



October 2019

Bernard Gilpin Primary School

Dream Believe Achieve

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Hello and welcome to the Autumn edition of Bernard Gilpin Primary School's newsletter

THE LEARNING CONTINUES OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM



Foundation Stage at Gibside



Year 1 on a Sunderland house hunt



Year 2 at the Centre for Life



Year 3 at The Oriental Museum

Foundation Stage visited the beautiful and historic grounds of Gibside, in relation to their taught theme of Sticks and Twigs. The children thoroughly enjoyed creating dens from the natural resources in the grounds as well as making their very own Stick Men and Women!

Year 1 searched Sunderland for different types of houses. They found examples of high rise flats, bungalows, a cottage and even a castle! The children were also lucky enough to visit the Hatton Art Gallery in Newcastle. They worked with paint and collage to create Autumn images. In the afternoon they visited B&Q in Washington to investigate the different materials that they have been learning about in their science lessons.

Year 2 visited the Life Science Centre in Newcastle. It was a great way for the children to end their science theme of 'Everyday Materials', spending the day with real-life scientists. The children used scientific equipment to investigate which materials would make the best carrier bag, and then ended with a bang in an explosive science show. The children displayed a great ability to work scientifically during the visit, and the range of activities on the day inspired many young minds.

Year 3 visited the Oriental Museum in Durham to explore artefacts relating to their history theme of Ancient Egypt. They saw an Egyptian mummy first-hand, examined the many and varied artefacts on display as well as bringing the 'Weighing of the Heart Ceremony' to life through drama and role play. The children also visited Newcastle's Centre for Life where they took part in a workshop to deepen their understanding of their taught science theme of 'Animals including Humans.'

Year 4 visited Arbeia Roman Fort in South Shields, where they experienced first-hand what life was like as a Roman soldier. The children were excited to take part in an archaeological dig of a section of the site, and they enjoyed digging up the remains of various Roman artefacts, which led to some excellent classroom discussions on how the Romans lived. Year 4 also visited the Hatton Art Gallery in Newcastle, where they viewed the artwork on display before producing their own pieces of art based on the originals.

Year 5 visited Helmsley Castle in North Yorkshire, in relation to their History theme of Norman Britain. The children studied first-hand the scale and importance of Norman Castles in this period of history, as well as being inspired to create their own Norman shield designs. Both Year 5 classes also visited the Hatton Art Gallery in Newcastle, where they were given a guided tour of the recently refurbished premises. The children enjoyed viewing the various pieces of modern art on display, before being inspired to create their own collages in the style of the artwork they had viewed in the gallery.

Year 6 visited the Heugh Battery Museum in Hartlepool, linking to their First World War History theme. The children took a tour of a WWI trench recreation, where they found out first-hand about the hardships of army life, handled a range of primary artefacts including helmets and rifles as well as hearing some of the stories of the people involved in the German raid on the Battery during the war. On return to school, the children created informative and persuasive leaflets, encouraging others to visit the museum.



Year 4 at the Hatton Art Gallery



Year 5 at Helmsley Castle



Year 6 at Heugh Gun Battery Museum

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Half term— school closes Friday 25th October

School re-opens - Monday 4th November

Christmas Holiday - School closes Friday 20th December

INSET - Monday 6th January 2020- School closed

School re-opens - Tuesday 7th January 2020

DREAM BELIEVE ACHIEVE

Years 1, 2 and 3 will have an assembly every alternate Friday at 2.45 p.m. in the school hall. Years 4, 5 and 6 will have an assembly every alternate Friday at 2.45 p.m. also in the school hall. Foundation Stage will have an assembly fortnightly at 2.45 p.m. in The Living Room.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

If you want to help your children at home, we have licenses for:

<http://nrich.maths.org/public/>

sumdog.com-

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/

www.play.trockstars.com

SKYDIVING FOR TINY LIVES

One extremely brave and daring Bernard Gilpin member of staff recently took part in a sky dive for charity! Mrs Russell fearlessly decided to throw herself out of an aeroplane at 10,000 feet to freefall for a whole minute, before pulling the chord on her parachute and graciously sailing back down to solid ground.

Although her first attempt had been postponed due to adverse weather conditions, Mrs Russell was not put off and returned to Shotton Colliery Airfield the following week to carry out the courageous leap of faith to raise funds for a very worthy cause: the Tiny Lives Charity, which helps to provide care and support for babies with critical.



All smiles after the skydive!



The Year 6 choir who were 'flying the flag'

SAVING LIVES AT SEA

This half term, the RNLI were welcomed into our school to deliver presentations to each year group on the dangers of water and how to stay safe at the beach. The children learnt a great deal about water safety from the charity and enjoyed taking part in the interactive activities. They were shown the different flags found at the beach and advised on who and what to take with them.

FLYING THE FLAG AT THE FEAST

A huge well done to the Year 6 choir, who took part in the 'Flying the Flag' Houghton Feast Opening Ceremony. The children worked extremely hard to learn the songs and were a real asset to the school on the night. Feedback from parents, carers and school governors, who were part of the audience, was fantastic; all children should be very proud of their performances.



The Harvest Festival display



Some 'spook-tacular' costumes

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

Thank you all of the children for the recent Harvest Festival celebrations in school. All year groups from the youngest Reception children, right through to the children in Year 6 took part in performing poems, songs and even a vegetable rap! A big thank you to the parents and carers who attended these events for your continued support. All of the tinned food that we received went to the Streetcare charity - the staff there have expressed their thanks as it will be given to families in need in the local area.

