

24<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents,

What a very busy week this week. It has been lovely to see so many of you for our singing performances. Thank you to Mr. Rush and staff for making time to prepare for these. I am glad that so many of you were able to make appointments to see the class teacher about progress and I know that these meetings have been very positive. Always remember that you are welcome to make an appointment at any time to catch up with class teachers if you have a concern about your child.

It was very nice that some Reception parents could join me for 'Seeing Is Believing' when parents visit school during the day and see children learning before having a cup of tea with me and catching up about current school issues. I will be hosting another session soon for Year 1 parents.

Although I mentioned it during assemblies, I just wanted to congratulate Mrs. Crawford, again, on becoming D.T. subject lead of the year. It is a great accolade for school. I am equally pleased that Mr. Noble was asked to lead primary careers for all of North Tyneside schools. We are committed to children learning about possibilities for the future.

Linking to careers work, we were pleased that our local MP, Emma Foody, was able to take time out of her busy schedule to visit us in school. She was really surprised that all children in Key Stage 2 could tell her what career they were hoping to have when they were older. There was a broad range of ambition too. She was interested in the work of our school council, Shiremoor Voice, and was really delighted to hear that they try to raise money every year for a charity that children have selected.

Last year, school was successful in gaining a Cultural Bid and we were thrilled to be able to work with a local artist and display our work in an art gallery exhibition with all children visiting the Great North Museum. We have been successful in our bid again this year but it is going to have a more musical focus with Miss Wellden and Mr. Rush leading. We will keep you posted.

Thank you to those of you who were able to visit the Book Fayre and buy some books. We get commission for books sold and every penny helps. I have been working at the University a bit this half term and also training prospective Head teachers to bring in some much needed funds. Other staff are also involved in some delivery. Money is much tighter than usual and we were happy that the sponsored money that you raised last year has covered many of the school visits costs this year. I am writing bids for additional funding where I can find them.

Our School Development Partner did a comprehensive audit of our Personal Development offer this half-term and fed back to Governors that our Personal Development offer is 'exceptional'. The children really impressed her with their understanding and application of knowledge around British Values and Protected Characteristics. She said that the children are a real credit to school and valued all of the opportunities that they are provided.

We are already looking forward to next half-term. The Christmas half-term is always a lovely one. Please remember that we have a Training Day on the Monday following half-term. Staff will be working on a variety of things such as writing, geography and early years. School will be open again on the Tuesday. Thank you for your efforts with attendance this half-term. Our attendance has been around the 97% which is very good.

Extra-Clubs:

Debating Club / YR3&4 Girls' Football Club / YR3&4 Boys' Football Club / KS1 Running Club / KS1 Multiskills Club / YR2 Fitness Club / YR5&6 Football Club / YR2&3 Dance Club / YR5&6 Lego Club / KS2 British Sign Language Club / KS1 Lego Club / YR6 Netball Club / YR1&2 Choir Club / YR5&6 Dance Club

**Visitors to school:**

Father Kahim Whole school assembly plus work with Y5/6

Global Policing Year 5/6

Skipping partner Y4

**Visits out of school:**

Lindisfarne Y5

Stephenson Railway Museum Y2

Mrs Middleton