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Newsletter 2
7th October 2019

News

Sophie Henn

Sophie Henn, the children's author of books such as *Where Bear?*, *Almost Anything* and *Bad Nana*, came to visit us recently and lead an illustration workshop for the children.



It was a fantastic workshop where Sophie taught the children how to illustrate some of the main characters from her books. She even dressed Finn up as Bad Nana!



Sophie left us with some signed illustrations and this, along with the children's versions, are on display in our school hall. We would like to thank Sophie for giving up her time to run the workshop and to Sib Mcarthy for organising.

Apple Day

This year the school got involved in Wylam's Apple Day which was held on Saturday 14th September. In school we spent the week focusing on apples, with a range of creative work and cookery. On Apple Day some of our staff and children took along examples of the work we had completed and a range of chocolate coated apples for people to taste. It was great to be involved in this community event and, as ever, our children were fantastic ambassadors for the school. Thank you to Mrs Jukes and Mrs Short who supported the event along with some of our KS2 children.



Primary Engineer

We have signed up to the Primary Engineer Leader's award again this year which we plan to complete between February and March. Last year it was fantastic to have so many parents come into school and talk to the children about engineering and run events. We would love this to continue this year. We are also working with IHC Engineering again and are hoping to visit the company to learn more about what they do.

As part of the award we are able to link into webinars led by engineers to find out about what they do and ask them questions. Last week the children all watched the webinar by **Richard Browning** who showed us videos of his amazing 'flying suits' and a lot of funny footage of his failed attempts! Next week we plan to take part in the webinar of **Dawn Childs** who is the engineering director for Merlin Entertainment (Alton Towers, Legoland etc).

Mastery In Maths

Our KS2 teachers have been accepted onto a 2 year training programme with NCETM (National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Maths) and the North East Maths Hub. The focus of the programme is to develop outstanding mastery maths teaching across the school and the use of mathematical language. This programme builds upon the changes we have already implemented across the school, with the introduction of the White Rose Maths Scheme, and is a fantastic opportunity. This also demonstrates the collaborative working that is ongoing across the MAT as all TCLT schools are now taking part in this programme.



Wylam First School's Eco pledge

On Wednesday two of our Y4 children went along to the Middle School to take part in a pupil voice activity with children from other schools across the Tyne Valley. The aim of this group was to look at what we can do to improve the environment in the Tyne Valley. Each school had to make a school pledge to work on a specific environmental issue this year. At the end of the projects the children will get back together to share their achievements.

Wylam First School's pledge is:

We pledge to reduce food waste at Wylam First School and increase the amount of school grown produce.

Mrs Channon and Mrs Newall are in the process of setting up an Eco club where they will be working to achieve an Eco award. More information can be found at <https://www.eco-schools.org.uk/about/howitworks/the-awards/>

The focus for our school will be the school grounds which will support us to meet our pledge.



Sponsored bike ride

You will have received a letter about the Wylam sponsored bike ride which will take place on Friday 18th October. Mrs Jukes and Mrs Little are running the event to support the PTA in raising money for a class set of iPads. The PTA have already raised £2000 towards this which is fantastic. If you can, then please get involved in the event.



Wylam's Got Talent

If you haven't already done so then make sure you get your tickets for **Wylam's Got Talent** which takes place on Saturday 12th October. All of the acts are booked and it promises to be a fantastic night of entertainment. The event is being organised by Sarah Kelly on behalf of the PTA and all of the money raised is for the school. Tickets are £10 which includes a pie and pea supper. **Tickets can be purchased at the school office.** Get yours before they sell out!



Y2 Cross Country Competition

On Friday 4th October Y2 took part in a cross country competition at Mowden. The children ran 1.3km in very muddy conditions! We were so proud of all of the children who took part and gave it a go. Everyone completed the course with a big smile on their face and a sense of achievement. Well done Y2. Well done also to Martha who came second overall in the girls race.

Information



The Book People Writing Competition

The book people are running a Bedtime Story Competition for children aged between 5 and 11. You can find more information about this at

<https://www.thebookpeople.co.uk/competitions/bedtimestory>

We have some very talented writers in our school and there are some great prizes up for grabs so take a look and give it a go!



TCLT Official Launch

On the last day of the half term we will be officially launching TCLT. There will be a range of events planned across the day. More information will follow.

Reminders

Dogs in school

Please can we remind parents that you must be responsible for your dog at all times when it is brought into the school grounds. At the beginning and end of the school day dogs must be kept on a lead and under control. All dog mess must be cleared up by the owner. Outside of school hours it is the owner's responsibility to ensure that all dog mess is picked up when using the school grounds.

Recently we have had more and more issues with dog mess on the school field, and dog mess that has been put into plastic bags then being left on the school field. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Change of date for Flu Immunisations

The flu immunisations will now take place on 29th November.

School Calendar

Tuesday 15th October	Y2 trip to HMS Trincomalee
Wednesday 16th October	EYFS Coffee Morning
Thursday 17th October	Nursery Pram Service
Friday 18th October	Y1 trip to Newcastle
Friday 18th October	Sponsored bike ride
Wednesday 23rd October	KS2 Tag rugby competition
Wednesday 23rd October	Harvest Festival
Thursday 24th October	TCLT launch day
Friday 25th October	Teacher Training Day
w/c Monday 28th October	Half term holiday
Monday 4th November	Back to School

Tuesday 12th November	Parents evening 3:30-6pm
Thursday 14th November	Parents Evening 3:30-6pm
Friday 15th November	Children In Need
Tuesday 19th November	Reception height and weight measurements
Sunday 24th November	Christingle Service, St Oswin's Church
Friday 29th November	Flu immunisation
Wednesday 4th December	EYFS Northern Stage trip (Wolf!)
Monday 9th December	KS2 Christmas Performance 1:30pm
Tuesday 10th December	KS1 Christmas Performance 9:30am
Tuesday 10th December	KS1 Christmas Performance 1:30pm
Wednesday 11th December	EYFS Christmas Performance 9:30am
Wednesday 11th December	KS2 Christmas performance 6pm
Thursday 12th December	EYFS Christmas Performance 9.30am
Thursday 12th December	Y1-Y4 Trip to Tyne Theatre (Aladdin)
Friday 13th December	Christmas Dinner Day
Tuesday 17th December	EYFS and KS1 Christmas Parties
Wednesday 18th December	KS2 Christmas Party
Friday 20th December	Last day of term

Please continue to check our website for further updates.

Best wishes.

S Gibbon
Headteacher

