



BARNARD CASTLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The Barney Buzz

Friday 19th May 2017

Issue Number: 866

Headmistress's News

For those of you that are unaware of the new addition to Prep School, we are delighted to say that we have successfully hatched 14 beautiful chicks who are now residing in the Science Lab. This has been a lovely unique learning opportunity for many of the children in the School. Mr Joy and Mrs Seddon have been helping us look after the new chicks and talking us through their daily progress, which has been extremely exciting for all.

The Year 4 children enjoyed their first School residential trip last weekend, undertaking outdoor pursuits in Gibside. Well done to them all for their enthusiasm and thank you to Miss White, Mr Wicling, Mr Ayres and Miss Laverick for their valuable part in the success of the trip.

Many thanks to you all for completing the questionnaire on the Lent report, we have had some very positive responses about the new format and will take on board all comments that have been made.

Some of the Year 6s have also been working with the School Council this week and have arranged an NSPCC fundraiser day on Thursday 25th May and children have all been made aware of this in classes. Further details can be found below.

As we approach the end of another busy half term I would like to remind you of a few major events that parents are warmly invited to attend:

Prep School Sports Day - Sports Day for pupils in Years 3 to 6 begins at 1pm on Friday 26th May. Parents should use the Senior School entrance from where they will be directed to car parking. On completion of the event we will present the Queen's Cup to the winning House, after which children will be free to depart for half term. We look forward to welcoming parents, family and friends to an action packed afternoon.

The Amazing Adventures of Superstan - The Years 5 and 6 play is fast approaching. Attached to this week's email is a ticket request form for the play. Due to Health and Safety Regulations, numbers are restricted and therefore tickets are on a first come, first served basis. If you would like to attend, please return the slip to Mrs Morse as soon as possible.

Den Building Day - I look forward to seeing many of you on Sunday for our morning of creativity arranged by the Barney Friends. I know many of the children are looking forward to creating their dens around the School and utilising them in the final weeks of the term. If you would like to join us, please email the Barney Friends - bf@barneyschool.org.uk.

Laura Turner

Boarders' News

After family weekend all of the boarders came back to School fully refreshed after spending quality time with family and friends.

We have had a few flexi-boarders staying with us this week and they have all enjoyed the Old Courts experience. With the continuation of the good weather the children have enjoyed playing outside on the School fields after lessons along with their weekly trip to the local cricket club.

We are now all looking forward to the weekend ahead and hoping for some more sunshine!

Mr Killeen



Sports Day

A reminder that we finish half term next Friday with our annual Athletics Sports Day. The events will start at 1pm on the School fields. Please go to the Senior School drive where you will be directed to parking. There will be refreshments available throughout the afternoon.

All children in Years 3 to 6 will need their full PE kit and tracksuits and they will come to School wearing this kit. They will not require their School uniform. For your information, the Taekwondo activity will take place as normal for those who are able to attend.

NSPCC Non-Uniform Day

Reminder: on **Thursday 25th May** we are holding a **non-uniform day** in support of the NSPCC. School Council, ably supported by members of Year 6, will be holding a series of competitions and events on the day for all children to participate in. The donation for coming in home clothes is £1 and each of the events will cost between 10p and 50p for a go. They include, Guess the Name of the Bear, a colouring competition, Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar, Beat the Goalie, Knock the Cups Down as well as a raffle. The competitions will take place around the Year 4 classrooms at break and lunch time and the colouring sheets can be collected from Miss White's classroom for 20p. There will be lots of prizes to be won and fun to be had!

What came first, the chicken or the egg?

Year 1 had an egg-citing start to their Tuesday morning. They took a trip to the Science Lab to learn about the visitors we have in the lab.

Mrs Seddon eggs-plained to the class the development the eggs have undergone over the last 19 days. They were egg-cited to hear that the eggs are due to hatch in two days.

We cannot wait to go back and see the baby chicks in all their glory.



