# Newsletter



# Spring 1 2019

### Grace Darling Museum

Cherry Class children had a great trip to the Grace Darling Museum in Bamburgh. We spent some time looking at the exhibits and watching a short film. The children also spent some time in the education room, where they acted out the Grace Darling Story. This links with our History topic, but we're also going to use the story in Computing and English. We appreciate the donations that were sent in to school for this half day trip.



### Lynn Campbell's Yoga Classes

Nursery, Reception and Year 3 have been taking part in yoga classes with Lynn Campbell. Year 3 in particular have been encouraged to clear their minds and focus on their movements. It's proving a little difficult!!





### Cherry Class in Forest School

Cherry Class have been learning about algorithms (a set of instructions to complete a task) in Computing. We also learnt about this during our forest sessions. With the motivation of a chocolate bourbon biscuit, the children had to direct each other using language such as **forward one step**, turn right, forward three steps. When they finally reached the biscuit they could eat it! Good listening and good directing! We have also been making bunting to denote the 'digging area' in the forest.





### **Snow Day**

Oak Class enjoyed being out in the snow! They made snow angels and built snow castles. A great time was had by all.



### **Gymnastics After School Club**

Cedar, Willow and Maple classes have been taking part in an after school gymnastics club with Noel Hodgson. 'We have great fun using the equipment!'





### Absences and Late Arrivals

Please remember to ring the school office before 9 a.m. each day your child is poorly or cannot make it to school. If your child is late, please enter the school by the main door so that the office staff can amend the register for your child. This includes Reception children. Thank you

### First Aid Awareness Training for Wooler First School children

Northern Training Partnership Ltd, who train our staff on emergency first-aid at work, will be offering free first aid awareness sessions to the children on Tuesday 21 May.

These are fun engaging sessions applicable to all the children including reception. They are designed to raise awareness and create the foundations for invaluable basic first aid knowledge.

The topics covered include: Calling for help, Assessing Casualties, ABC, Recovery Position, CPR, Defibrillators, Controlling Bleeding.

### **School Reports**

We are always trying to improve the way we communicate with you as parents and carers. After feedback at the end last academic year, we have changed the format for our Key Stage 1 & 2 reports. We have made them (hopefully) simpler to read, concise and more parent friendly. The children are also having a chance to say what they like best at school and where they need to improve. If would like to see the format BEFORE you get your child's end of year report in July, please let your child's class teacher know.

### Milan Trip

Willow Class had a great afternoon making pizzas at the Milan restaurant. A big thank you to the Milan restaurant and everyone who helped out.



### Artsmark

Congratulations to Willow Class for successfully completing their Arts Award Discover! At the end of March, Cherry and Cedar Classes will be working alongside the students from Glendale (Years 7&8).

Artist Amy Lord and Judith Davies will be coming in to school to work with the children for two days. They visited the school recently and loved our Forest School and were amazed by the fantastic opportunities that we give to our children through the Forest School. This will possibly form part of the art work we do. The final pieces of work will be celebrated in the Summer Term when you will be invited to an arts event.

The children have also been invited to Woodhorn Museum once again to share in their artistic experiences with other children from the North East. This is part of three year arts project with Woodhorn.

# "Bobby the Bear in the Chair" NHS campaign

Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust is launching a new social media campaign called 'Bear in the Chair' which aims to help young children understand the importance of basic hygiene, eating well and staying safe. As part of this campaign they are really hoping to involve the local communities to help them spread the message and help keep our children healthy and happy.

'Bear in the Chair' is to help parents telling their children the stories and daily adventures of Bobby.

Bobby's Facebook page is being launched week commencing February 11th. Here is the preview of the first post: "Meet Bobby the Bear in the Chair, our 9 year old hospital helper from Bamburgh. Bobby has been disabled since birth, but that does not stop Bobby from working in our hospital. He is a happy little bear who loves peas and spending time outside in the garden. Bobby will be popping up on our news feeds over the next week to give us all helpful healthcare hints and tips, so make sure you look out for him! #BobbytheBearintheChair #selfcare #wellbeing #health".



# Scholastics Book Fair

£645.80 of books were sold during the book fair, 50% of which will be awarded to our two schools by Scholastic. Thank you to all who supported the fair.



