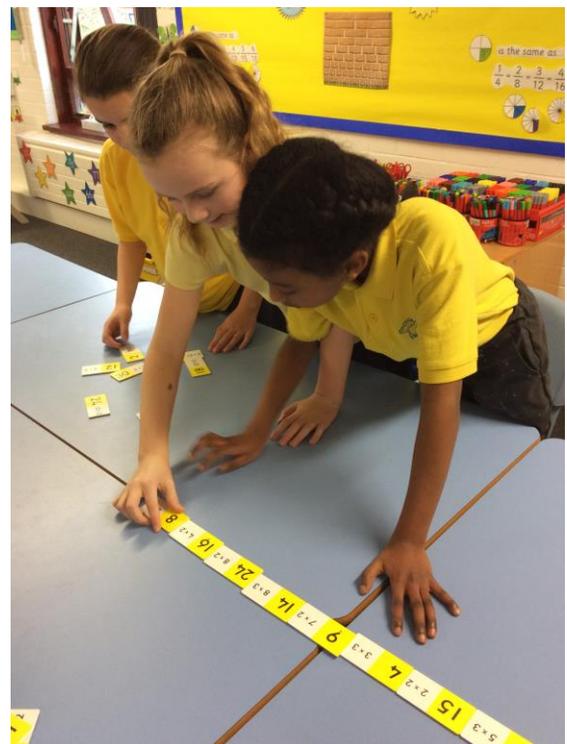
Some of our class took part in Cycle Smart this year. The children brought their bikes and helmets or borrowed them from school. We got split into two groups, with two adults on each one, then we practiced on the yard. We practiced riding with one hand and then looking around on the bike, we practiced quick stops and a lot more



skills. When we were all ready, the next day we all headed outside on the road and we walked with our team and they showed us how to ride a U turn; this is where you would have to do a big turn on the road so you ended up on the opposite side. They showed us to ride next to a car that is parked. After lunch we all rode down a big hill and had some Kit-Kats. It was really fun and we really enjoyed it and now we know how to be safe on our bikes.

*By Katarzyna*

## World Maths Day



During World Maths Day we did lots of marvellous maths! We did a big investigation to find out the total height of our class. It was a rather tricky challenge but we had lots of fun working out the answer. We had to try out different ways of measuring each other to make sure we were accurate and then we compared how tall we were with the Angel of the North, the Statue of Liberty and a double decker bus!

After our maths investigation we played times tables dominoes and then tried the harder division dominoes to get our maths brains really working. In the afternoon everyone got chance to play Top Trumps for a maths competition. Abby won!



### World Book Day and Book Week



We had lots of fun during book week. We listened to lots of stories, chose books from the library, created our own characters and settings. We also designed our own book cover and wrote a new blurb for our class reader "The Demon Headmaster." We enjoyed coming to school dressed as our favourite book character or in our pyjamas.



## Wolf on Trial



During book week we were invited to the court to be the jury for the trial of Alexander .T. wolf For MURDER! The story was based on 'The Three Little Pigs' and we had to listen to the evidence from Alexander and the judge. Alexander said he was just asking for an ingredient for his grandma's cake but the pig would not let him in. Then he

said he had the sniffles and 'ACHOO!' He sneezed and he said never let good food go to waste so he ate the pig. Next the last pig was on a video talking and said she was very scared. At the end we had to vote and the wolf was found guilty by the jury and sentenced to life in prison. It was exciting to take part in this activity.

*By Codie*

## Edible Science



In science we learned about the phases of the moon. We made the Crescent moon, the full moon, waning gibbous and the rest of the phases out of yummy Oreos! We had to half some even by taking the top off some of them. Miss Cameron had a limited supply only so there were no second chances for the Oreo moons. It was really fun and at the end we ate the Oreos, they were really yummy!

*By David*



## Sport Relief



To help raise money for Sport Relief we took part in a continuous run. When it our class's turn we each ran around a circuit which Ian had set up on the yard. We had to keep passing the baton on. Miss Cameron even managed to do a few laps! It was great fun and we loved helping to raise money for charity.



Year 5 also made biscuits to do with Sports Relief. They made football t-shirts, trophies, football pitches, gingerbread men football players and a football. They decorated them with icing and different kinds of sweets. Each group that made the biscuits tried one of their own and one of another groups. The other group's biscuits were delicious. Most groups wanted the gingerbread footballers that had lots of sweets on. The football t-shirts had black and white icing on them. Each group made at least sixteen biscuits and got two each.

*By Millie Jo*



## Extreme Earth



Our second topic this year was called "Extreme Earth!" During this topic we learned lots about earthquakes, mountains, rivers and volcanoes. We were able to cover lots of geography and learned about different countries too. We were able to link lots of subjects with our topic.

James said this:

*"I liked it when we made volcanoes as part of our topic work. We made the volcanoes with newspaper and mod rock. My partner was Shane."*



*When the volcanoes were done we got to erupt them. We needed a box to put the volcano in so the lava didn't go all over the table. After it erupted it smelt like vinegar. We used bicarbonate of soda and vinegar. We had to mix the ingredients to make the explosion. It was so much fun making it. We even showed the other classes how to make an erupting volcano in our class assembly."*



At the end of our second topic we did a class assembly to present what we had learned to our friends and parents. We didn't have long to rehearse but we put on a brilliant performance.

