



Bernard Gilpin Primary School

Dream Believe Achieve

Hall Lane, Houghton-le-Spring DH5 8DA

tel: 0191 917 2999

web: www.bernardgilpin.com

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

YEAR 3 RESIDENTIAL - THE HUB



Getting ready to give BMXing a go



Team building on the assault course



Daring the high ropes course



Getting air on the BMX track

Children from Year 3 have recently returned from an action-packed, two day residential at The Hub. The fantastic facilities, located at Barnard Castle gave the children the opportunity to try their hand at archery, climbing the high ropes course, riding a BMX around the purpose-built track, cooking pizzas in the outside oven, toasting marshmallows on the fire pit and participating in a carousel of other sporting activities. The enthusiasm that the children displayed by encouraging each other during activities helped them to develop their own communication, team-building and inter-personal skills, which are essential to use throughout their lives. It allowed for friendships to flourish and certainly made many unforgettable memories on the children's first school residential. The younger children were also joined on the overnight stay by children from Years 5 and 6, who came along as mentors. The older children were absolutely fantastic with their assistance, as well as encouragement, of the Year 3 children. The children were absolutely amazing throughout the visit - a real credit to themselves and the school. A huge thank you and well done to everyone involved - what an action-packed and amazing two days!



Enjoying a game of table football



Year 6 mentors on hand to help



Enjoying toasted marsh mallows



A big thumbs up for The Hub

BRILLIANT BOGGLE HOLE RESIDENTIAL

A large number of Year 4, 5 and 6 children recently experienced a two day residential at the amazing Boggle Hole, near Whitby. The children set off on their journey in great spirits, despite the best efforts of the weather which was rather inclement to say the least! On arrival, the group headed down into the cove at Boggle Hole, where they took part in a rock pooling session, unearthing several curious creatures. The children also investigated the hole itself in which the 'Boggle' is rumoured to live - they retold the story of this curious creature emerging at night to either help or hinder people depending upon its mood! After a delicious evening meal and a good night's sleep in the nautical themed accommodation, the children set off on a walk nearby Robin Hood's Bay, where they visited some unique shops including a dinosaur fossil shop. The group were a credit to the school throughout the visit and an amazing time was had by all - well done to everyone involved!



Everyone enjoyed rockpool bingo, where they tried to find as many of the creatures on their board as possible - all of which were returned unharmed!

SCHOOL SPORTS WEEK: A SUPER SUCCESS!



Reception football skills



Year 1 archery



Year 2 dancing session



Year 3 skiing at Silksworth

Foundation Stage children visited the outdoor 3G pitch at Houghton Sports & Wellness Centre. They received specialist football coaching and learnt many new skills including how to pass and dribble the ball with improved accuracy.

Year 1 visited Riverside ten-pin bowling alley in Sunderland. The children quickly mastered techniques to knock down as many skittles as they could, with a few strikes being scored towards the end of the game!

Year 2 visited Hetton Community Swimming Pool and Wellness Centre where they undertook a swimming safety course before enjoying a fun swimming session with organised games and toys.

Year 3 went skiing at Silksworth Snow Sports Centre in Sunderland where they developed their stopping and turning skills. The more confident skiers braved the higher slopes to master their technique.

Year 4 visited FlowRider, an indoor surfing machine, at Heworth Leisure Centre. The children spent the morning learning how to surf and body board, while improving their balance. There was lots of laughter as the children experienced catching a wave!

Year 5 visited Sunderland Climbing Wall. The children were shown by instructors how to use the different hand and foot holes before going on to reaching new heights. Many children were able to climb higher than 3 metres and some even made it to the top!

Year 6 visited Infinite Air in Durham. The trampoline park has over 80 trampolines, a battle beam, foam pits and even a giant airbag! The children thoroughly enjoyed developing their trampolining skills and there were some impressive gymnastic tricks displayed!

There were many other sporting activities at school for the children to try including archery, netball, dancing, futsal, tennis, rugby and many more. Well done to everyone involved for a fantastic week.



Year 4 surfing at FlowRider



Year 5 at Sunderland Climbing Wall



Year 6 at Infinite Air



Sports Week Action

SCHOOL SPORTS DAY

Sports Week ended in style with Sports Day, which took place on a gloriously sunny afternoon. The children across the whole school competed in a wide variety of events including long distance, sprint, relay, sack, egg and spoon and obstacle races. Thank you to the many families who supported the children in huge numbers. It was a brilliant afternoon with fantastic team spirit amongst the children. Well done to the children in Napoleon House, who were eventual winners on the day and were presented with the winning trophy during assembly.

