



BARNARD CASTLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The Barney Buzz

Friday 4th November 2016

Issue Number: 845

Headmistress's News

Returning refreshed after our half term break, the second half has started apace. We all returned to hear about the wonderful adventures Year 6 had in London. Mr Ayres has put together a fantastic presentation for all to see and enjoy and I strongly encourage you to view this. Following on from this the pupils in Years 3 to 6 were fortunate enough to work with the North Pennines AONB Partnership on a waterfall project on Wednesday.

The 'Have A Go' concerts were wonderful on Thursday and it was particularly pleasing to see so many children keen to play their instruments or to sing in public. Thank you to all the children who performed and their music teachers for all the support they give the children.

It is of course at this time of year that we remember those who have died in various wars and next week's theme will be 'Remembrance'; a range of poppies, and related items, are currently available from the Prep School office. A whole School Remembrance Service will take place next Friday in front of Big School.

A reminder that parent/teacher consultations are taking place next week and these meetings provide a good opportunity for parents to discuss their child's academic progress as well as being useful in building positive relationships between home and School.

I do hope you can join us for a great night and compete for the famous Seddon Shield at the Barney Friends' Quiz on Friday 18th November. This has always proved to be a highly enjoyable evening and all adults are welcome, there will be plenty of opportunities to join a team on the night.

Laura Turner

Boarders News

The boarders returned to the boarding house full of excitement on Tuesday evening, not because they were bursting at the seams to tell Mrs Killeen and I about the fantastic fun they had with friends and family over the half term holiday, but because it was the Old Courts spooky Halloween party. Mrs Killeen and Mrs Stewart applied face paint and helped the children transform into something supernatural. With a wickedly fresh monster mix playing in the background all the children made chocolate toffee apples, played games, ate lots of sweet things and finished the evening off with a moonlight walk. It was great to welcome the children back and to see them having tremendous fun on their return.

Mr Killeen



Travelling Book Fair

The Travelling Book Company is, once again, coming to Prep School!

Would children wishing to purchase a book please bring money into School on **Monday 7th November**, when they will be given the opportunity to browse and buy during the school day, in classes. All children have been given an information booklet and the books are charged at standard book prices.

On **Monday 7th, Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th November**, parents are warmly invited to come and buy books. The book fair will be open at the end of the school day, from **3.45-4.45 pm**, in or near the Atkinson Hall on these days. Please start your Christmas shopping here: the more books sold, the more Prep School benefits from a wide-ranging choice of free books for School.

We hope to see you at the fair!

Mrs Robertson



May the force be with you!

Year 1 have started their new Science topic of 'Forces' this week and they thoroughly enjoyed learning about the force in which an object moves. They worked in groups to explore the force on an object and they made a Venn diagram to show what they had found.

Room on the Broom

Our Year 2 children are enjoying reading 'Room on the Broom' by Julia Donaldson. On Thursday morning they became 'Setting Detectives' as they examined the book for evidence of the story setting and placed clues under a series of appropriate headings including landscape, weather, growing things, animals, insects and birds and fairy-tale images.

We all love the rhyme and repetition of this story and were amazed by the long list of clues we were able to uncover about the setting as we read each page. Next we will be discovering more about the witch and the dragon and comparing their characters.



School Council News

Our first big project this term was an important one, to help promote House identity in School. We had several discussions and decided to introduce House badges. We had a think about the types of badge we would like before giving our classes a selection to choose from. The most popular choice by far were the reflective button badges which, should you wish to purchase one, are now available from Mrs Morse at a cost of £1 each. The badges can be worn on School jumpers and blazers.

We are sure that they will be a popular addition to the uniform in Years 3-6 and we are excited to begin wearing them (as are many of the House staff!). The badges will further emphasise the team spirit already felt in School and we can't wait to see them on uniforms.

School Councillors

Music to our ears!

The Have a Go Concerts continue to thrive with children of all levels performing, some who have only had a couple of lessons thus far whilst others have been playing for several years. The range of music was all-encompassing from Disney to Classical, Musicals to Pop and Rock (the Beatles making a significant contribution this year!). The amount of children who volunteer is wonderful and they all prepared themselves very well. Well done to all and a huge thank you to the parents who supported.

Dr Harrison



Wonderful waterfall workshop!

On Wednesday children from Years 3 to 6 were very fortunate to be involved in a Geography workshop run by the North Pennines AONB Partnership as part of Durham County Council's 'Art Moves' project. This involved a carousel of activities, including fossil making, rock identification, water cycle posters and poetry inspired by waterfalls. The children learned a great deal about features that shape our landscape and had great fun along the way. Many thanks to AONB, many of whom are volunteers, but who are passionate enough about our environment to pass on their knowledge and enthusiasm to our young people. A fascinating day to kick off this half term.

Mrs Thompson



Keep gassing!

Year 5 have been learning about gases. We have been finding out about different gases as well as their properties. Here we have made carbon dioxide which was fun!

Our next experiment will be to blow up a plastic bag using gas.



