**William Cassidi C. of E. Primary School**

**Newsletter**

**6th June 2022**

The Summer holidays are fast approaching and we begin to reflect upon the achievements of this academic year including the many musical and sporting activities undertaken by children throughout the school to enhance their opportunities and experiences. Sporting activities have included: swimming, tennis, rugby, cricket, gymnastics, cross country, multi-sports, athletics, orienteering, trigolf, badminton, bikeability and football. We are also looking forward to Fun and Fitness Week with new professionals visiting to share new sports, Sports Day and our Race for Life.

Our musical activities have included: singing in Nursery and Reception, Snappy Summer in Years 1 and 2, playing the recorder in Year 3, and singing in Key Stage Two. Tuition has also taken place for Taiko drumming in Year 4 and Steel Pans in Year 5. The school also enjoyed a live theatre performance of Oliver Twist followed by a workshop for KS2 children. The children’s responses were fantastic and they thoroughly enjoyed the performance. All activities have been very well received by the children and it has been a pleasure to once again hear the school filled with music, laughter and enjoyment.

Other activities and visits planned have been enjoyed by classes from Rainforest animals, to Durham Cathedral, a synagogue, mosque and gurdwara, Roman Segedunum, The Locomotion Museum and Kirklevington Museum as well as successful Science and British Weeks celebrated with you all. It has been wonderful to have a full year of lunchtime and after school clubs and our librarians, bank and shop workers in Year 6 have been amazing. Our School Councillors and Junior Road Safety Officers have also done marvellous work organising events and fundraising from Wear A Hat day, Red Nose day, Walk to School Week, Beat the Streets and MacMillan Coffee Afternoon. Well done to you all!

**Parent Governor:**

Following the resignation of Mrs. Parsons due to work commitments Mrs. Goncalves has been elected to represent you on our Governing Body.

**Easter Raffle:**

Thank you to all those who took part in our Easter raffle and to staff for their contributions providing all of the prizes for the children. A total of £228 was raised to provide playground equipment or the children to use during playtimes and lunchtimes.

**Bob Tingle Handwriting Award**

Many of you will recall Bob Tingle who served our school for many years and was a much loved and respected figure not just in our school but in our community. Each year we hold a handwriting competition in his memory and we invite everyone to either compose or copy a short poem in their ‘best’ handwriting and put their name and class on the reverse. Entries may be placed in a box placed on the shelf in the reception area by Friday, 17th June. The winner receives a small trophy and token as well as their name being placed on a large shield at school.

**Transition Arrangements for Year 6 Pupils:**

Parents should be aware that not all secondary schools send transfer details to our school. Whilst all information we receive is passed onto yourselves you should check with your child’s new school for the dates of visits and meetings as well as the transport arrangements and equipment that may be required for activities during the transfer process.

**Reports to Parents:**

Reports will be sent home on Thursday, 14th July 2021.

**Staffing Arrangements for 2022-2023:**

Mrs. Lister has requested a reduction in her teaching commitment to one day per week from September and she will work with Miss. Raper in Year 5. We are happy to confirm that Mrs. Mohan has become a permanent member of our team.

Arrangements for September are as follows:

Foundation Stage: Nursery Miss. Connor and Mrs. Howell

 Reception Miss. Hill and Mrs. Howell

Key Stage One: Year 1 Mrs. S. Hall and Mrs. Harland

Year 2 Mrs. Mohan

Key Stage Two: Year 3 Mr. Proud

 Year 4 Miss. Whitehouse

 Year 5 Miss. Raper and Mrs. Lister

 Year 6 Mrs. J. Hall and Mrs. Allen

**Attendance:**

As you will be aware the school’s attendance figures have been a focus for us due to the connection between good attendance and high attainment of children. Our school target is 96%. I would like to thank parents for their assistance in this matter and for completing the absence request forms which enable us to clearly explain children’s absences.

**School Budget:**

The final outturn report for the financial year 2021 – 2021 has been issued. We are able to inform you of the school’s financial position. If there are any changes in the final report they will be communicated to you. Please note that some rounding up/down affects some figures.

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Employees 738,425 (direct and indirect employee expenses)

Premises 36,833 (utilities, repairs and maintenance, alarms, cleaning materials, grounds maintenance, insurance)

Transport 1,613 (swimming transport)

Supplies and Services 158,004 (furniture, ICT software and internet, stationary, postage, telephone costs, catering, milk, insurance)

Support Services 24,764 (Local Authority services, support and training, HR, finance, MIS, refuse, Governor’s support, swimming)

Total Expenditure: 959,640

Income 24,051 (grants, subsidies, donations, additional hours)

Revenue Funding 1,040,546 (school budget share, standards fund, outturn)

(excludes rates £3,507)

Net Expenditure: 935,588

Outturn: 108,465 (allocated to finance staffing sustainability)

**Parent Questionnaires:**

We hope that many of you will participate in the annual parent questionnaire. We are aware that many of you have kindly commented on our questionnaire before but this provides us with vital feedback on your views and perceptions. We can only continue to develop with this information. Questionnaires will be available on our website from Monday 13th June and we would ask if they can be returned by Monday, 27th June to enable the findings to be collated and a report issued to you before the end of term. Should anyone not be able to download or print a questionnaire paper copies will be available from the school office.

**Date For Your Diary:**

6th June School opens at 8:55am

7th June Year 3: Roman Segedunum

8th June Year 6: Durham Cathedral Service

13th June Parent, children and staff questionnaires

15th June Year 2: The Locomotion Museum, Shildon

21st June Year 2: Synagogue visit

22nd June Year 3: Gurdwara visit

27th June Return date for questionnaires

WB 27th June Fun and Fitness Week

30th June Sports Day

WB 4th July Year 6 ‘Bikeability’ level 2

6th July M&M Productions ‘Jungle Book’

12th July Year 4: Kirklevington Museum

13th July Year 6: Abu Bakr Mosque visit

14th July Reports to parents

15th July Leavers Sale

19th July Visits to new classes

20th July Year 6: Leavers Worship

20th July School closes for the Summer break at 3:15pm

**Holidays:**

The school will close for children at 3:15 on Wednesday, 20th July and will reopen on Monday, 5th September. Training days will be held on Thursday, 21st July, Thursday 1st September and Friday, 2nd September. A calendar is available on the school website.

**Polite Suggestions:**

May we remind parents that neither dogs nor smoking is allowed on the school site. We have also received comments that vehicles are being parked on the road outside school which limits movement and could potentially cause an accident.

Please apply sunscreen before children come to school and send water bottles and a cap for sun protection in the warm weather.

If you are considering having your child’s ears pierced please try to have this done at the beginning of the holidays to ensure they are able to remove the ear rings when we return to school in the Autumn.

When purchasing school bags for the Autumn Term please be aware that the space for storage in school is limited, book bags and drawstring P.E. bags are sufficient. Some children have in the past brought large ruck sacks or large shoulder bags which are causing space and safety problems (tripping hazards).

Please ensure that when purchasing new clothing and footwear that uniform protocols are observed and all items are named which enables us to return the items to their owners if they are left around the school.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank governors, staff, parents and children for your support, hard work and commitment shown to our school during the year. We are extremely proud of our children, their many achievements and their wonderful attitude and behaviour which is frequently commented upon by visitors to our school and whilst they have represented our school in the community.

Mrs. Cornelius