FINAL FOOTBALL UPDATE

Following on from another fantastic year of footballing success, the Year 5 team recently competed in the Peter Lightle trophy finals night at Farringdon Academy. The team competed against eleven other schools from across Sunderland in front of a large and encouraging crowd.

The team got quickly into their stride, winning their first three games comfortably and without conceding a single goal in response to the six they scored. This ensured their passage through into the semi-final stage where they again played some fantastic passing football, but unfortunately they were unable to find the net. This meant that, after extra time, the game went to a penalty shootout where the players held their nerve to secure their place in the final. Yet again, the team performed superbly and came as close as hitting the post and a goal-line clearance to winning the trophy.

Unfortunately, the only goal that the team conceded in the whole tournament came in the final, which meant that ultimately they finished as runners-up. As well as collecting their trophies, Harrison, playing in the centre of defence, picked up the player of the tournament award for both his tackling abilities as well as marauding forward runs. A big well done to all of the players involved, as well as to all of the boys and girls who have successfully participated in footballing competitions across the school year—the future is certainly looking bright for next year!

SUNDERLAND DANCE FESTIVAL

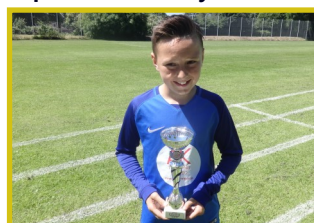
A group of children took part in the annual Sunderland Schools Dance Festival at The Sunderland Empire. This year's theme was 'Environmental Issues' and the children performed an excellent 'Jungle Fever' routine around the issue of deforestation. Everyone was very proud of the level of effort that was put into the rehearsals and the animal costumes looked amazing. Well done to the dance team – the hard work definitely paid off!



Sponsored Penalty Shootout



Skipping in Year 2



Player of the tournament



The Dance Festival troupe

THE LION KING - A ROARING SUCCESS!

Upper Key Stage 2 recently performed their very own version of The Lion King - what a show it was, making the most of their opportunity to perform in front of a packed out audience. The lead roles were played wonderfully on the night by children from Year 6, with Oliver wowing the full house as the lion king himself, Simba. His father, Mufasa, was portrayed superbly by Archie. Alex and Lillie, performed wonderfully and hilariously in equal measure as the dynamic duo of Timon and Pumba, as did Brooke as the king's loyal sidekick, Zazu. Adam, playing Simba's evil uncle Scar, also portrayed his character brilliantly, as did Skye, playing the Lion King's best friend and future queen, Nala. The leading roles were rounded off perfectly with the hilarious portrayal of the hyenas by Drew, Harrison, Macey and Lana. A large number of other children from Years 5 and 6 took on other acting and dancing roles throughout the night and they were backed up fantastically by a large singing chorus of children in their animal costumes. A huge well done to all of the children involved and to all of the staff for their hard work and efforts in bringing the show together.



Simba and his furry friends wowed a packed out crowd



MARVELLOUS MULTICULTURAL WEEK



Reception at Sunderland Minster



Year 1 at the Hindu Temple



Year 2 at Durham Cathedral



Year 3 at the Sikh Gurdwara

This year, Multi-Cultural Week was a whole school celebration of cultural differences helping to develop the children's knowledge and understanding of the cultural diversity in Britain today and in the North East. There was a wide range of exciting learning activities taking place throughout the school such as cooking and tasting different foods; exploring music, dance and traditional dress; studying symbolism and creating cultural inspired art. There were also many books and artefacts delivered to school by the library service, which were displayed and used in all classrooms throughout the week to enhance learning.

Phil Andre, an equality and diversity teacher and trainer, brought a variety of artefacts into school to show the children. He talked about symbolism, traditions and customs in different religions, which helped to develop the children's understanding of Britain's wide-ranging diversity and differing cultures.

A great deal of learning also took place outside of the classroom, with children from across the school going on multicultural educational visits. The children in Reception visited Sunderland Minster to help develop their understanding of Christian places of worship, as did the children in Year 2, who visited the inspirational Durham Cathedral. Both Year 1 classes visited the Hindu Temple where they learnt about the different Hindu Gods. The children of Years 3 and 6 visited the Sunderland Gurdwara, to enhance their understanding of Sikhism. In relation to their theme of Islam, Year 4 visited Hartlepool Mosque where they were warmly welcomed and enhanced their knowledge of Muslim worship. The children of Year 5 were fascinated when they visited the Reform Synagogue in Newcastle to further develop their understanding of Judaism. All children thoroughly embraced Multicultural Week with great respect for cultural differences. Well done to everyone involved in the organisation of the week.