Reception are flying!

Reception class learnt about the Red Arrows this week, when talking about flying machines. Here are some of their comments:-

"The smoke is a vapour trail" Tom

"They give us good displays" Caitlin

"The Red Arrows have blue, red and white smoke to show that it's for England." Megan

"The guy in the first red plane, I like his costume." Jack

To be or not to be!

In French, Year 3 have been learning vocabulary for rooms in the house and are beginning to recognise different parts of the verb 'to be'. The children have created their very own 'maison' and they are all on display in the French Room. Do come and take a look and see if you can spot where in the house the children are hiding!



Barnard Castle Prep Poultry School!

The children have been fascinated to see the progress of the chickens hatching in the incubator in the Science Lab. Look at our new starters!



Year 2 are striking!

In PE, Year 2 have been developing their running, throwing and jumping in Athletics. They are a competitive bunch and the sprints are particularly close! We have started to look at striking skills as well which is great to see.



Den Building Day!

The bacon sarnie barbecuers are limbering up and helpers have transported our collection of building materials to the site.... we're almost set for some serious den-building on Sunday. We do hope lots of families come along to show off their construction skills and build some amazing dens which all children in Prep School will get to enjoy after the weekend. We can still take more materials too so feel free to bring anything extra on Sunday. Come as a team with friends or as a family and don't forget your tools and some cash (bacon sandwich and a drink is just £1.50). We start at 10.30am, see you then.

Barney Friends



Sports News

Cricket at Mowden Hall: U11

On Saturday the Under 11 Cricket team made their way up to Northumberland to play Mowden Hall Prep School. We won the toss and decided to bat first after our performance at Ashville. Charlie Coulthard continued his great start to the season with 50 retired and was supported with a strong top order performance, Johnny Burgess (34) and Callum Gaffney (32 not out), as we finished with an excellent total of 168 off 25 overs. In reply the bowling was spread around and the highlight came from Daniel Richardson who bowled a hat-trick, 3 consecutive wickets. Overall a fantastic performance and wonderful support from the parents.

Mr Wicling

Celebrating Success

Charlie's Not Out!

Charlie Coulthard has had an unbelievable start to the year on the cricket field. He has scored 50 not out against Ashville and Mowden Hall and remains undefeated. This has been backed up by his performances for Club and County as he has been promoted into the Durham Under 12 set up. As a left handed batsman and right-handed bowler he is strong in all aspects of the game and has put in hundreds of hours on the training pitch and it is no surprise that he has developed into such a good player, certainly one to watch!



Glorious Gymnastics!

We were delighted to hear that last weekend Ella Turner, currently part of the Mini Squad Gymnastics Team at South Durham Gymnastics was selected to move into their Intermediate Squad, a huge achievement for such a young gymnast. She will now take part in Club, County and North Level Competitions and will continue her focused training for over five hours every week.



Shield is spotted!

William Shield has been talent spotted for his dancing prowess. 'Dancing Debbie', who comes in to choreograph the Year 3 Dance also puts on a dance session with the Year 6 children. Following this, William was highlighted along with three others and was given the opportunity to trial in Newcastle. William ventured up to the big smoke and performed over a full day and has impressed enough to be able to audition for any parts coming up in the region. An outstanding opportunity which has sprung from taking chances as they come.



Five go orienteering!

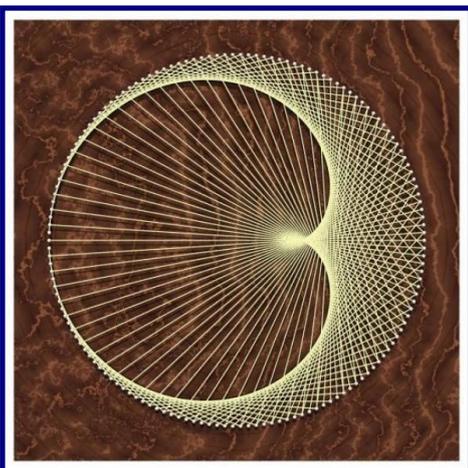
The Year 5s are really excited about next Tuesday's trip to Hamsterley Forest orienteering. We had a practice around School this week so that they had the chance to learn how to orientate and read a map to find key points. They had great fun, with teamwork and perseverance at the forefront of their minds.



