

As this academic year comes to an end we'd like to share with you what the children have been doing over the summer term. All classes have been on trips, had stay and plays with their parents, class assemblies and In Harmony performances. I hope you enjoy reading about them. Children in KS1 and 2 have successfully completed their SATs and we are very proud of what they have achieved. Our Y6 children are preparing to transfer to secondary school and we wish them all every success in their next school.

We also have to say happy retirement to Gillian Gibson our Extended Services Manager who after having worked here for 17 years is leaving us. Gillian has contributed greatly to the life of the school and we will greatly miss her but wish her well in her retirement. Miss Watts our Wrap Around Coordinator is leaving us too to train to be a teacher. We also say good luck to Miss Roberts, Miss Scott and Miss Paxton who are leaving for promotion. Miss Snell will also be leaving as Miss Walton is returning from maternity leave so we wish her well in her future career.

Y6 Stay Away



Year 6 had an absolutely amazing time on their stay away to Whithaugh Park in the Scottish Borders. They had

two action-packed days including lots of adventurous activities- many of which they'd never tried before. During their time away from home they climbed tall towers and abseiled back down, went canoeing, rode on a huge zip wire over a lake, jumped into the lake, went on a stream adventure, spent time swimming and took part in a low-rope

obstacle course. Everyone had a fantastic



time and really pushed themselves to try new things! Lots of wonderful memories made before

moving on to secondary school.



Y6 Sailing trip

Two groups of Year 6 children were very lucky to have the amazing opportunity to take part in a sailing experience with Ocean Youth Trust North. They spent time on the James Cook sailing boat and took part in an overnight adventure down the River Tyne from North Shields to the Quayside. The trip involved learning all about sailing and working together with from Hawthorn be part of the had to prepare steer at the lookout, raise



and also ensure the boat was safely towed for an overnight stay. Everyone had a fantastic time and learned lots about working together and the importance of communication.

learning all and working children Primary to crew. They the boat, helm, keep the sails

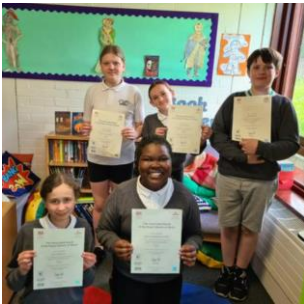
RedStart Workshop



Year 6 took part in a workshop with Red Start. They visited Hoult's Yard and learned about finance.

They had to do various challenges to try and make money and had to decide if to invest their money or save it in the bank. The children learned about saving, earning, spending, interest, borrowing and risks and reward. They were also lucky to have a tour of the Opencast Software offices.

Music exams



Amazing achievement by some of our Year 6 children. As part of the In Harmony project, they took their Grade 1 music exam last half term. This involved playing a variety of pieces and scales

where they were assessed by the Association Board of the Royal Schools of Music. 12 children passed this and some also achieved a merit. This is outstanding!



Year 6 Leavers

Year 6 have been working with Mrs Sinclair to produce their leavers' video. They have been learning a song and are going to be recording this using professional

recording equipment like in a music studio. They have also been filming for the video and have enjoyed learning about how to create different shots and use a green screen to create different special effects. We can't wait to share the final video!

Ice-cream treat!

Year 6 children were lucky to be visited by the ice-cream van and received a delicious treat for their hard work over this year. They



enjoyed an extended break and some time in sun eating

their tasty treats. Thank you to Vision and Mr Beechey for organising this.

Spanish Day



Earlier this term, we enjoyed celebrating Spanish Day! We learned all about different Spanish speaking countries including: Spain, Mexico, Argentina

and Guatemala. We learned how the Ancient



Maya made worry dolls in Guatemala in South America. We then they had a go at making our own. We also learned about the Day of the Dead which is celebrated in Mexico and decorated our own sugar skulls. In our

Spanish lesson with Mrs Bennaceur, we learned how to sing "Heads, shoulders, knees and toes" in Spanish.

Stay and Play



This term, we have enjoyed welcoming parents and carers into school for our OPAL stay and play sessions. These have provided opportunities

for all the grown-ups to see what we have done to improve our outdoor play and learning across the school. It has been wonderful to see so many parents joining these sessions and playing alongside their children and exploring our new areas. We even received a Gold Award for our amazing work to improve play!

