Newsletter



Summer 2 2019

Quadkids

Year 3 and 4 have had a mini quadkids competition. They all took part in 4 different activities. 100m sprint, 400m run, a standing jump and a howler throw. A big thank you to the year 7 sports leaders for helping out. The top 3 girls and top 3 boys from each class got a medal and a certificate. They had great fun competing against each other.













Drywater Arts

All children right across the school worked with artists Frances Anderson and Paula Turner from Drywater Arts. Each child created a shibori kite to fly on our Artsmark Day on 12th July 2019. Years 3 & 4 also got to make some tie-dye banners. This is all part of our work to make the arts more prominent at Wooler.

Cherry class found a letter just as they were about to leave for the forest recently. It explained that there are fairies living in our forest and they need some help! Could Cherry Class help to build shelters to protect the fairies from the evil goblins? Of course they could! Here is Eden's special little house for the fairies.





School Games

Year 3 had a fun afternoon with the Schools Games Coordinator on their Playground Leadership course. They learned new games that they are going to teach to the younger children. 'Our favourite game was rock, paper, scissors!!'



Countryside Day

Year 3 and 4 had a great day at Countryside Day!!





Artsmark

Part of our Artsmark year included workshops with Lynn Campbell. All children got the chance to experience 'circus' skills. Along with hula hooping, stick rolling, the children used a trapeze, hanging fabrics and spun round in a lycra cocoon.



Cricket

During National Cricket Week, Cedar, Willow and Maple class have been learning to play cricket with Kate. 'We enjoyed playing on the proper cricket pitch that the Middle School use' - Matthew



Sean Simpson Memorial Football

On Thursday 27th June we hosted Belford School for the annual Sean Simpson Memorial Football competition. It was a super day, the weather was kind and all of the children enjoyed a fantastic afternoon of football. All of our Year 4 children participated brilliantly demonstrating excellent teamwork in some very close matches. It was too close to call as the competition drew to a close but I am happy to report that our teams were successful, retaining the trophy, winning 10 points to Belford's 8. Our thanks to Belford and to Ryan and his Trident Soccer team – we hope our current Year 3 children will be able to make it three in a row next year!



First Aid Training with Northern Training Partnership

Last week, Ashleigh from Northern Training Partnership came in to school and worked with each class of children to learn about first aid. She talked about when you should dial 999, how to put someone in the recovery position and the older children had a



Cooking

Although Mr Lindley is leaving he has been taking pictures for an upcoming book that advisor Kym Scott is writing on 'Challenge'. She loved our daily cooking! Mr Lindley says he'll let you all know when the book comes out



Cycling Shirt

In September the Tour of Britain cycling event will pass through Wooler. A competition was launched and every child in school had a go at designing a shirt that would eventually be made into a real cyclist's shirt. Our school arts council then chose an overall winner. The winner is Kara Scott from Year 2! Everyone said how the design reflected our local countryside. Well done!

Sport Day

Sports Day was a great success!! The children had lots of fun. Thank you for all your support.



Trim Trail Construction

Both schools have invested in a new trim trail for the children to enjoy at break times. This is being installed this week and will be ready for the children at both schools to enjoy in the autumn. Artificial grass surfacing is being installed around the trail which will mean that it can be used all year round to support children's fitness and co-ordination.



Summer Holiday Digital Events (for young people)

As part of Northumberland County Councils digital skills programme, NCC Information Services Team are hosting a number of events across the Summer holidays for young people. They are in multiple locations and there are a number of exciting events on offer to attract a large number of people. Dates and locations are as follows:

Northumberland Summer Digital Events

Northumberland County Council's digital team are hosting a series of digital/STEM related events throughout summer, as detailed below.

Date	Time	Venue	Activity						
Tuesday 30 July	09.30 - 13.00	Northumberland Archives, Berwick	Interactive Archives						
Thursday 1 August	09.15 - 15.30	STEM Centre, Northumberland College	Exploring STEAM						
Tuesday 6 August	09.30 - 11.30	Berwick Library	Exploring Scratch						
Wednesday 7 August	13.00 - 15.00	Blyth Library	Exploring Sonic Pi						
Friday 9 August	10.00 - 12.00	Widdrington Library	Exploring Lego WeDo						
Tuesday 13 August	13.00 - 15.00	Ashington Library	BBC Micro:bit Treasure Hunt						
Monday 19 August	13.00 - 15.00	Hexham Library	Exploring Minecraft						
Wednesday 21 August	09.45 - 15.00	Fuse Media Centre, Prudhoe	Digital Discovery Day						
Friday 23 August	10.00 - 12.00	Dr Thomlinson Middle School, Rothbury	Exploring Digital						
Tuesday 27 August	10.00 - 12.00	Stobill Links, Morpeth	Exploring Makey Makey						
Thursday 29 August	09.15 - 15.30	Duchess's Community High School, Alnwick	Exploring STEM						

