



May 2021

# Bernard Gilpin Primary School

Dream Believe Achieve

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

## THE LEARNING CONTINUES ACROSS THE SCHOOL



Reception creating paint in the wildlife garden



Year 1 in role as Bernard Gilpin



Year 2 with their lighthouse sculptures

**Reception** explored the theme of 'Vets and Pets' this half term, looking after the animals in the role play area as well as the school guinea pig, Buddy. The children also enjoyed investigating Melbourne Zoo, where they found out lots of interesting facts about the animals there, before sorting animals into herbivores and carnivores. The children have enjoyed reading the stories of 'Mog and the Vet' and 'Anna Hibiscus' and have produced some amazing writing based on these stories. In Maths, the children estimated capacity and developed their arithmetic skills. They also enjoyed forest school where they made animal dens and their own paints using natural resources such as leaves, flowers and berries.

**Year 1** have enjoyed learning all about the life and work of Bernard Gilpin in History lessons. The children were fascinated to find out about the good deeds of 'the Apostle of the North' through the study of artefacts and sources and the creation of their own timelines. Year 1 have learnt about relationships in PSHE, identifying different types of relationships and recognising personal qualities such as being a good friend. In Science, the children enjoyed identifying common wild and garden plants, as well as examining the basic structure of a variety of common flowering plants.

**Year 2** enjoyed reading 'The Secret Garden' by Frances Hodgson Burnett, writing descriptions of the garden using similes and expanded noun phrases. In Maths, the children learnt to recognise unit fractions and found fractions of shapes and amounts through a range of practical activities. In Music lessons, Year 2 learnt 'The Friendship Song' through singing main part and backing vocals, as well as playing the glockenspiel along to the music. In Art, the children studied sculptor Ray Lonsdale, creator of the 'Tommy' sculpture in Seaham before making their own clay sculptures. Year 2 have also learnt about 'The Great Fire of London' in History when they compared artefacts from the past with things we use today.

**Year 3** have been learning about Forces and Magnets in Science. The children constructed investigations to find out what type of surface texture would create the largest amount of friction. The children have focussed on textiles in Design & Technology, where they evaluated the design of existing phone cases as well as practising a number of different stitch types such as the running stitch and the blanket stitch. Year 3 enjoyed reading the 'The BFG' in English. The children were inspired to make their own dream jars and wrote instructions on how to make them.

**Year 4** developed their understanding of decimals and statistics in Maths lessons and have made excellent progress in knowing their times tables up to 12x12. The children have continued to read the fantasy novel 'Coraline' by Neil Gaiman and wrote extremely descriptive pieces of fiction based on the story. The children enthusiastically immersed themselves in the History theme of the Mayan Civilisation where, in particular, they enjoyed comparing the food of the Maya to modern day alternatives, tasting items such as chocolate, cacao, tortillas and avocados. In Computing, the children used the iPads to explore the Minecraft world, completing challenges and designing their own school building. The children also enjoyed practicing their conversational skills in French, when the classrooms became a market place of various stalls.

**Year 5** have studied geometry in Maths, identifying properties of shapes and angles and developing their reasoning skills. In English, the children have greatly enjoyed reading 'The Boy at the Back of the Class,' which inspired high-quality writing from the viewpoint of a refugee child. In Science, Year 5 have studied 'Living Things and their Habitats' and witnessed metamorphosis first hand by caring for caterpillars, which were then released into the school wildlife garden as Painted Lady butterflies. In History, the children used a range of primary sources to learn about Victorian Britain in and were amazed to discover how many Victorian inventions are still used today. Year 5 also became digital composers in Computing lessons by creating their own Garage Band jingles.

**Year 6** have thoroughly enjoyed reading 'Letters from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll, trying to solve the WWII based mystery plot along the way. The children produced some excellent written pieces, focussing on the use of figurative language based on the novel. In Maths, the children have studied geometry, developing their understanding of angles around a point and in triangles. In Geography, Year 6 studied Hills and Mountains, looking at their formation as well as the impact of tourism in mountainous regions. The children have developed their striking and fielding skills and applied them whilst playing Kwik Cricket in PE. Year 6 Science also had a PE link this half term, whilst studying the human circulatory system, investigating the effects of exercise on the body. In RE, Year 6 learnt about St. Cuthbert and his impact on the development of Christianity in the North East.



