



# Coxhoe Communicator

June 2018



We are in our final half term of the year and, as always, it is flying by. We have lots more planned to complete a fabulous year, including sports days, more visits, a professional artist, the ever-fabulous Year 6 production....and more.

A huge thank you to so many family members for attending the PTA meeting and others who could not attend who have also offered support. We are delighted to have a great team to move forward to allow us to offer a broad and rich programme of events to support the curriculum.

We are excited to announce a new programme of enterprise over this half term. Our Year 6 children traditionally have ran a fun day with stalls and activities very soon after the summer fair for a number of years. We would like to allow them more time to further develop the skills associated with such enterprise in a wider range of contexts. We have therefore launched our enterprise initiative this week and it will continue throughout the half term and culminate in a competitive event at SAFC where they will pit their skills against other school in the area. Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June will be their first opportunity to try out their sales skills and there will be a range of items on sales/activities to try. More information will be sent out throughout the week as their projects unfold - please support them in their challenge.

As part of this large scale project – we would like the Year 6 children to have the opportunity to become more involved in the school fair. Therefore, this year our Summer Fair will be held on WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> July 3.30 – 6.00pm – following on from our KS1 sports day. The children are very excited to become more involved in our huge family event but we also still rely heavily on the support of our Coxhoe Primary School family. We know from the huge support received at the recent meeting – that this will not be a problem. With an American theme – we are currently compiling a list of activities and stalls with the support of Year 6. If you have any new ideas of skills that you can offer – please get in touch with us ASAP. If you did not get the chance to sign up as a volunteer – please ring the school office/call in if you would like to join the team. Please sign up for a job/s through the WhatsApp group lead by Mrs Simpson and Mrs Heslop. More information will follow very soon!

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs Bartle

Head Teacher

## Attendance

Our school attendance for May term was as follows:

Class 1- 92.82%

Class 2-97.22%

Class 3-96.03%

Class 4-97.96%

Class 5-97.87%

Class 6-96.78%

Class 7-98.18%

Class 8-98.18%

Class 9-97.13%

Class 10-99.07%

Class 11-98.44%

Congratulations to **Class 10** for the best attendance!

We have added the dates for 2018-2019 holidays to the school calendar; this includes our school PD days. We are currently reviewing the PD to be set for 2019-2020 and will try to publish those as early as possible. Please refer to these when booking holidays. Leave of Absence in term time can ONLY be granted in **exceptional** circumstances and each parent may be eligible for a fine if unauthorised leave is taken. Policy and practice around this will be reviewed in 2018-19 due to the large number of LOA applications.

## Teddy Bear's Picnic

On Friday 8th June, we enjoyed our annual Teddy Bear's Picnic. It was lovely for our Foundation Stage Team to meet all of the wonderful children who will be joining us and a great chance for us to chat to parents about what their little ones will be getting up to in September! We had amazing weather meaning we could explore the developing outdoor area as well as enjoy our picnic in the sunshine. It was such a great morning!



## Year 6 SATs

We are very impressed with all of the Year 6 children who gave their absolute all during SATs week. They behaved in a very mature manner and worked extremely hard to ensure that they achieved their best – to make us proud, their families proud – and most importantly – themselves proud. Of course, they also enjoyed their after SATs celebrations with style too!

## Playground News

The new playground has been a fantastic asset to the school, along with the running track and outdoor gym equipment. Mr Ord has been working closely with the children to create a rota and support network to allow us to make the most of these fabulous resources. We are currently appointing a representative from each class to help us to further develop our playground, including reviewing rules, purchasing some new playground equipment and developing the activity marking across all areas of the playground.

This development will support our aim in increasing daily vigorous physical activity for all children. As part of this new initiative we are trialing a few different ideas that may become part of a daily routine in September.

## School Council Update

Recently, a nurse has visited school to speak to the school council about healthy eating and drinking. She has challenged them to promote healthy eating and drinking across school. They are very quickly rising to the challenge! After an initial brainstorming session where we shared some ideas for healthy alternatives to some of the popular snacks that are too high in fat, sugar and salt, we have planned a series of events across the year. These include: a visit to a local supermarket to analyse nutritional information; gathering ideas/recipes for exciting healthy snacks; producing an information booklet for parents and children to promote and also providing some taster sessions for parents to bring children in at home-time to try new taste sensations!!

## Learning 'Out and About'

We believe that exploring the world around us is an important part of our development and it can contribute hugely to learning in all areas of the curriculum. Find out where we have been...