For further information (including age ranges for each event) and to book places visit http://www.inorthumberland.org.uk/events/ or search online for 'Nathan Fuller Eventbrite'

Northumberland

Operation Encompass

We are pleased to share with you that our school has been given the opportunity to take part in a new Home Office approved project. It is being led by Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner Dame Vera Baird and Northumbria Police in partnership with Barnardo's and Operation Encompass. The project, named Operation Encompass the Next Steps, aims to form part of a wider strategy to break the cycle of Domestic Abuse through education and support. The project will help all children in Northumbria to learn about friendships, relationships, emotions and rules so that they can live and work together safely.

www.northumberland.gov.uk

Our school will also benefit from having one of twelve School Safeguarding Liaison Officers who will work with our teachers to deliver an age appropriate session exploring aspects of Domestic Abuse/friendships /relationships/emotions and be available in school at specified times so that children and parents can talk about issues that they may have around relationships and Domestic Abuse.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for children and the whole school community.



Letters to an Artist Project

On April 1st, Year 7 and 8 were involved in the beautiful project 'Letters To The Artist'. An experienced artist called Amy Lord came into school to organise the event and to help the children make their letters. Amy is a visual and live artist who makes breath-taking art work. The children used their origami skills to make small envelopes. These envelopes housed their inspiring and useful letters. These letters were then given to the younger pupils in our first school. Each older pupil wrote some advice and thoughtful messages that would help the younger children through school and life. We were given something in return, a clay honeycomb. The pupils then hung the honeycombs on a unique display in our forest. This display was colourful and imaginative. The children enjoyed doing this artistic project and will

remember it for a long time. By Alyssia M, Year 7





Envelope making with Year 3 and 4 by Frankie R Year 7

This activity was to help the first school children make an envelope to put their letters in. We spent one hour with one or two children each. First we watched a clip in

sections and copied what Amy Lord showed us (the artist we have been working with). She told us to do sharp folds and to use a ruler to flatten the folds down. We practiced our envelope making with Amy Lord in person; we are very thankful for it and for all the

rest of the work we will be doing with her in the future. The children worked very well



and concentrated really hard and they seemed very pleased!

Year 4 Leavers Assembly

We came together yesterday to celebrate our Year 4 children's time here at Wooler First School. The children of Maple Class shared with us some of their memories and their thoughts and hopes for the future as they move up to Middle School in the autumn. We were joined by Rona and Lesley Lackenby who presented the handwriting prize to Ashley Lawson in memory of their dad who attended Wooler First School in the early 30's.

It was a very emotional event as we also said goodbye and good luck to Mr Lindley and Mrs Shell who are Leaving Wooler First School today. Children from the Middle School joined us to sing them two special songs and to thank them both for all that they have done for the children across the schools. Our very best wishes to them both and to our Year 4 leavers.







Lifepath at Brinkburn Priory

At the end of June Maple class travelled to Brinkburn Priory to engage in Lifepath for the day. We joined with other Northumberland schools to attend four workshops throughout the day supported by Lifepath guides. Through these interactive workshops we explored the life of St. Cuthbert and learnt about the history of Brinkburn Priory. It was a very enjoyable day in a wonderful place. I would encourage anyone who has not visited Brinkburn to see if they can get there for a visit over the summer holidays. Special thanks to all of the volunteers at Lifepath and to our own parental volunteers who joined us for the day (they had as much fun as the children!).



Jack & The Beanstalk

Maple class have been working incredibly hard putting together their end of year show with Mrs Alexander, Mrs Shell and Mrs Humphreys. Their performance as part of our Arts celebration day last Friday was superb – the singing in particular was exceptional. Well done to one and all for all of their hard work and for a smashing show. It was lovely to see all of the children up on the stage growing in confidence and thoroughly enjoying the experience of performing to a large audience – I am sure that they will relish their roles in the Panto in the autumn at Middle School.



Communications Plea

Information is sent to you in various forms: by letter, texts, emails and newsletters.

The office is continually being contacted in ever increasing numbers by parents/carers requesting information which has already been provided to you. These requests come in the form of: telephone calls, in person, additional letter requests, emails.

Singularly, they may only take a few minutes, but collectively they waste a huge amount of staff time which should be used more effectively in dealing with other school business.

In these times of ever increasing demands and tighter budgets, we do not have the time or capacity to deal with these numerous requests. All such requests have a cost in time or money.

Please, please, when you receive communication from us about things that are happening in school, **put them in a safe place where you will be able to find them to refer to them** so there will be no need to contact school unnecessarily.

Another area in which a lot of staff time is wasted is in chasing up **reply slips**. Please send them back as soon as possible but in all events, **no later than the deadline date**. Failure to do so may result in you or your child missing out. Thank you in advance for your co-operation in this.

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Important Change of Bank Holiday Date

May Bank Holiday has changed from May 4th to May 8th 2020 to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day. All the staff and governors here at school would like to wish you a safe and happy summer.

