

Newsletter Date: 26th March 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their Easter activities this week. It has been so good to see and hear them all outside in the sunshine, playing with their friends and having fun. Please see our super photographs. In the classrooms, the children have been learning about the importance of Easter in the Christian calendar and have talked about Easter symbols whilst enjoying some delicious hot cross buns. They have also designed and made some super Easter decorations - what a lot of creative children we have in school! We hope you enjoy seeing these at home and hearing about the Easter story. Next year we look forward to being able to return to normality and visit St Gregory's church again for our Easter celebration.



In keeping in line with our mission to get children active, the children had lots of fun taking part in some Easter themed physical activities too, including an egg and spoon race and an egg rolling race. The children even managed to beat some of the teachers who had a go. Water 'egg' throwing turned out to be lots of fun even though some got rather wet when the eggs popped. It was also great to see the children running about on their Easter egg hunts and working together to find the eggs.

In the summer term, we will be providing lots more opportunities for children to keep active in school. We know that physical activity and sport is crucial to supporting not only children's physical health but also their mental health as well, especially after the difficulties of the past year.

Thank you for all of your support during this very strange term, both with the task of home learning and with enabling us to safely re-open our school. Staff, you have been and continue to be amazing and children you have been an absolute credit to yourselves.

We look forward to welcoming children back on Tuesday 13th April and hope that we will be working towards normality in school in the not-too-distant future. Unless I am informed otherwise by the DfE, the current staggered start and end times will continue next term.

Have a lovely Easter and may the sun continue to shine!

Mrs Turnbull, Head Teacher



Feedback from the community

It is always good to hear about our children doing the right thing outside of the school day. We felt very proud to see a post on Facebook about a group of our older year 6 boys helping a little boy at Bedale park recently by encouraging him and giving him praise when learning to ride his bike.

“They are so polite and well mannered. They are a complete credit to their parents.”



Comic Relief & Random acts of kindness

We had a wonderful day last week for Comic Relief with the event led by our year 6 pupils. They made some inspiring assemblies for the rest of the school, talking about life opportunities for all children in the world, as well as spreading kindness in our school community. Thank you to those of you who made a donation via ParentPay. We have raised £56 for this wonderful cause.

Thank you to those of you who have shared photos of your children with their random acts of kindness. It has been great to see how our children give something back either at home or in their local community.



Elliot delivered flowers to a care home resident to help cheer him up.



Nico helped to feed the chickens.

Charley cleaned out her guinea pigs cage.



Tegan & William helped with the gardening and housework.

EYFS News

We have had so much fun this week with the Easter activities. The children took part in Easter games on the field. We played egg and spoon, rolled eggs and played waterbomb egg toss. It was lovely to see how much they enjoyed all of it and how well they participated. I have to say that they were better at throwing and catching the water eggs than the staff were! The Easter crafts and egg hunt have been great and the children were keen to talk about the Easter story and where the Easter traditions come from.

We feel so proud of how well the children have come back to school and are looking forward to the summer term and all of the fun we will be having then. We wish you a safe and happy Easter break and look forward to seeing you in April.



Year 1 News

Year one have taken advantage of the spring weather over the last few weeks and have taken lots of their learning outside. In science, we have looked at the features of meerkats and explored why they are important by digging, balancing and listening. We found out that claws make digging so much easier. In forest schools, we played games to find out about carnivores, herbivores and omnivores (or om-nom-ivores as your child might call them). We have also explored capacity using lots of containers, water and sand.



We loved our Easter afternoon and the children were brilliant at egg and spoon races, water egg throwing and catching and searching for eggs. Wishing you all a lovely Easter.

Year 2 News

We have had a fantastic week in Year 2 this week and the children should feel very proud of how hard they have worked since their return to school. Last week we enjoyed a demonstration from Bedale Fire service as they joined us for a Teams video link with a 'Q&A' session the children had prepared. Then to top it all off they made a visit to school with the fire engine and showed the children all the equipment that they need and use. In our writing this week, we have been creating a fact file to help Bedale Fire Station explain the importance of the local Fire Brigade and their role in supporting the community. Perhaps they could tell you about all of the fantastic facts they have learned. The children had so much fun joining in with the Easter activities on Monday and it gave them a chance to enjoy even more physical activities, including egg and spoon races, egg rolling and an amazing Easter egg hunt.

We all hope that you have a super and restful half term and look forward to beginning our new learning theme 'I Believe I Can Fly' when we return in the Summer.

Year 3 News

In Year 3, we have had a lovely yet busy past few weeks. The children demonstrated their amazing mix of school and home learning as we concluded our rocks topic. We've reintroduced division that we will continue for a short while after the Easter break and expressed ourselves with some gorgeous and heartfelt poetry. As part of the lead up to Easter, we've enjoyed the activities that Mrs Fessey planned for us and had loads of fun with an Easter hunt and some races. Enjoy your Easter break!



Year 4 News

It has been wonderful to be back together in Year 4 and the children have worked so hard these past few weeks.

They have responded really well to being back in the classroom; we have seen terrific writing in the style of a diary and a great effort in fraction work in maths, as well as beautiful artwork. We've had lots of fun with the Easter activities, the water bomb challenge was easily the most favourite activity, even if some of us got wet!

Year 5 News

This week we have been experts on lifeforms discovered on the planet Mars, we are working hard and writing our own factsheets for NASA. In maths we continue to work hard on fractions. We are still enjoying tennis in the sun for PE. The most fun we have had by far this week was the Easter egg hunt and games. Great fun was had by all playing water eggs!



Year 6 News

What a couple of weeks! We've planned how to survive on a desert island in an exciting Speaking and Listening assessment; made a video to let the rest of school know about the '15 Minutes to Move' initiative for after Easter; found the best place to put solar panels on the school grounds; wowed our teachers with amazing observational art of Bedale landmarks AND had lots of fun celebrating Easter on the yard and with lovely craft activities. We need a holiday! Hopefully, the Easter break will bring some sunshine so we can enjoy playing outside (but don't forget we need to keep reading over the holidays too!)



Junior Park Run

Junior parkrun is hoping to restart on Sunday 11th April 2021 at Northallerton Leisure Centre fields, at present for 4 - 10 year olds. It is a free weekly 2km event and to take part a child needs to be registered with parkrun.



We also need volunteers to run this event safely, it is only an hour at most and is great fun to see the kids involved in running. Please check out our website <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/northallerton-juniors> for more information.

Attendance

Now we are back in full swing with schools being allowed to open again, attendance is a huge focus. We have monitored attendance over the last three weeks and will continue to monitor this throughout the Summer term. Please see the table below to see how well your child's year group has attended since we re-opened.

School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Well done to EYFS and Year one on achieving over 98% attendance!

EYFS	98.4%
Year 1	98.5%
Year 2	95.6%
Year 3	97.3%
Year 4	97.2%
Year 5	96.1%
Year 6	91.6%