

Year 6 News



Our final newsletter of the year is brought to you by our wonderful Year 6 children. I know they are wonderful because when I told them that they were to write it, there was great excitement – no moaning and everyone working in teams as you can see from the picture below. So in their own words here is the Y6 round up, sharing their thoughts on their final year at Benton Park – it's been a pleasure to work with these children.

App Challenge

In year 5/6 all three classes participated in something called the App Challenge. It was brilliant and there was three stages the first one was planning our games as a class, at school was all in groups of five or six. The second stage we went to the hospital to gather information. In the third stage all three classes in year 5/6 had a small group of children that went to Heaton Manor to present their ideas to the judges. The winning idea for the App Challenge was Miss Jacksons (class 9). It was awesome.



County Athletics

So, this year Benton Park were crowned for having the best year 5/6 athletics team in the whole county (Tyne and Wear)! Can you believe it? The team consisted of; Scarlett, Holly B, Milly, Jessie and Sylvie. The boys team was; Koby, Josh, Shay, Jonny and Lewis G. we travelled to Sunderland, where the competition was held. We did four events including howler, long jump, 50m sprint and 600m long distance. We were all very good at all of them; also one of our team members, Scarlett won 2nd best girl overall, and Milly got joint 3rd overall and Koby got 3rd best boy in the individuals. So if your kid(s) are sporty or love athletics maybe they could be in the team next year!

'I had the time of my life! All I could do was try my hardest as this was the last time I represented Benton Park.' -Scarlett W (county athletics champion)

'I remember getting on the bus and travelling down to Sunderland and singing our winning song, pink fluffy unicorns dancing on rainbows, when we got there I was nervous but all my nerves turned into excitement as soon as we walked in the sports hall'

Josh W (county athletics champion)

Lockerbie

Lockerbie is a residential trip that year 6 go on at the beginning of the year, it takes about 2 hours each way on the coach and it is a great experience for the children. The children will stay in pods that can hold up to 4 people and consists of two bunk beds. Every day you participate in a number of activities including; zip wire, climbing, Jacob ladder, water activities and many more. The instructors will help you in these activities. Food and drink are provided in the cafeteria including a wide range of puddings. The food will change every day and it is absolutely delicious. The teachers will give you a list of clothing that you should bring to Lockerbie, the list recommends bringing wellies, loads of cloths to layer up on because of the cold and it says you should bring water proof clothes because you can get wet. You can bring up to £15 pound to spend on a drink and sweets, you put your order in and the teachers will get it for you. We hope your child will enjoy Lockerbie and will have a great time when they get to go.

By Daisy, Harvey, Katie, and Koby

Dance Festival

In YR 5/6 20 children had the chance to perform at the City Hall Dance Festival, where they had an amazing time. All of the schools in Newcastle had the chance to perform their own dance. But it wasn't as easy as we thought!

Every Tuesday (after school) we had to practice for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Mrs Hales (our P.E teacher) choreographed and chose the song for our dance, which was Bang Bang by Will.i.am, for one part of the dance we got put into partners where we could make our own parts. We were given our own 1920's costumes to wear for the dance. The boys wore the following; white polo shirts, braces, black trousers and black bow ties. The girls wore the following; pink dresses, black leggings and red or black head feathers and their hair in side ponytails. The boys and girls had to wear black shoes.

When we arrived at the city hall everyone was anxious and exited. When we found out we were second up we all screamed. But in the end, it was AMAZING! All thanks to Mrs Hales.

By Shay, Angelina and Olivia.

Year 6 Jobs

When you get in to year 6 you have the responsibilities of helping the school run smoothly. When one person decides to skip their day/job, the whole school could get pretty chaotic. Jobs are a huge impact on all year 6's, an example of some jobs are; lunch trolleys, Assembly servant, baskets and recycling.

Jobs can be really fun, especially if you get number one on your list. Your list is a piece of paper that has all the jobs listed and you have to number them in the order you want. People usually have Assembly servants as the top one as it is super popular. If you don't get the one you want don't get upset as the jobs change every term.

The school relies on each student to do the job they are provided with.

Coding Club

Coding Club was created to get the children in KS2 interested in computing and to help them develop skills that could become useful in adult life, whether in your job or as a hobby.

Now the club is in the second year of action, and we are still using scratch, an online visual coding language created by the MIT Technology Lab. We also have introduced coding to year 4 at a much more regular basis than last year which was done in golden time.

This year the club has been run by Duncan, Robin, Faith, Kate and Callum. There are also a group of general helpers who come every so often to help out. We hope that the school continues to run coding club so other students can experience the wonder of coding.

Scratch has been our main coding language for both years of action for the reason that it is simple and visual. This is an amazing first coding language for many children of all ages.