Pencil Pushers

As revealed in the newsletter a few weeks ago a merry band of Year 5 & 6 students entered Peter Jones' Tycoon in Schools project with the idea of running a stationery shop. We are pleased to announce that the shop opened today and will be open every Tuesday and Friday during morning break until Christmas. Currently we have Frixion Pens @ £2, highlighters @ 75p, Clicky pencils @ £1 (refills 75p) as well as eraser pencils @ 30p - a much sought after item judging by how many we give out and never see again! We also have sharpeners and rubbers and will be looking to stock Christmas wares in the coming weeks if the shop proves popular. **Mr Ayres and Mr Wicling**

Barney Friends' News

Calling all Quizzers...

The countdown has begun to the Barney Friends' Parents & Staff Quiz Night on Friday 18th November in the Atkinson Hall. Mr Ayres and Miss White are putting together a range of practical and quizzical questions so make sure you have your team ready for a fun night with some healthy competition between you and your friends. If your class doesn't have a team, come along anyway and join one on the night – family and friends are welcome. Cheese and savoury snacks are £2.50 a plate. BYO drinks.

Christmas is Coming...

It's the ever-popular Prep School Barney Friends' Christmas Lunch on Monday 12th December at 1pm at Clarendon's, in Barnard Castle Market Place. This is always a fantastic way to start the season and, for parents of children in Years 3-6, is followed by the Christingle and Carol Services in Chapel. Clarendon's always look after us really well and Clare and the team have come up with a delicious three-course menu once again for just £20 per person. We're taking bookings now – please make your choices from the menu attached to today's email and leave your order and payment with Mrs Morse.

Just dance!

Year 3 have been practising hard for their African Themed Arts performance which will take place on Tuesday 22nd November. The children plan to entertain you



with dance, art, music and poetry and parents, family and friends are invited to come and watch their performance at 6pm in the Atkinson Hall. The children have been enjoying learning about Kenya in their Geography lessons and are excited about the forthcoming performance.

Happy Diwali

Reception heard the story of Rama and Sita this week and the part that this plays in Diwali celebrations.

The children all made Diya lamps and decorated hands with Mendhi patterns.



All It Takes is a Heart Beat...

In Science we are working on the 'Human Body' and this week we tackled our first practical experiment. This involved working in small groups to find out how exercise affects our pulse rate. We worked out which variables we needed to keep the same and which to change in order to answer the questions. We started by taking our resting pulse, then after jogging for 2 minutes, then after sprinting for 20 seconds and finally an option of our own. These varied from doing the plank for 20 seconds to doing press ups for 20 seconds.

An energetic hour was spent by us all outside on the pitch. Unfortunately some children were declared dead at the end, as they did not have a pulse at all! Following the completion of the experiment, we graphed our results and wrote a conclusion.

A super day's work by all!



Awards This Week:

Special Mention Certificates:

Tom Staley, Oona MacConachie, Bertie Swan,
Nathan Willoughby-Brown, Jacob Killeen,
Finlay Toyne, Konrad Blake, George-Louis Boulton,
Oscar Lawson, Evie Wicling, Emily England,
George Goad, Bella Staley, Zara Dobson, Seth Crisp,
Harry Maguire, Charles Appleyard, Joseph Green,
Olivia Preston, Scarlet Sinclair, Jack Edmunds,
Freddie Barrett, Molly Peart, Katie Riddell

Merit Certificates:

Johnny Burgess, Jack Edmunds, Fin McGuire,
Freddie Hendrix, Scarlett Hutchinson,
Archie Rickard, Olivia Preston, Archie McGill,
Harriet Alliston

House Certificates:

We are delighted to welcome Benjamin Pelly to
Raleigh House and Bella Staley to Gilbert House

App of the Week:

iGeology App – Britain's rocks in your pocket

Following on from the Geography Workshops attended by Years 3-6 on Wednesday, an app to help you discover the landscape beneath your feet. The app lets you take over 500 geological maps of Britain wherever you go, to investigate what is under the surface. It also explains how certain features are formed.



We would like to wish a very
happy birthday to:

Albie Kingsbury

Best wishes from everyone at Prep School!

Maths Puzzler

Well done to Rhys James who took the time over the holiday to work out that just one of the turrets on HMS Belfast would fire nearly 10,000 rounds in a School day (9,960 to be precise!). Three well deserved merits to you Rhys.

This week sees the launch of our Tycoon in Schools project - The Pencil Pushers' stationary shop (see the article over the page). The group did a lot of research before deciding on prices. One shop we looked at sold a pen and a pencil for £5, the pen was £4 more than the pencil, how much were the pen and the pencil?

Please return your answers to me by Wednesday. Good luck!

Mr Ayres

sta@barneyschool.org.uk



Forthcoming Events

November

Fri 4	Year 2 trip to the National Glass Centre, Sunderland Hockey v Red House: U11, U10 (H), 2:30pm
Mon 7	Rugby & Hockey v RGS Newcastle: U9, U8 (A), 3pm Year 5 & 6 parent/teacher meetings, 4pm-7pm
Tues 8	Year 3 & 4 parent/teacher meetings, 4pm-7pm
Wed 9	Year 5 & 6 parent/teacher meetings, 4pm-7pm
Thurs 10	Year 1 & 2 parent/teacher meetings, 4pm-7pm
Fri 11	Remembrance Parade for pupils Year 5 & 6 House Hockey & Rugby matches, 1:45pm
Sat 12	Bridging the Gap for Year 6 (by appointment), 9:30am

Headmistress's Commendations:

Harry Milbank

Well done!