Y5



Quayside Trip and Discovery Museum

Visit Year 5 have been lucky enough to be involved in lots of trips this half term. At the

start of the half term, we took a walk along the Quayside to inspect the River Tyne and the 7 bridges along it as part of our Local Area Study in History and Geography. We stopped to sketch the bridges and had a picnic outside by the Millennium Bridge.



We also got to visit the Discovery Museum where we got to find out more about the history of Newcastle and the Tyne Bridge. We found out that the Medieval Tyne Bridge had shops, houses and chapel on before it was destroyed by flooding in 1771.

were put through our paces with some 'secret agent clown training'. We had two visits to Ferguson Lodge care home where our mission was to spread joy and happiness to



defeat Dr Gloom! The residents loved cheering us on as we completed our challenges.

Sports days



Forest School



We have learnt to whittle, balance stones and stay safe in a wildlife area.



Y4



Year 4 visited Lindisfarne over two days. They saw the priory where the monks lived and they saw the castle. The children now understand how it was easy for the priory to have been attacked by Vikings.



The Year 4 Honeybees worked on their

creativity whilst making crowns to celebrate the King's Coronation. We enjoyed showing off our fabulous royal designs to each other



Year 4 Honeybees have enjoyed taking part in the Woven Next Playful Lives project. We

Y3



The Year 3 Elephant class went to the Whitley Bay Playhouse to perform at the Newcastle School Dance Festival. Their

dance to *Kings and Queens* by Ava Max was inspired by Boudica's rebellion to the Roman Invasion of Britain.



Year 3 visited Cragside House and Gardens to learn more about Lord Armstrong and all his fascinating inventions. We were very

lucky with the weather that day and had fun in the playground during our lunch break.



In DT we made pasta from scratch! All we needed was flour and eggs. We have learnt all about Italy as part of our Geography lessons and we

know that pasta comes from Italy. It was really messy to make but we all had lots of fun!



Y2

This term, the children in Year 2 were able to meet a famous author, Alex Falase-Koya.

We asked him lots of questions and found out what life is like as a professional author. He told us lots of tips to help improve our writing.

Y1



The Turtles and Pandas have enjoyed exploring our outdoor area. We have a lot of resources to play with and to help our

learning. We have also spent time in the invention shed making trains like George Stephenson.



Reception

The Brown Bears have been investigating where minibeasts live.



To find out we went to Gosforth Nature Reserve. We went on a bug hunt and pond dipping.

We found, butterflies, woodlice, pond beetles and even a tadpole.



Nursery

The squirrel class loved Sports Day and taking part in different activities. They tried really hard to complete all activities and worked together as a team



The squirrel class have been learning about 'How do we keep our bodies healthy?' They have been able to identify healthy and unhealthy foods, know the importance of brushing teeth and wearing sun cream. They have investigated the topic within the provision and asking lots of questions

Koalas



Koalas had the best day ever!! The staff are so proud of the children. The children loved playing on the beach, digging, getting buried in the sand and they did a lot of running races. They paddled in the sea and enjoyed running and jumping in the waves. They all enjoyed an ice cream before heading back to school. The children said, 'that was really fun'.

0-3



The children in 0-3's have been planting and growing this term, they have learnt about how we plant seeds and bulbs, then water them to help them grow. They have also been looking for

bugs in our nature garden. We have had a very busy year embedding language and learning!



We have taken part in a Waste Warriors project to reduce our food waste. During the project we reduced our waste by 30% so we were very proud to win an award for this at the food waste café in Newcastle called Magic Hat café.

Message from Mrs Robson

In September there will be some minor adjustments to how our school day runs as the Government is wanting children to be in school for at least 32.5 hours per week. This will mean some slight adjustments to start times but if your child comes to breakfast club there will be no change. A message will come out next week to confirm start times for September.

In Harmony will run in every year group next year which will mean that the school day will end at 3.30pm for different year groups on different days. Y4 and Y5 swimming will also mean they will finish on some days at 3.30pm as they do now. Information about this will come out during the first week back in September. In Harmony and swimming will start week 2.

School is open throughout the summer with a range of activities taking place so please contact the office if you want your child to attend. **School fully opens again on Wednesday 6th September** and we will send reminders to families using Dojo and texts on Monday and Tuesday of that week. We also have a training day on Monday 6th November and Monday 3rd June 2024.