HALLOWEEN DISCOS

The ever-popular Halloween discos returned recently and they were a 'spook-tacular' success. The children's costumes were truly terrifying, as were the dance moves on show from some of the teachers! A huge thank you to all of the friends of Bernard Gilpin, who helped to make the event such a success and a special thank you to members of the School Council for helping to provide the music and entertainment throughout the disco as well as helping to serve drinks and snacks to the party goers.

BERNARD BEAR TODDLER GROUP

It has been a busy and fun-filled half term for the Bernard Bear Toddler Group. There was sparkle and glitter galore during their craft-making session for Houghton Feast, and some 'spook-tacular' creations when making Halloween crafts. To end the half term, the children enjoyed a Halloween party, where there were some fantastic but very scary costumes! It is also fantastic to see so many of the children from the toddler group now in our Foundation Stage class. Please check our website for further details and for the Christmas party details.

DEMENTIA FRIENDS

A range of activities for people living with dementia and their carers takes place every Tuesday afternoon in the school's Living Room. This half term, the group have enjoyed many activities which have included an ever-popular singing and bingo session. Weekly activities and news of the group are available on the school's website - please tell family and friends about the group.

CLUBS ARE BOOMING

Monday	Lego - Mrs Russell & Miss Preston	Drills for Skills - Mr Bainbridge & Mr Burton	Fitness - Miss Cawthorne & Mrs Milnes
Tuesday	Yoga - Specialist Yoga teacher	Brazilian Football Skills - Mr Burton and Mr Iveson	Movie Night - Mrs Archibald
Wednesday	Cookery - Mrs Milnes, Mrs Iveson & Mrs Martin & Miss Nelson	Dance - Miss Smith, & Miss Huitson	Football - Mr Bainbridge, Mr Warren & Mr Burton
Thursday	Arts & Crafts - Mr Pitt - Nelson, Miss Smith	Brazilian Football Skills - Mr Bainbridge & Mr Warren	Gymnastics - Miss Ray & Miss Jervais
Friday	Fitness - Mr Burton & Miss Cawthorne	School of Rock - Mr Nichol & Mrs Iveson	Shooting for Hoops - Miss Ray & Miss Jervais

FOOTBALL UPDATE

Bernard Gilpin's football teams have started the season very strongly in many different competitions once again, with three teams being entered from across Years 5 and 6 for the first time. The football that has been played by all of our teams has been of a very high standard and it is a pleasure to see the children playing football in such a positive way.

This year's County Cup competition kicked off recently with the A team making it through to the semi-final stages after a number of fixtures in the early stages, most notably a hard-earned and well-deserved victory against the current cup holders, meaning the school remain unbeaten in past three years of the competition. Well done to those involved and good luck in the semi-final stage.

The A team have made an impressive and unbeaten start to their season in the Hetton and Lambton League, including a number of high scoring victories and clean sheets. The B team have started their season in the Hetton and Lambton League strongly, with only one defeat from their opening fixtures. Best of luck to all of our teams in the league this season.

This season also sees the return of the Bernard Gilpin 9-a-side team. This team represent the school in the Sunderland 9-a-side League and have started the season well including scoring five goals in a recent victory in one of their games. The football that has been played by this team has been of real quality - well done.

The girls' football team have also opened their season in great style with a number of very impressive performances. The team recently competed in the Jill Scott cup competition in which they remained unbeaten throughout and progressed to the next stages of the competition, which will be held later in the year. Well done to the girls involved and good luck with the rest of the season.

DIVING GOLD

Freya, in Year 3, recently competed in a diving competition held in Harrogate. As recognition for her exceptional performance on the day, she won a gold medal for her age group. A fantastic achievement indeed - massive congratulations from everyone at school and the best of luck in future competitions.

INDOOR ATHLETICS

Ten boys and ten girls from Years 5 and 6 recently represented the school in the annual Indoor Athletics competition. The athletics team performed superbly in the track events, in which they placed highly across the board. This theme continued in the field events, in which a number of the children placed in the top three. All of the children performed superbly and were a credit to the school on the day - well done to all of those involved.

TAG RUGBY

This half term has seen the continuation of the weekly rugby coaching sessions. The team travelled to Sunderland RUFC in Ashbrooke, where they participated in a tag rugby tournament. The team played in a number of highly competitive games and represented themselves in an excellent manner. The team made it all the way through the group stages and eventually to the final where the two teams played out a thrilling match - the game remained tied until the end of extra-time resulting in a joint victory. A huge well done to all of the players and staff involved.

SPORTSABILITY ATHLETICS

Eight children from KS2 recently competed in a SportsAbility event held at Sunderland Tennis Centre. All of children performed superbly on the day, when they participated in a number of sports hall athletics events, tennis and multi-sports. As well as the children thoroughly enjoying the experience, they also gained invaluable skills and worked collaboratively and tirelessly as a team. A big well done to all involved.



Year 5/6 Tag Rugby Team



The Sportsability team in action

HOUGHTON DASH

Four of our children from Year 5/6 took part in the annual Houghton Dash, racing against 50 other children. The children from Bernard Gilpin ran a fantastic race and secured places within the top 10 positions - a huge well done to all of those taking part.

HAPPY HALF TERM

After a really successful, exciting and action-packed start to the term, we would like to wish you all a safe and restful half-term holiday. We look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 4th November for another busy half term.