As we step into high school we will attempt to continue coding club and maintain the joy of coding. We will miss this school and we want to say thank you for this opportunity to run this club.

Duncan, Faith and Robin

I-Pads

It is great for education like: Maths, English and Science. I-pads are fun because you can do quizzes and play games such as Geometry Dash and Temple Run. I-Pads are helpful since they improve your accuracy with games like Geometry Dash, it helps improve your timing of jumps, flips and swipes on Temple Run. I-Pads also help in our education and learning by getting quicker feedback from quizzes. It helps children who struggle with writing because you only have to press a button instead of writing with a pencil and it is a easy way to send stuff to teachers on group apps like Showbie. We enjoy I-pads because it saves time. And modern children sometimes prefer technology over writing but there is time for both and we will surely miss I-pads once we leave ☺

By Harry & Bhumika

CROSS COUNTRY

WE DO A CROSS COUNTRY EVERY YEAR AT SCHOOL, WE DO SOME TRIALS TO SEE WHICH SIX PEOPLE ARE THE BEST. THOSE SIX PEOPLE GET TO REPRESENT THE SCHOOL IN THE ACTUAL CROSS COUNTRY EVENT. AND IF YOU WANT TO BE IN THE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM YOU HAVE TO BE FIT AND KEEP PRACTICING. BUT AS LONG AS YOU STILL BELIEVE YOU CAN ALWAYS GET INTO THE TEAM. YOU MUST TRAIN TO DO THE TRIAL OR YOU WILL PROBABLY NOT GET INTO IT BECAUSE IN THE ACTUAL EVENT THE TRACK IS 2 MILES.

EDDY, LEWIS AND JAMIE



Scottish Opera

Some people from Scottish Opera came to our school to do a project called; The Tale of Tam 'o' Shanter. They came last year to work with us and we thought that it would be the same people again but it wasn't. Last year the people were: Alan and Lee. We have enjoyed both of the projects that Scottish Opera have done with us such as: Terracotta Warriors and Tam 'o' Shanter. Last year we only did a performance for the school and parents but this year we: helped Cragside, sung for parents and to our school and sung at the sage. This year the people who worked with us were Ryan, Alan [again] and Kirstie.

At the sage it was just the year six's and Cragside. We saw other schools performing they were nearly as good as us! In the same day we took part in the BIG SING!

Fran, Taylor, Nicole, Lily & Grace

Teachers & Cake!

The teachers: Mrs Saint

Mrs Saint is very friendly and always helps you if you are hurt.

Mrs Rennie if you are struggling in lessons she will be there to support you

Mrs Cohen when you are struggling in lessons you can have HIARC lessons

Mrs Turner is always friendly and calm.

Miss Jackson really likes to sing opera and often forgets some important things.

Mr Cowen is very humorous and helps you. Not.

Mrs Hales is our dear PE teacher, the PE teacher.

**By Amelie and Ilona
Callum and Zamin**

Year 6's take on high school!

It's finally time for us to leave so here is our views on high school. There are many pro's and con's of high school.

The pro's are: meeting new people and trying new things, getting to know our form teachers and getting a fresh start.

The con's are: starting at the very beginning again, getting lost in a new and bigger building and having stricter teachers.

Everyone has different views on high school, don't worry if your friends settle in quicker than you, for most children it just takes a bit of getting used to.

Our five top tips on starting a new school are:

-Be yourself

-Try not to mix with the wrong people

-Try your best

-Believe in yourself

-Stay positive

Thank for reading our views on starting a new school we hope you found them helpful.

Daisy, Destiny and Laura



As we say goodbye and good luck to Y6, we also are saying goodbye to several families across the school, many of whom are returning to their own countries or moving house to a new area. To all of you we wish you the very best of luck, and hope that you look back on your time at Benton Park with fond memories.

I also have to announce that we have just found out that Dawn Saint who has been a teaching assistant with us for 12 years, leaves at the end of the week for a new job. I would like to personally thank Mrs Saint for all that she has done for the school and to wish her all the very best in her new role at North Fawdon primary.

Christine Oswald one of our dinner ladies is also off to a new job and we wish her well.

Heather, who has manned our crossing has unfortunately been made redundant in the council cuts to crossing patrols. I would like to thank Heather for her sterling work on that crossing and to say to parents that we will be sending out safer route planners in September.

Beyond that I would like to thank all the staff and governors for their commitment to the school. It is a pleasure to work with professionals who do go above and beyond and work tirelessly to make the school the school it is. Thank you to all the parents and carers who have supported us and their children over the past year and thanks to Mr Shepherd who puts up with me diplomatically, amusingly and with his usual ginger charm!!

I hope you all have a really lovely summer. School resumes for all children (except reception and nursery who start at different times) on Tuesday September 5th.

Alice Witherow
Headteacher