# Social Media

Social media can be a wonderful tool to connect people, it can also be a very destructive and corrosive technology if abused. If you have a concern regarding anything relating to our school we would expect that this is brought to our attention directly not posted on social media. We do not post information or gossip about children or families and we expect the same conduct in return. Inaccurate and illinformed posts and comments damage the important relationship between home and school.

Thank you for your support in this important matter.

# Screen Time for Children

As you may have heard in the news, a report has been published this week by the UK's four chief medical officers on the impact of screen-based activities on children and young people's wellbeing. When they acknowledge that technology can be a wonderful thing, too much time sitting down or using mobile devices can get in the way of important, healthy activities.

Here are some of their tips for balancing screen use with healthy living.

- Getting enough, good quality sleep matters. Leave phones outside the bedroom when it is bedtime.
- Education matters. Make sure that you and your children are aware of and abide by their school's policy on screen time.
- Safety when out and about. Advise your children not to use their phone while crossing the road or doing an activity that requires a person's full attention.
- Enjoy screen-free meal. Talking as a family is very important for development.
- Talk to your children about sharing photos and information online and how photos and words are sometimes manipulated.
- Talking as a family about keeping safe online and about cyber-bulling and what children should do if they are worried.
- Keep moving! It's good to take a break after a couple of hours sitting or lying down using a screen.
- Use phone features to keep track of how much time is spent on screens or on social media.

A commentary by the chief medical officers that accompanies the guidelines also stressed that more research was needed. However, the officers said immediate action to safeguard young people is necessary by the government, social media platforms and technology companies. Among their suggestions are that the latter sign up to a voluntary code of conduct to protect children online, before the possible introduction of new laws.

The full report is available at: <u>https://www.gov.uk/</u> government/publications/uk-cmo-commentary-on-screentime-and-social-media-map-of-reviews or please ask the school office for a copy of it.



# A message from Eduspot/School Money about your online payment

With online payments on the rise, Eduspot (as providers of SchoolMoney) would like to remind you to be extra vigilant when making payments. Eduspot can confirm that no fraud, data breach or malicious attack has occurred.

They believe however, that it is important to remind parents to be extra vigilant when making payments online. NEVER give out your ATM pin to anyone – no system or person should ever require this to complete an online transaction. If something looks suspicious, do not complete the payment, close down your browser and start again making sure you are using a genuine website.

You should also ensure all system and app updates are applied to your PC or mobile devices and that they have reliable, up-to-date anti-virus software installed. Increasingly, mobile devices are the targets of malicious software so it's important that these also have adequate protection.

Eduspot remains committed to protecting your online security and providing you with an easy to use solution to securely make payments to your schools. If you spot something that doesn't look right relating to SchoolMoney, please contact Eduspot at :

support@schoolmoney.co.uk.



### Arts Award Certificates

Year 3 received their Arts Award certificates in assembly. Well done everyone!!



### **Cherry and Cedar Assembly**

Children from both classes shared their fantastic movement skills with parents earlier this week. A big, big thank you to Mr Hodgeson for putting on a fantastic show! Well done to everyone involved.



### Dates for your Diary

Back to School	Tuesday 23 April	8:55am
Bank Holiday	Monday 22 April	School closed
Easter Holidays	Friday 5 April	3:30pm
EY Assembly	Wednesday 3 April	9:15 followed by Stay and Play, open to parents
Easter Assembly – Easter Egg Competition	Tuesday 2 April	2:00pm
ArtsMark Artists' Workshops Yr1 & Yr2	Monday 1 April	All day
ArtsMark Artists' Workshops Yr1 & Yr2	Friday 29 March	All day
Red Nose Day	Friday 15 March	Both schools
Y2 – Y4 Parents' Evening	Wednesday 13 March	3:40 – 5:30pm
Y2 – Y4 Parents' Evening	Tuesday 12 March	3:40 – 5:60pm
KS2 Assembly – Willow and Maple	Friday 8 March	3:00pm – open to parents
World Book Day	Thursday 7 March	All day
X Country Longridge	Thursday 28 February	1pm
Back to School	Monday 25 February	8:55am
Half-tem February Holidays	Friday 15 February	3:30pm
Valentine Disco	Thursday 14th February	5:00-6:00



#### Academic Calendar 2018 - 2019



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#### Academic Calendar 2019 - 2020



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2019-2020 academic year begins with a training day on Monday 2nd September 2019