Remembrance Day

As a reminder, poppies are now on sale in Mrs Morse's office.

On Friday 11th November the children and staff will gather together for the Barnard Castle School ceremony of memorial cross-planting to remember those fallen heroes.

Year 6 visit The Big Smoke!

Having set off for London, following a quick lunch stop, we arrived at Warner Bros. Harry Potter World where the eight films were made. Two huge stage sets were filled with memorabilia of all sorts from the making of the films, from sets to costumes to props of all shapes and sizes. Once we were inside, Johnny and Molly were lucky enough to push open the doors to the Great Hall to reveal the start of our adventures! Once we arrived at The Royal National Hotel, our base for the four days, we were allocated rooms, had dinner and then settled down in preparation for the next busy day.

We were up bright and early for breakfast before making our way through the very busy London traffic to The Tower of London. The Crown Jewels never fail to impress with the sense of History, Britishness and pomp and ceremony of the place. We were able to explore the various towers, inspect the execution site, shiver at the instruments of torture and meet some of the Beefeaters who were delighted to have their pictures taken with the children. We posed for photos on The Millennium Bridge before two actors showed us around Shakespeare's



Globe Theatre. We were all so enthralled with the stories of how it came to be the first building for hundreds of years to be built in the city with a thatched roof and how the theatre was, and is used today. We then made our way to the new rehearsal rooms where our two actors, Fiona and Tom led a Macbeth workshop, helping us to further our knowledge of the play. It was fantastic to work with people who had actually played the roles in a performance who brought the characters and plot alive for us. A coach trip across town, avoiding the Olympic Parade saw us at the Science Museum. A myriad of interactive games and displays brought Science to life as we learnt about forces, electricity, light and sound, magnetism and so much more as we 'played' in the recently reopened Wonderlab. The loudest noise that day came when Mr Seddon volunteered to be hit with a mallet as part of a foam sandwich to demonstrate forces! Tea at Pizza Hut on The Strand provided some down time and the chance to eat as many slices of pizza as possible (and boy, did some try!) before we made our way to the Prince Edward Theatre to see 'Aladdin'. We all enjoyed the fantastic music, costumes and special effects. It was very interesting to visit the theatre that evening, having been at the Globe earlier in the day. What a contrast!

After a late night, day three saw us concentrating on the History part of the trip. Having quickly explored Parliament Square and a brief peek at Buckingham

Palace, we learnt all about how Winston Churchill ran WW2 from his special underground bunker. Headsets gave us a commentary about the various rooms we saw before we spent time learning all about the life of our great wartime leader in a separate display that included an interactive timeline of his life. A highlight for Poppy was the screen filling entirely with poppies when 11th November 1918 was selected. Next on the agenda was HMS Belfast which helped introduce the children to WW2 as we explored the hundreds of guns and ladders and parts of the ship to see what life was like on board the ship during active service. Our work at School about WW1 was brought to life in The Imperial War Museum as we furthered our knowledge in a fantastic exhibit dedicated solely to that conflict. The children were fascinated by the many real artefacts that were on display that brought home the horrors of 'The Great War' and for Scarlet to see her great grandfather's citation for his Victoria Cross was particularly moving. Following a brief 'play' in the park to let off some steam, we watched a 4D film about The London Eye before we enjoyed our flight. Our timing was spot on as we enjoyed seeing all of the sights of our capital city in the light before sunset over The Houses of Parliament; a spectacular finish to the ride. Even more pizzas followed before we made our weary way back to the hotel.



On our final day, having packed and loaded the coach, we made our way into the city for the last time to be dropped off by Westminster Abbey. Visiting this magnificent building for the first time was a great success and the children were in awe of the importance and beauty of the place and to hear Prep School being included in the morning prayers was a lovely moment. We were lucky enough to be allowed past the gates of Downing Street (once the teachers were searched!) for the obligatory photos in front of the most famous front door in the world. A short walk up Whitehall enabled a quick stop at Horse Guards', where we were lucky enough to watch the changing of the guard, before visiting The National Gallery, home of thousands of paintings including those the children are studying in their Art lessons. They were all able to see the actual painting they have chosen and marvelled at the variety and skill of the artists whose work is on display. A quick lunch in Green Park followed before we boarded the coach for the last time to make the long journey back to School. Tea in McDonald's helped break up the journey before we met our families to enjoy half term, exhausted but exhilarated after the trip. A huge thank you to the children who were a credit to themselves and the School with their behaviour and also to the staff who were again magnificent at all times.



Please click on the link below to see a fantastic presentation of the adventures in London!
<https://sway.com/98qjRyKvWGoAwoWA>
 If you haven't already done so, please also visit our Facebook page to see photographs, videos and posts from the trip.