Year 3 with their dream jars



Year 4 in French conversation



Year 5 releasing butterflies



Year 6 investigating pulse rate

## RETURN OF SCHOOL FOOTBALL

This half term saw the eagerly anticipated return of competitive football at Bernard Gilpin for a range of teams. All of the children involved were excited to kick-off the season in style by proudly wearing the brand new set of strips - everyone looked very smart in the school's traditional blue and yellow colours.

The first team to return to action was the A-team, who travelled to Farringdon School on consecutive Thursday nights for two separate 7-a-side competitions. The team performed exceptionally well in both competitions, winning a number of their matches in style and scoring some excellent team goals along the way. The A-team then moved on to the 9-a-side format of the game when they travelled to Hartlepool for a highly competitive friendly fixture. Next up, it was the turn of the girls' football team to return to action who showed their excellent attitude and team work in a friendly fixture, also in Hartlepool.

A massive well done to all of the children involved for demonstrating a positive attitude towards all of the fixtures, which have all been played in the right spirit.



The school football teams back in action in their new kits

## I DON'T LIKE CRICKET...I LOVE IT!

The children in Years 4 and 6 recently took part in a six week cricket coaching programme in school with a Durham County Cricket coach. The children enjoyed developing their striking and fielding skills, as well as playing short and fast paced versions of the game. In addition, Eppleton Cricket Club are currently offering 'All Stars Cricket' coaching on Sunday mornings from 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. which provides a fun-filled first experience of cricket for children aged 5-8 years. The programme is designed to introduce children to the sport and teach them new skills, as well as helping them make new friends and have a great time doing so. Every child that registers will receive a backpack full of goodies including a cricket bat and ball as well as a personalised t-shirt.

**ALL STARS cricket**

**Big Moments**

All Stars Cricket gives children the chance to play, learn great skills and meet new friends!

**Eppleton CC**  
Church Road Ground, Tyne and Wear, DH5 9AJ  
10:00am - 11:00am, Sundays (May 23rd - July 11th)  
Contact: eppletoncc11@gmail.com  
Register at [allstarscricket.co.uk](http://allstarscricket.co.uk)

Includes Personalised Kit!

## SCHOOL WEBSITE

The Bernard Gilpin school website contains a great deal of helpful information. Alongside class information and photographs, a range of very useful online safety links and resources are available for parents/carers. You can find out how to keep you and your child safe with games such as Fortnite and with social media platforms like TikTok. Each child has also been given a copy of Vodafone's Digital Parenting Magazine, which has articles about how you and your family can have fun whilst staying safe online. The school website can be found at [www.bernardgilpin.com](http://www.bernardgilpin.com).

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Half Term** - School closes Friday 28th May

**School re-opens** - Monday 7th June

**Summer Holiday** - School closes Friday 16th July

**INSET Days** - Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th September

**School re-opens** - Wednesday 8th September

We are continuing to use Reading Plus and Lexia both in school and at home. Please find the weblinks below, along with other useful websites to assist home learning.

## HELPFUL WEBSITES

<https://student.readingplus.com/>

<https://www.lexiacore5.com/>

<https://oxfordowl.co.uk/>

<https://spag.com/>

<https://www.play.ttrockstars.com/>

<http://sumdog.com/>

## CLUBS ARE BOOMING

Monday	Computing	Lego	Football
Tuesday	Yoga	American Football	Cinema
Wednesday	Bernard's Master Chef	Drama	Football
Thursday	STEM	Sewing & Crafts	Multi-Sports
Friday	Dance	Gaming	DT

## HAPPY HALF TERM

After another successful and learning filled half term, we would like to wish you all a safe and restful break ahead of the next half term beginning on Monday 7th June. Take care and thank you for your continued support.