Algebra rules!

Year 6 have been enjoying learning the tricky subject of Algebra in Maths over the past couple of weeks. Starting with simple substitution of letters for numbers, they have moved onto writing their own formulae. A recent investigation into handshakes led us to the discovery that $h = (p-1) \times p \div 2$. Leading on from this, we have discovered that $n \rightarrow 2n$ forms a beautiful curved pattern when drawn inside a circle. This is called a 'Cardiod' pattern. Can you spot this pattern anywhere else in the world around you? What would $n \rightarrow 3n$ look like?

Mrs Thompson



Glorious Gibside!

Last Friday, 29 very excited children and 4 teachers departed for our very first overnight excursion away from School. Gibside was a perfect location for Year 4 being a site with lots of open space and woods to explore.

The whole trip was action-packed and we kept the children on their toes from the moment we arrived until our very late bedtime. The morning began with geo caching which involved us working in teams to locate the GPS coordinates and complete a challenge at each point. This adventure took us all around the site and we eventually covered about 8 miles of the whole estate.

After a swift lunch break we moved on to the Low Ropes Course where we tackled challenges which varied from a swinging rope bridge to a Tarzan-style leap of faith. The group worked really well together, shouting encouragement and proffering the occasional rope or hand.

Now quite exhausted we returned to the Stable Block (not a horse to be seen, just a very large cow!) and created our own memento of the trip using a wooden block and pens. After this we designed our own pizzas for tea and chose our beds whilst waiting for the pizzas to cook.



Not done with the walking, as dusk approached, we headed into the mysterious West Woods for fire making and den building. Along the way we collected wood of all shapes and sizes ready to be thrown onto the fire. Our guides talked us through the history of fire and we all attempted to set fire to a pharmacy's worth of cotton wool using a modern flint and steel. Conquering this, without setting fire to the forest, and spotting several deer running alongside us, we set about the task of building a den fit for a king or queen using the handily available logs and branches. To rebuild our energy we returned to the fire for the inevitable burning of marshmallows to be placed inside a sandwich of biscuits and chocolate. Suitably reinvigorated, we returned to complete the dens before the walk back to our beds. Faces washed and teeth brushed we settled down for a couple of chapters of our class reader, *Beast Quest*, before turning off the lights and trying to get some sleep.

Up bright and early the next morning, after a hearty breakfast of sausages in rolls, we split into two groups for team building games and archery. It turns out that there are several Robin Hoods amongst the group as well as potential leaders of the free world with superb communication skills!

The afternoon was spent walking around the site before a quick stop off in the Strawberry Castle Play Park and the highly anticipated visit to the shop.

The behaviour, attitude and enjoyment of the children, certainly made for a thoroughly enjoyable trip. My thanks must go to Mr Wicing, Mr Ayres and Miss Laverick for participating with an equal level of enthusiasm as shown by the children.

Watch this space for a Sway presentation of our adventures!

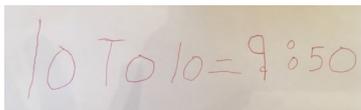
Miss White



Maths Puzzler

Last week I set you the challenge of adding a single line to the problem below to make it correct. Three merits to Henry Turnbull, Seth Crisp and Rhys James for their ingenious solutions.

