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## 17th September 2021

We have had a very active week this week with a return to swimming and PE at the Swan Centre on a Wednesday, Commando Joe's on Thursday afternoon and Forest School on Friday.

The children have been hugely enthusiastic and have been a credit to you, we are very proud of their amazing start to the school year.



## Important information about next week:

### Archaeological dig at Hunting Hall

Next **Thursday morning** (23<sup>rd</sup> Sept) we will be visiting the archaeological dig at Hunting Hall to see what they have discovered and to learn about how archaeologists work. This ties in to our history theme which starts with 'How do we know about the past?' and in particular further back in time. We will continue on over the term to look in detail at the Shang Dynasty from bronze age China, which we think will be a very interesting and creative area of study.

**Children will need suitable outdoor clothing** to be at the dig and bear in mind they may get a bit dirty. We will be back at school for lunchtime as normal and we will still have Commando Joe's in the afternoon.

## South Africa Day – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September

We are very excited to welcome Ethan's family into school to talk to us about South Africa and African culture. Kim informs me that Heritage Day on 24 September recognises and celebrates the cultural wealth of the South African nation. South Africans celebrate the day by remembering the cultural heritage of the many cultures that make up the population of South Africa.



As part of that, we hope we can also celebrate the heritage of the children in our school. It would be helpful, especially for the younger children, if you have a chat with them beforehand so they are aware and can share a little bit about what their heritage is. We have a mix of activities planned for the morning including gumboot dancing, trying out South African languages and learning about the rhinos. We have Forest School as usual in the afternoon.

## Current consultation about schools in the Berwick Partnership

You will have seen the email and the recent press reports about the consultation happening in the Berwick partnership area at the moment about the future of education for our children. The initial consultation is to gather ideas and opinions. In particular, there is a £40 million pot voted for by the county council for school buildings our area. This pot of money is not allocated to one school but is open for consultation across all the schools and to benefit all the children in the area.

The headteachers in the partnership have been talking about a range of ideas. As well as the need identified for improvement to the Academy, we are also mindful of the need for a rebuild for The Grove school to improve specialist provision for Berwick and save children having to travel long distances to other specialist schools further south in Northumberland. The county council is very interested in your views so if you haven't had a chance to fill in the online questionnaire yet you can find it here: [Have your say in Berwick Education 2021](#)

## Spelling homework, Sumdog and reading records

We have gone back to using paper reading records and spelling homework sheets this term. Feedback from parents has indicated that this would be easier for most of you. Spellings will be sent out on Monday to be back in the follow Monday. This gives children a whole week to get them done. We then will have an English lesson focused on spelling, grammar and punctuation which will give us time to review children's progress. Maths practice is still using Sumdog for up to 30 minutes a week. The log on information for the Sumdog website or app has not changed, but if you have misplaced it please let us know and we can get you back on.

We appreciate your support to help our children practice their skills in these key areas.

## Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Just a reminder that the nasal flu vaccinations take place on Friday 19th Nov for the Reception to Year 4 children. Please return your consent form no later than **Monday (27th Sep)** if you wish your child to have the vaccination.

## Curriculum page update

We have been updating our Curriculum Information pages on our website. Please see those pages for an overview of topics and further information.

## Spellings

Year 1: 'ff'

Eg puff, huff, ruff

Year 2: 'dge'

Eg badge, edge, bridge

Year 3 & 4: the 'i' sound spelt 'y' elsewhere than at the end of words

Eg myth, gym, egypt

## Eco-Schools News

Some dates for your diaries:

- 18<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> September **Great Big Green Week**- A national week of 4500+ events celebrating action on climate change. We will be using resources and taking part in Green activities throughout the week.
- 17<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> September **Global Goals Week**- An annual week of action, awareness and accountability for the Sustainable Development Goals. We will be coming up with ideas, thinking about solutions, and building partnerships with the power to solve a wide range of complex global problems from inequality to climate change.
- 25<sup>th</sup> September **Sea the Change Cross Border Coastal Cleanup**- From Belhaven to Blyth, a coordinated coastal cleanup which anyone can take part in.

Miss Easten



Come & join the  
**CROSS BORDER  
COASTAL CLEANUP**  
SATURDAY 25th SEPTEMBER 2021



From Belhaven to Seahouses hundreds of people will be spending a little time picking up litter on their local bit of coast. Between them they will make a BIG difference - why not come and join us?

KEEP THE DATE & WATCH THIS SPACE FOR MORE DETAILS

*Let's Keep Our Sea Plastic Free!*

