



October 2018

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 the Hatton



Year 1 on a Sunderland house hunt



Year 2 at Marley Potts' Fire Station



Year 3 at The Great North Museum

Foundation Stage were lucky enough to take part in a workshop at the newly refurbished Hatton Gallery in Newcastle. They enjoyed using their creative skills to make some lovely collage artwork which is on display in the classroom art gallery.

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 Marley Potts' Fire Station to find out about the modern day fire service. The children have been learning about The Great Fire of London in history lessons - the visit enabled them to compare firefighting in the past and present. The children were given a great insight into their various job roles. They were shown the fire engines, the equipment used to fight fires and even had a turn using a hose to hit different targets!

Year 3 visited the Great North Museum to explore artefacts relating to their history theme of Ancient Egypt. They saw a five thousand year old Egyptian mummy first-hand and answered comprehension questions relating to the varied artefacts on display. The children also experienced the animal displays in relation to their Habitats science theme.

Year 4 visited Arbeia Fort in South Shields, where they experienced what life was like as a Roman soldier and took part in an archaeological dig. The children 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 Castle Eden Dene where the children took part in a mini-beast hunt, using scientific equipment to identify a range of invertebrates and recorded their findings using a tally chart system.

Year 5 visited Helmsley Castle in North Yorkshire, in relation to their History theme of '1066 and All That.' The children studied first-hand the scale and importance of Norman Castles in this period of history. Both Year 5 classes also visited Silksworth Athletics Track, where they competed in a 'Mathletics' competition including the 100m sprint, the long jump and shot put. The children measured and recorded their results before comparing them to the current world records and solving various problems back in the classroom.

Year 6 visited the BBC studios in Newcastle, where they were able to see how news broadcasts are made as well as having a go at presenting the weather. They also took part in a fantastic experience known as 'Hit the Surf' at Roker Beach. As well as having great fun surfing, the children were given expert training in water safety by the RNLI. Year 6 also visited Safetyworks in Newcastle to experience an interactive range of safety scenarios to help them learn how prevent danger and live safely.



Year 4 at Arbeia Roman Fort



Year 5 at Helmsley Castle



Year 6 at the BBC Studios

NEW STARTERS

A warm welcome to all of the children, and their families, who have joined our Reception classes, as well as the other new children in various year groups across the school who have joined us since September. The children have settled into school very well, and they are thoroughly enjoying the new challenges and opportunities.

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. To raise money for the RNLI's life-saving work, the whole school took part in a 'Dress Down Day' where both children and staff wore wellies and brought in a donation for the charity. Thank you to parents and carers for your generosity.



The RNLI water safety training



Smiling new Reception starters

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 session with Catherine I'Anson Clough, a lively bingo session and a 'Greatest Showman Sing-a-long' afternoon. The group also celebrated Houghton Feast through taking part in various funfair games and enjoying hot dog treats. In the final session of this half term, fantastic vocalist Greg Ross entertained everybody by performing a variety of old favourites. Weekly activities and news of the group are available on the school's website. Please tell family and friends about the group.



The Harvest Festival display



Games at Dementia Friends

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! performed. 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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Half term – school closes Friday 19th October

School re-opens - Monday 29th October

Parents/Carers Back to School Day – Thursday 22nd November

Christmas Holiday - School closes Friday 21st December

INSET - Monday 7th January 2019 - School closed

School re-opens - Tuesday 8th January 2019

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 two weeks at 2.45 p.m. also in the school hall. Foundation Stage will have an assembly every week at 2.45 p.m. in The Living Room.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

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

Reading – www.lexialearning.com

(username is the one your child uses in school)

Maths – www.interactive-resources.co.uk

(username: bernard password: Gilpin)

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

Maths - sumdog.com

Touch Typing - www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/

BERNARD BEAR TODDLER GROUP

On Monday 10th September, Bernard Bear Toddler Group celebrated their fifth birthday with a pirate and princess theme and a birthday cake, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Some parents and carers have been using the group ever since it opened, and the team would like to thank them for their continued support. It is also fantastic to see so many of the children from the toddler group now in our Foundation Stage class. The children have been busy playing outdoors, painting and taking part in various craft-making activities including dinosaur and Halloween crafts. The group will return on Monday 29th October. Please check our website for further details and for the Christmas party details.



A Bernard Bear hard at work



A frightful sight at the disco

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.

CLUBS ARE BOOMING

Monday	Lego - Mrs Russell & Miss Akhtar	Drills for skills - Mr Winter, Mr Bain-bridge, Mr Surrey	Fitness - Mr Burton & Mr Warren
Tuesday	Yoga - Yoga teacher	Brazilian Football skills - Mr Surrey & Mr Burton	Movie Night - Mrs Archibald
Wednesday	Cookery Club - Mr Pitt, Miss Craggs, Mrs Stevenson & Mrs Martin	Dance - Miss Smith, Miss Milne & Miss Huitson	Football - Mr Bain-bridge, Mr Winter & Mr Burton
Thursday	Arts & Crafts - Mr Pitt, Miss Smith & Miss Akhtar	Brazilian Football skills - Mr Surrey & Mr Burton	Gymnastics - Miss Soden, Miss Ray & Miss Cawthorne
Friday	Fitness - Mr Burton & Miss Cawthorne	School of Rock - Mr Nichol & Mrs Stevenson	Shooting for hoops - Miss Ray & Miss Soden

FOOTBALL UPDATE

Bernard Gilpin's football teams have started the season strongly in many different competitions once again. 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 entering the competition as the current holders of the Alan Grimes Memorial Trophy, after last season's historic win. The attempt to retain the trophy began in style with the team comfortably making it through to the semi-final stages after a number of early round fixtures. Well done to those involved and good luck in the semi-final.

The A team have made an impressive unbeaten start to their season in the Hetton and Lambton League with two wins and a draw, including an impressive five-nil victory in their most recent fixture. Similarly, the B team have started their season in the Hetton and Lambton League unbeaten in their first three games. More impressive still, the B team have yet to concede a single goal in any of their fixtures so far.

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 a resounding five-nil victory in one of their games. The football that has been played by this team has been of real quality and is brilliant to see.

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.

P.E. TUESDAY

The whole school will continue to be taught P.E. on a Tuesday afternoon. Please ensure your child has their school P.E. kit including their tracksuit to keep them warm, and a change of socks and footwear (in their kit bag).

We are also delighted to be continuing the partnership in the local community with Houghton Leisure Centre. This partnership allows us to continue to deliver a wide the range of opportunities in our P.E. curriculum, whilst also utilizing top class facilities.

INDOOR ATHLETICS

Ten boys and ten girls from Years 5 and 6 recently represented the school in the annual Indoor Athletics competition held at Kepier. 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.

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.

TAG RUGBY

This half term has seen the continuation of the weekly rugby coaching sessions. The team took part in a conversion kicking competition at Darlington Mowden Park Rugby Club where they represented themselves and the school exceptionally well on the day, eventually coming second. A big well done to all involved.

The team also travelled to Sunderland RUFC in Ashbrooke, where they participated in a tag rugby tournament. The team played in a number of highly competitive games over, split over two weeks, 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.



Year 5/6 Athletics



The Sportsability team



New school football teams

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 29th October for another busy half term.