



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

BERNARD GILPIN PRIMARY: THIRD IN THE NORTH EAST

Bernard Gilpin Primary School recently received the outstanding news that we are ranked in the top three schools in the whole of the North East and as a top 200 school nationally, as listed in The Sunday Times. The school league table, which takes into account Ofsted ratings as well as performance data, is testament to the hard work and dedication of everyone at Bernard Gilpin Primary School. Congratulation to everyone involved in the continued success of our school.

SPORTS WEEK 2024 AT BERNARD GILPIN: A SUPER SUCCESS



Reception in football action



Year 1 dribbling practice at Ford Hub



Year 2 enjoying their swimming session



Year 3 competing at Silksworth Track

Reception and Year 1 children visited the outdoor 3G pitch at Leisure United Ford Quarry Hub. They received specialist football coaching and developed a range of skills including how to pass and dribble the ball with improved accuracy as well as playing a fun football competition.

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

Year 3 visited Silksworth Sports Complex for a morning of athletics. The children all competed in a range of different events including short and long distance running, throwing and jumping challenges. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the activities and competing for fun.

Year 4 visited Barnes Park tennis courts where they practised a range of skills needed to play the game before competing in a mini tournament. Everyone had a great time participating with a positive sporting attitude - well done to everyone in Year 4.

Year 5 were excited to visit the Beacon of Light, where they made full use of the state-of-the-art facilities available there. All of the children took part in a basketball coaching and games session which they all thoroughly enjoyed.

Year 6 visited Silksworth Athletics Track for a morning of track and field events. The children all competed in a 'Mini-Olympics' competition in five events: 100m sprint, 400m long-distance race, the long jump, a javelin throw and the 4x100m relay. A great morning of athletics was had by everyone in the year group.

There were many other sporting activities for the children to participate in and enjoy during Sports Week including netball, tennis, cricket, football, yoga, Tai Chi and fitness circuits. The children across school also took part in 'Mindfulness Monday' as part of the week, during which they practised mindfulness techniques. The year finished in style with the whole school Sports Day. Children from all year groups competed in a wide variety of events including a long-distance run, sprints, relay racing, a sack race, the egg and spoon and obstacle races, as well as jumping and throwing events. Thank you to the large numbers of parents, carers and families who came along and supported the children in huge numbers; it was a wonderful afternoon with a fantastic team-spirit amongst the children who cheered each other on throughout all of the events. A huge well done to everyone involved in this week of sporting success.



Year 4 at Barnes Park tennis courts



Year 5 Basketball at the Beacon of Light



Year 6 racing at Silksworth Track



Concentration during a Tai Chi session

YEAR 3 RESIDENTIAL - THE HUB AT BARNARD CASTLE

Children from Year 3 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, orienteering, keeping fit on the outdoor gym equipment, developing outdoor bush-craft skills, 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 further develop their own communication, team-building and inter-personal skills, which are essential to use throughout their lives. It also allowed for friendships to flourish and certainly made many unforgettable memories on the children's first school residential visit. All of the children were absolutely amazing throughout the two days - they were a real credit to themselves and the school. Well done to everyone who took part in this exciting and memorable two days for the children of Year 3.



Year 3 enjoying the warm weather outside at The Hub in Barnard Castle



Enjoying the outdoor gym equipment



Big smiles all round at The Hub



Going for gold in the archery session



Toasting marshmallows was a hit

YEAR 4 RESIDENTIAL - THE SILL IN NORTHUMBERLAND



Year 4 enjoying one of the many stunning views on their Hadrian's Wall walk

Children from Year 4 recently returned from an amazing, two day residential visit to The Sill. This state-of-the-art facility is located within walking-distance of Hadrian's Wall, giving the children the exciting opportunity to deepen their understanding of Roman Britain in a real-life context. The children were thrilled to experience ancient history first-hand when they visited the nearby Roman Fort of Vindolanda, where an on-going archaeological dig was taking place. As well as learning about the past, the children also learned about the diverse ecology of the local area, linking to their taught Science unit of Living Things and their Habitats. By taking part in a mini-beast hunt, the children enjoyed finding and identifying a wide range of living creatures using bug-catchers, magnifying glasses and identification sheets. To round of the residential visit, the children of Year 4 also developed their artistic skills through sketching Ancient Roman Pottery they had seen on the visit. Well done to everyone involved for making this a memorable two days in Northumberland.



Observing the ongoing archaeological dig



Proudly displaying Roman artwork



Experiencing life as a Roman archer



Big smiles on a walk along Hadrian's Wall

YEAR 5 AND 6 RESIDENTIAL - BOGGLE HOLE

A large number of Year 5 and 6 children recently experienced a two day residential at the amazing Boggle Hole, near Whitby. After dropping off their bags, the group wasted no time and set off on a walk to nearby Robin Hood's Bay, where they visited some interesting local shops. The group then headed back to the Boggle Hole site and after a delicious evening meal, it was time to play a number of team-building games. The evening was rounded off by toasting marshmallows around the fire pit to make and eat tasty s'mores. After a good night's sleep and a hearty breakfast, the children all headed straight down into the fantastic cove at Boggle Hole, where they took part in a 'Seashore Safari' session - a rock pooling activity in which the children unearthed and identified many interesting sea-dwelling creatures. The children also learned about the 'Boggle' which is rumoured to live a nearby cave - a curious creature which is said to emerge at night to either help or hinder people depending on its mood. The group were a real credit to the school throughout the visit and an amazing time was had by all - well done to everyone involved.