Io Io Io = 9:50



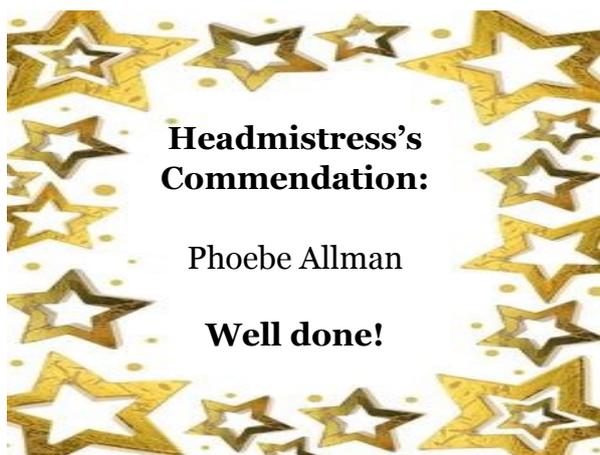
This weeks puzzler is Sports Day related (sort of!). Picking a Sports Day team is always tricky, especially when you get conflicting information. Can you use the clues below to find out who won the race and who filled the other places?

- Eve finished 2 places behind Carla
- Debbie finished ahead of Brooke
- Alice overtook the person in 3rd just before the line
- Carla finished 3 places ahead of Brooke
- The winner's name is 4th alphabetically

As always, answers to me by Wednesday please, ready for next week's newsletter. Good luck!

Mr Ayres

sta@barneyschool.org.uk



App of the Week:



Hopscotch

As Year 4 begin their foray into the world of Scratch, here is a similar app designed for iPads. Hopscotch focuses on making coding easier via graphical elements that children can drag and drop to build up programs. It works by dragging and dropping colourful blocks of code to build routines. These routines can then be saved and attached to different objects and activated by different events on the iPad (such as "when the iPad is shaken" or "when the iPad hears a loud noise"). So you could, for instance, program a bear to do a somersault every time you clapped your hands. Have fun!

Awards This Week:

Merit Certificates:

Jack Baptist, Vivi Gledhill, Sebastian Howard, Oona MacConachie, Tom Staley, Peter Stevenson, Phoebe Allman, Ella Turner, Oscar Bennett Collins, Megan Brown, Mirabelle Harrison, Violet Heintz, Theo Te Lintelo, Hetty Barwick, Freydis Blake, Georgina Chapman, Matilda Chapman, Rory Metcalf, Sophie Pegram, Toby Rutherford, Bertie Swan, Dexter Thomas, Freddie Wilks, Tilly Gray, William Jackson-Ward, Edwin Barwick, George-Louis Boulton, Ben Arnold, Benjamin Loughney, Evie Wicling, Alexander Carr, Fiore Catellani, Dylan Dougal, Reuben Hosking, Alex Banner, Charlie Bridges, Adam Lee, Alexander Milbank, Rocco Catellani, Benjamin Dixon, Sophia Hare, Joe Rutherford, William Watson, Sofia Wilson, Ned Michelin, Minnie Wilson

Forthcoming Events

May

- Fri 19 Prep School Open Morning, 9:30am-11:30am
~~Boys' Cricket Tournament: U11 (H), 1pm~~
Cancelled due to weather
- Sat 20 Senior School Open Morning, 9:30am-11:30am
- Sun 21 Barney Friends' Den Building Day, 10:30am
- Tues 23 Year 5 trip to Hamsterley
- Wed 24 Year 6 medical screening
(opt out forms sent home with children, please only return if you do not want your child to take part)
- Thurs 25 **Non-Uniform Day for NSPCC**
- Fri 26 Sports Day for Years 3-6
Boarders' parent/teacher meetings afterwards
Half term begins, 3:40pm-5:00pm
- Sat 27 Prep School Barney Friends' Ball, 7pm
- ### June
- Sun 4 Boarders return, 4pm
- Mon 5 Second half of term begins
Cricket & Rounders v Bow School: U10 (A), 3:30pm

This week, we would like to wish a very happy birthday to:

Oliver Dickinson
Megan Sunley
Jake Roberts

Best wishes from everyone
at Prep School!