Millie said this:

*"Year 5 did a class assembly and it went perfect. We started with talking about earthquakes and what to do if an earthquake strikes. We sang a song called "What's it Like When Volcanoes Blow." Gary was a mad scientist and had to make a volcano explode using vinegar and bicarbonate soda. Mrs Stephenson, our head of Governors, very kindly brought in a real piece of lava that her nephew, a geologist, brought back from Lanzarote."*





### Excelsior visit



Excelsior invited us along for a transition visit to find out what life is like in their school. We had a good day.

Codie said this:

*"When we went to Excelsior we went on the trampolines and everyone had a turn. Mr. Gray had a turn and he nearly fell off! We also played Danish long ball. In this game you have to kick the ball and run as fast as you can. The fielders have to try and hit you with the ball and you have to get to a certain*

*point to be safe. After we had played the games and played on the trampolines we went for dinner. There were lots of choices of food and cake. After that we went to the Milburn cooking area and we made fruit salad. We learned new techniques like the claw and the bridge. They were very useful."*



### Greek vases



As part of our third topic on the Ancient Greeks we made Greek vases. These are sometimes called amphora vases. Firstly, we designed our vases in our sketchbook. Next we sculpted our vases out of clay and used modelling tools to add some details. About a week or so later we painted our vases using the appropriate colours. It was lots of fun but also tricky using the clay.

## Enterprise week



In the first half of the Summer term we had enterprise week. Our class worked in six groups to come up with different stalls for the fair which was held on the Friday. All of the groups decided to run games based on the theme which was "The Seaside". We had to make posters which we put up to advertise our stall and a banner so people knew what our stall was. We also had to decide how much to charge people so that we would make a profit.



The fair was a great success and everyone had lots of fun! Miss Cameron, Miss Turnbull and Mr. Gray joined in with all of our stalls too. We were pleased when we counted up our money that every team had made a profit and the whole class raised over £70 so we were all very happy!



Hazel said this:

*"Each class did a stall for the enterprise fair. The names of the stalls were Shoot the Seagull, Pin the Fin on the Shark, Seaside Numbers, Seaside Wheel, Dizzy Dolphins and Seaweed Sticks. Every day of the week they did part of their game. They had to make a stall sign with their team name, their game name and the price. They made four little posters to go around the school. Some groups did the rules so they didn't always have to repeat the same things."*



## Duck Productions



During enterprise we also took part in a workshop called "Duck Productions". We had to work in teams to buy resources, make paper ducks and try to make a profit. It was quite tricky making the ducks but it was lots of fun!



## Dentist workshop



During the Summer term we were visited by some dental students. We learned about oral hygiene.

KatieRose said this:

*"Year 5 had two visitors that were training to be dentists. They were two ladies. They picked Shane to be the dentist and David to be the patient. Shane had to look inside David's mouth and then the dentists showed them how to brush their teeth. At the end Abby and Taylor got a purple tablet to see how good they could brush their teeth, Taylor and Abby could not get the purple colour off their lips. Then the two ladies gave us all stickers and some people won a new toothbrush."*



## Working with an artist



This year each class had to choose an area of Newcastle to focus their artwork around. We decided to choose the Castle Keep as this linked with our first class reader. To produce our artwork we worked with an artist called Sally. She came in to work with us for two sessions and helped us to produce an amazing banner which we are really proud of.

During the first session, we worked with Sally to produce drawings of things which you can see from the roof of the Castle Keep. We made a long list of things which we had seen on our trip there- over 40 different things!



In the second session, different groups worked with Sally as she was in for the full day. Each group worked on different sections of a huge banner and had different tasks to do. Every person in our class got to design their own little picture so everyone was included and we all had a go at using the iron too.

Abby said this:

*"We made a huge fabric banner of the Castle Keep. We put a big picture of the castle in the middle and cut letters out to spell the words "Newcastle Castle Keep". Each person made a picture for the border, I made a tree. There were pictures including: buses, cars and trees as these are things you can see from the roof of the castle. We had to draw our designs on bonda web and ironed them onto pretty fabrics and stuck them onto the banner base. After that we glued pom-poms on as another border. It was really fun!"*



## Saltwell Park



As a treat for winning 'Respect Week' we visited Saltwell Park. Unfortunately when we got there it rained quite heavily and we got a little bit soggy. Firstly, we went to see the animals and some of the birds were talking at us. After we had seen the animals we walked through the trees to get to the play park. Despite the rain, we had a fantastic morning and enjoyed playing



on all of the equipment, which we had to ourselves.

Miss

Cameron even had a go on both of the slides and two different swings! Everyone had a brilliant time. After we had played on the equipment we went into the maze. It was rather tricky but luckily everyone made it out to the end.



## Exciting times ahead...



As you can see it has been a really busy and exciting year in the Giraffes and time has gone so fast. We have covered so many different topics and have had a lot of fun along the way. Our reading and writing are improving all of the time and we are always trying our best. Miss Cameron and Miss Turnbull are proud that we are getting to grips with using ambitious vocabulary and making our work interesting and engaging. Likewise, our maths is developing day by day and we are becoming much more confident with using the formal written methods for all four operations and trying to solve more challenging problems. We have enjoyed learning and growing together this year! We have had a very enjoyable time and it's not over yet. We are now looking forward to our trip to the beach, Beamish Wild and possibly a few more treats over the next few weeks. We can't wait!

Thank you for reading! ☺