Year 4 at Sunderland Mosque



Year 5 at the Reform Synagogue



Year 6 at Sunderland Gurdwara



Multicultural Artefacts in school

A SAD FAREWELL

We were all shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Denise Chalk. For many years, Denise volunteered in Mrs Russell's class to listen to the children read. She always had a smile on her face and she took the time to chat to the children about the stories they were reading and explain what new words meant. All the children were delighted when it was their turn to spend time with her. She will be remembered with fondness, and the children who she worked with will take her love of reading throughout their lives. We are all very grateful for the time Denise gave to us and the children and we send our sincere condolences to all of her family.

STAFFING CHANGES

We are delighted to announce that Miss Soden recently give birth to a beautiful and healthy baby girl - we would all like to wish her and family every happiness. Miss Milne is also expecting her first child over the summer holidays and I am sure that you will join us in wishing her well. School is also welcoming some new members of staff - Miss Jervis, Miss Nelson and Miss Preston will be joining the teaching staff in September.

BERNARD BEARS TODDLER GROUP

The toddlers recently had a morning full of seaside and beach crafts, designing and decorating their own place mats for the summer picnic. The group also enjoyed a Sports Day taking part in various sports. Then had a splashing time in their outdoor water play session, and taking part in a bug hunt in the garden. For their final session, the children had their own Teddy Bears' Picnic, making their own ice-creams with lots of different toppings. Many of the toddlers are starting in Reception class in September, so we look forward to seeing them there. The group will meet every Monday at 9am from 9th September - details of events will be on the school website.

SCHOOL DINNER

School has been advised by Sunderland City Council that the cost of a school meal to parents/carers will be increasing from £2.00 to £2.20 per day (£11:00 per week) in September. This is the first price rise since September 2016. The School Meals Service provides hot, healthy and tasty meals on a daily basis and represents great value for money.

EXPLORE LEARNING AWARD

A young writer's award, which was launched earlier this year, has been won by a pupil at Bernard Gilpin. Harrison, who is in Year 6, entered the competition along with over four hundred other entries from the Sunderland region. The writing competition, which was organised by the Explore Learning Group, was based around raising awareness of global environmental issues. Harrison entry, which was entitled 'The Day the Aliens Came' wowed the judges with its composition and entertaining style so much that it was put forward as a contender for the overall national winning piece of writing - a fantastic achievement for Harrison, well done and keep writing!



The Explore Learning Writer's Award



Fun in the sun at Toddlers

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Summer Holidays - School closes Friday 19th July

INSET Days - Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th September

School re-opens for Autumn Term - Thursday 5th September

Half Term - School closes Friday 25th October

School re-opens - Monday 4th November

HELPFUL WEBSITES

Maths - www.interactive-resources.co.uk

(username: bernard password: Gilpin)

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

Maths - sumdog.com - www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/

CLUBS ARE BOOMING

Monday	Lego - Mrs Russell & Miss Craggs	Drills for Skills - Mr Winter, Mr Bainbridge & Mr Surrey	Fitness - Mr Burton & Mr Warren
Tuesday	Yoga - Specialist Yoga teacher	Brazilian Football Skills - Mr Surrey & Mr Burton	Movie Night - Mrs Archibald
Wednesday	Cookery - Mr Pitt, Miss Craggs, Mrs Stevenson & Mrs Martin	Dance - Miss Smith, Miss Milne & Miss Huitson	Football - Mr Bainbridge, Mr Warren & Mr Burton
Thursday	Arts & Crafts - Mr Pitt, Miss Smith & Mrs Reeves	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 Cawthorne

SUMMER FAYRE AND DISCO

The annual Summer Fayre was a great success. A huge thank you to Friends of Bernard Gilpin who helped to organise the fayre and thank you to parents/carers for your generous contributions. A tremendous amount of time and effort goes into the organisation and all money raised will be used to support activities in school. Thank you also to our friends for organising the summer disco and to our excellent school council DJs for providing the music. The children really enjoyed the beach party theme and many prizes were won for the best dance moves!



Soak the Teacher at the Fayre



Chilling at the Summer Disco

FAREWELL TO YEAR 6

Congratulations to Year 6 on their fantastic SAT's results; it's great to see all of the hard work and effort has paid off. Everyone at the school would like to wish all of Year 6 well as they move on to the next stage of their education.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

After another busy and very successful term, we would like to wish you all a safe and restful summer holiday. We look forward to seeing you back in school in September.