Class 1 and Class 2 had a fabulous visit to Raby Castle. This was a fantastic start to our topic and we thoroughly enjoyed learning new vocabulary and seeing how people lived in the past. We are so proud of all of the children and delighted that so many people commented on their good behaviour, beautiful manners and their enthusiasm for learning. We are most certainly looking forward to our next visit to St Mary's Church to learn about Christian worship.

Children from Year 5 & 6 have had an amazing time at Weardale House last week. They enjoyed rock climbing, underground exploration, river walking and canoeing. We are so proud of all of the children as they had a go at all of the activities and really challenged themselves.

## More Sporting Success!

Congratulations to the Girls A team who weren't going to be outdone by the boys and lifted the League title. This was only possible after a helping hand from the 'B' team (who finished 6<sup>th</sup>), after they earned a draw against their rivals. Great teamwork! In the Football Cup, a depleted A team gave another fantastic performance to finish 4<sup>th</sup>.

There were personal bests galore as members of Year 5 and 6 took part in Primary Athletics. Each member of the group qualified for their finals and some even managed to bring home medals. Those can now look forward to the County Finals at Shildon.

Well done also to those who took part in the Sky Try Rugby Festival, Change4Life celebration and the Y6 cricket teams for their great performances this week.

The Summer of sport is just warming up and we are looking forward to lots of upcoming events such as the Sedgfield DASH and Sports days.

## Staffing

All teaching staff have now been appointed ready for September so we are looking forward to working closely together to plan class structure for next year. Children and parents will be notified of their teacher and classes prior to their transition day (Tuesday July 10<sup>th</sup>).

## Class Assemblies

Class 1 & 2 were the finale for the year and they most certainly finished with style. This has been a new addition to the class assembly programme recently and we have had very positive feedback from staff, children and parents about the whole experience. The children were very excited to share what they have been learning about space and this is a wonderful way for family members to share in their progress across this key year. They were also excited to deliver the performance to the children and staff at school the following day - well done Reception – what an amazing performance.

## Staying Safe

Safety is an aspect of learning threaded through many aspects of school life. We have recently had visitors into school to deliver a Road Safety Assembly; we were also most impressed with the water safety assembly delivered by our Mini Police.

Our local PCSO has a great working relationship here with us at school and regularly delivers online safety sessions here in school. Class 9 enjoyed one last month and we had fantastic feedback from her on their level of understanding as well as their mature approach to this topic.

We do hope that the sun continues to peep out for us over the coming weeks. Please ensure that, when appropriate, you apply suntan lotion before children come to school. Unfortunately staff cannot apply suntan lotion for children. We recommend the long-lasting type so that it does not need to be re-applied during the day. If your child brings suntan lotion into school they can apply it themselves but must not share it with other children. Sun hats and water bottles are also important at this time of year.

Coming soon...

- 11.6.18 Year 6 Enterprise Week
- 12.6.18 Sedgefield Dash (athletes from Years 3 – 6)
- 14.6.18 Class 10 Assembly
- 15.6.18 Enterprise Day – Year 6 for whole school
- 19.6.18 Quad Kids (teams from years 3 – 6)
- 26.6.18 Primary Olympics (teams from Years 3 – 6)
- 29.6.18 County Athletics (finalists from previous events)
- 2.7.18 Sports week – whole school events across the week
- 3.7.18 Art Day
- 4.7.18 KS1 Sports Day
- 5.7.18 KS2 Sports Day
- 9.7.18 Relationships week
- 11.7.18 Optional Parents' evening
- 17.7.18 Year 6 Leaver's Performance

## Junior Education Programme

This half term, Year 6 are taking part in the Durham Constabulary Junior Education Programme. This involves a speaker coming into school every week to discuss various topics with the children. Speakers include representatives from The Dog's Trust, Envirocrime and Alzheimer's Awareness.

## Year 1 Phonics Check

Mrs Elliott and Miss Haddick held an information evening recently offering help with ways to further support your child at home in the run up to the National Year 1 Phonics Screening check. The children are doing a super job – practicing in lots of different ways to show what phonic superstars they are! The Screening checks will be held this week and led by the class teachers in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

## Art Day

The whole school took part in Art Day Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May. It was wonderful to see so many different types of art skills being developed and a range of materials being used from drawing to painting and even puppet making! Be sure to look out for some of the fantastic examples displayed around school.

Our next Art Day will take place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. We are very much looking forward to having the artist Jilly Johnson coming to work with us for the day. Jilly will work with a range of children across the school to hopefully produce a piece of artwork which can be displayed permanently in school. We can't wait to see what the children produce.