We hope you all have a lovely summer and look forward to seeing everyone in September.

Warmest Regards

Mrs Robson

Times for September are as follows:

Breakfast club

8am	Working families (with permission) via the main office
8.10am	Y6 start time please come to the Hall & Gym
8.10am	Y5, Y4, Y3, Y2 wait in lines outside the hall from 8.10am
8.10am	Y1 via side gate on Derwent Street to Early Years dining hall.
8.15am	Reception and nursery via side gate on Derwent Street to Early Years dining hall.

School starting times: (parents must wait outside the school gate and only come onto the yard when told. Children can come on to the top yard only without a parent as school staff will be waiting, but Y2 parents can come onto the yard for the first 2 days only.

Start times will be confirmed in a letter next week.

End of the school day:

3pm	Y6 from the top yard. Y2 from hall* (Penguins) and Gym (Seals), siblings from Y3-6 will leave with them. Nursery pick up time from their veranda accessed via gate on Derwent Street.
3.05pm	Y4 from the top yard. Reception pick up time from their veranda accessed via gate on Derwent Street.
3.10pm	Y3 from hall* (Tigers) and Gym (Elephants) siblings from Y4-6 will leave with them. Y5 from the top yard. Y1 pick up time from their veranda accessed via gate on Derwent Street.
*	When In Harmony starts Penguins and Tigers will leave from the link corridor.

Children who are over 8 years old can walk home alone provided parents have signed a letter giving permission.

Teachers will be available for a quick chat at the end of the day but longer conversations need an appointment booked.

Holiday fines

Just a reminder that we need holiday forms completed for any child taking time off during term time. **No holidays will be authorised and parents will be fined if their child's absence exceeds 4.5 days (which is 10 sessions or more).**

Updated Policies

This term we have updated a number of policies please ask for a copy from the office or view them on our website.

Specialist Staff

We have a family support team, Educational Psychologist, Counsellor, Thrive practitioner and a Well Being Officer who support our staff team to meet the needs of our children. Please ask if you would like more information about this.



WEST Schools' Trust

We are part of the West End Schools' Trust (WEST) with

Broadwood, Canning Street, St Johns, Wingrove, Hawthorn St Paul's and Moorside Primary Schools. We work very closely together to provide the best education for all our children. Other Trust partners are Newcastle University, Centre For Life, Healthworks, Tyne and Wear Archive Museums and Newcastle Local Authority. We are also part of the West End Children's Community. The Trust newsletter will be shared on our whole school Dojo page this week and in the Autumn Term we will be welcoming Lemington Riverside into our Trust.

Attendance and Punctuality



Please ensure your child arrives on time every day and if they are poorly you **must** telephone the office on the first day of absence and every day they are off on **2745290** thank you.



Can I please remind all adults that the school and grounds is a no smoking zone and no one is allowed to smoke in this area. In fact it is illegal and anyone caught can face prosecution. Thank you for your support in this.



After School Club

In our after school childcare the children have the opportunity to do fun activities, have a snack and there is time to get their homework done too. If you are interested in applying for a place for your child please see Gillian Gibson our Extended Services Manager.



Remember to make sure we have up to date contact numbers for you in case we have to get in touch in an emergency. We also sent text messages to keep parents informed so it is vital our contact details are up to date. We also use Dojo so please make sure you are signed up.



Medical Needs

If your child has a medical need or condition can you let the school office know so it can be recorded on our system, that way all staff who need to know

will. A care plan may need to be made with the school nurse and staff may need specialised training. We also need to know any changes that may occur immediately.



All **money** paid into school should either be paid directly to the school office or through the class teacher in a labelled envelope. This prevents any loss or confusion over money paid.



Remember here at Bridgewater we offer fantastic provision from



birth. If you would like to find out more please ask Wendy Harker or ask at the office.



Website
Our website address is

www.bridgewater.newcastle.sch.uk.

Keep up to date with all the latest news as we also have a facebook and twitter link.



West End Children's Community

West End Schools' Trust have helped to set up a new partnership called the West End Children's Community (WECC). This partnership is run by a steering group made up of a variety of organisations including schools, universities, charities, cultural organisations and the local authority.

Over time, the WECC wants to get more people involved, including families and children. The WECC aims to share ideas and resources to make the Inner West a good place to grow up.

A huge thank you to all the school community for your support this year.