Toasting marshmallows around the fire pit to make tasty s'mores was a real hit



Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their time in the rock pools at Boggle Hole, where they found and identified a wide variety of unusual sea creatures in the 'Seashore Safari'

SUNDERLAND SCHOOLS DANCE FESTIVALS



'Little Movers' - the Year 4 dance team who performed at Farrington Academy

Another group of children, this time from Year 5 and 6, also demonstrated fantastic dancing skills when participating in the Sunderland Schools Dance Festival. This annual event, held at The Sunderland Empire Theatre, was a fantastic opportunity for the dancers to demonstrate their skills linking to this year's theme of 'A Night at the Theatre.' The children performed an exciting and well-rehearsed routine to the theme of 'School of Rock.' Everyone was very proud of the level of effort that was put into the rehearsals and the children's costumes looked amazing. Well done to the dance team - the hard work definitely paid off on the big stage in front of a packed house.

A large group of Year 4 children recently took part in a dance festival for schools across Sunderland. The event, which was held at Farrington Academy, was designed to develop and showcase the skills needed for children to dance successfully as part of a team. The theme of the festival was 'Inspire' which encouraged children to motivate others to get involved in dancing for health and well-being reasons. All of the children performed superbly well on the day, meaning all of their hard work and effort in the weeks leading up to the event paid off. A massive well done to everyone involved in the Year 4 dance team.



'School of Rock' - the Year 5 & 6 dance team who performed at the Empire Theatre

ANOTHER FANTASTIC YEAR OF SPORT AT BERNARD GILPIN



The girls football team after winning the Jill Scott Cup for the first time

SKIPPING FESTIVAL SUCCESS

After finishing in first place locally earlier this year, the Year 4 skipping team recently competed in the Sunderland Schools Skipping Festival regional final held at the Beacon of Light. The children were required to perform in individual events including single hop, double hop and the tricky pretzel category. As well as this, all of the children had to work together to perform a complicated team skip-dance to music. All of the individual children won either bronze, silver or gold awards and the team dance was ranked as the best on the day. After all of the points had been added up, Bernard Gilpin finished in first place overall, winning the Skipping Festival trophy for the first time. A huge well done to everyone involved in this great skipping success.



The successful Year 4 skipping team who were crowned as overall champions

ATTENDANCE AWARDS

Bernard Gilpin Primary School recently celebrated the children's attendance for the academic year by having an awards celebration assembly. Children who achieved 100% attendance for the whole of the year were rewarded as recognition for the increased learning opportunities that come with high attendance rates. Well done to the children across all year groups who did not miss a single day of school this year.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

After another learning-filled and successful school year, everyone at Bernard Gilpin Primary School would like to thank you all for your continued support in everything that we do. Everyone at school would also like to wish our current Year 6 children good luck in moving on to their new schools in September. We would like to wish you all a safe and restful summer break - take care and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Friday 6th September 2024.

This academic year has been another successful one for the football teams of Bernard Gilpin Primary School. The girls' team ended a tremendous season by winning two cup competitions. Firstly, the team lifted the prestigious Jill Scott Cup for the first time in the school's history after qualifying for the final earlier this year. The team remained undefeated throughout the highly competitive tournament, eventually being crowned champions after a hard-fought 1-0 win. The girls' team were also victorious on finals night in the Hetton and Lambton League after a resounding 3-0 win to lift the Girls' League Cup. The school Year 5 team also rounded their season off in style on finals night in a close-fought 1-0 victory to win the Year 5 League Cup. A huge well done to everyone who has represented all of the school teams in such a superb manner throughout the entire season.



The Year 5 League Cup winning team



The Girls League Cup winning team

SCHOOL GAMES PLATINUM AWARD

Bernard Gilpin Primary School recently achieved the School Games Platinum Mark Award for the 2023/24 academic year. This Government-led award scheme is facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across school and in the community. Everyone at BGPS is delighted to have received the highest level of award and to be recognised for all of our achievements. Well done to everyone involved in this sporting success.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We are sure you will agree that the children all look very smart in their school uniform and P.E. kits. Ahead of the new school year, you can find the school uniform requirements on our website as well as links to our uniform suppliers. Please note that the regular school uniform items, such as ties and cardigans, are available from B.E. Uniforms whilst P.E. kit can be purchased from Total Sport. Please also ensure that all uniform items are clearly labelled with your child's name - thank you for your support.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Summer Holiday - School closes Friday 19th July 2024

INSET Day - Thursday 5th September 2024

School re-opens - Friday 6th September 2024

Half Term - School closes Friday 25th October 2024

School re-opens - Monday 4th November 2024

Christmas Holiday - School closes Friday 20th December 2024

