



BARNARD CASTLE  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

# The Barney Buzz

Friday 4th May 2018

Issue Number: 898

## Headmistress's News

Very well done to everyone who went away last weekend to the Robinwood Centre in Alston. The weekend of outdoor, adventurous problem solving and team building activities was a great success. The children and staff threw themselves into the experience wholeheartedly and it has been most enjoyable hearing them all week reflect upon their exploits. We thoroughly enjoyed re-living their adventure with them during a special slideshow on Thursday morning. Well done to the children and thank you very much to Mr Ayres and his team. I am sure that the Year 4 children are now eagerly anticipating their residential trip at Gibside in Northumberland next week and the excitement that it brings. We hope they too have a wonderful time and we look forward to hearing all about their adventures upon their return.

Our House Art Competition at the beginning of the week was an excitable morning for all and the research and ideas that the children brought to the morning was truly remarkable. It is anticipated winners will be announced in assembly next week, with the House Cup being presented at our End of Term Gathering. There will also be the opportunity for you to see some of the work throughout the school and of course on Speech Day.

We are hosting an open morning on Friday 11th May for new parents to see the school in its normal working environment. If you know of anyone who is considering the school for their children in the future please do pass this information on to them.

The exeat weekend has quickly approached for our boarders who are looking forward to their long weekend spent with families.

I wish you all a relaxing Bank Holiday weekend with the children returning to school on Tuesday 8th May.

**Laura Turner**

## Boarders News

Despite having a number of the boarders away at Robinwood, last weekend was no less busy at Old Courts. On Saturday morning Dr Harrison took the Year 3 and 4 boarders for a special treat ... to play the Chapel organ. This was followed by some time on the brass instruments and learning the 'cup song' from *Pitch Perfect*. In the afternoon Mrs Small engaged the boarders in a lot of creative fun around the Prep School including the ever popular Hama beads. On Sunday the junior boarders joined together with the seniors on a trip to Derwent Water. The weather was kind to us and everyone had a fantastic time learning to sail, kayak and stand-up paddle board – many for the first time.

**Mr Robson**



## 4 Go Adventuring Again!

Year 4 are primed and raring to go off on our first residential of the year next Tuesday, following the Bank Holiday. This weekend bags will be packed and a vast array of clothing will be prepared ready for all eventualities with the weather at Gibside near Rowlands Gill. The aim of our trip is to learn more about ourselves and our friends, supporting the philosophy of Year 4 and Growth Mindset. Each child will choose a theme for their visit, be it resilience, perseverance, teamwork or to simply try something they have never done before. I know we are all going to have a brilliant time away and we look forward to sharing our stories and pictures with you next week. We would like to thank Mr Ayres, Mr Joy and Miss Laverick for giving up their valuable time to join us.

## Full Steam Ahead!

The children in Year 6 have been treated to two special visits related to their recent History project on the Industrial Revolution. Tabitha Hilsdon, with help from Mr Hilsdon, brought in her project to show everyone; a truly spectacular, fully functioning model railway, complete with model steam trains and surrounding countryside and mines, all made by Tabitha. This week, Mr Appleyard brought in a recently acquired steam engine and 6L were fascinated and delighted to get it working and turning a mini concrete mixer, before adding a dynamo attached to some mini LED lights. We all cheered when the lights came on! Huge thanks to both Year 6 parents for sharing their time and skills with the children, bringing the topic work to life with such enthusiasm. **Mrs Robertson**



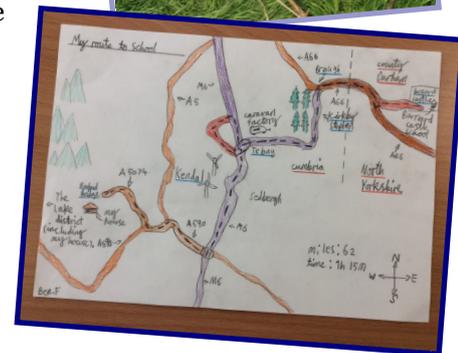
## In the hot seat!

Linked to our topic of An Island Home, Year 2 have been reading and listening to the Katie Morag stories. There are so many interesting characters and we all have our favourites. Today Freddie was in the hot seat. We chose her to be Katie Morag because the two girls look very similar! We all asked her lots of questions about her life on the Isle of Struay and about aspects of her appearance and character. Freddie was very good at thinking on her feet and by the end of the session it was quite easy to believe that she actually was Katie Morag! Following this we used speech bubbles to find out a little more about Katie Morag, Grannie Island and Grandma Mainland.



## What a journey!

Year 5 have had a busy week in History and Geography. They were set a homework task to plan their journey from home to school and record it on paper. There were many variations but they all managed to identify key landmarks and villages on their journey. In class we then researched how we could travel to different cities in the UK and which mode of transport would be the quickest and the cheapest. In History we enjoyed being outside to create our Viking boats out of sticks and string. We will finish these off next week and test them to see if they can float. Many new skills were learnt this week. Keep up the hard work Year 5!



## Water Bottles

We do encourage children to keep hydrated throughout the school day and therefore would like all pupils to bring a water bottle into school each day. As a reminder, school branded water bottles are available from Mrs Morse's office (£5 each).



## Sports News

### Tennis at Durham High School: U8

On Wednesday the U8 Tennis team took part in a tournament and skills session at Durham High School. Even in rather windy conditions, both the boys and the girls really enjoyed the festival. This was not a competitive tournament but the children learned a lot from the experience. "We all did very well and learned



lots of new skills to take back to Prep School. We all enjoyed our first tennis tournament and had lovely refreshments at the end too!" Ella Turner and Charlotte Owens

A fantastic experience for all the children involved.

**Mrs Summerson-Brown**



### Smooth criminals!

In order to bring their work on Ratios to life and give their learning context, my Maths set descended on the Art Room on Tuesday morning to put their understanding into practice. The children were given a range of ingredients: fruit, yogurts and juices, and the opportunity to make their own smoothie! Once they had concocted their perfect drink (shades of George's Marvellous Medicine sprang to mind!) they needed to scale their ratio to make 1 litre and work out how much they would need to make a single cup. The pupils were brilliant, they were able to cement the concepts behind the tasks and even cleaned up really well! **Mr Ayres**



### In the mud at Robinwood!

It was with great excitement, and a somewhat heavy heart that we departed for Alston for the final time. As the coach ticked off the miles so the anticipation built and built. After arriving at Barhaugh Hall the children dispersed into their teams, eager to tackle the heights and depths of every task. When we met up for tea, they were already a little different; sixty people were beginning to become five teams, each with a unique personality, with individual chants and cries and plenty of incredible stories and in-jokes.

The Japanese have a word 'musubi', it means union. It describes an invisible bond that links people and that is exactly what developed over the course of the weekend. There is no smile quite like a Robinwood smile, a smile that belies that unseen bond, that shared experience and that sense of quiet achievement that comes from helping one of your group overcome their fears. For the last time, click on the link below to re-live the weekend and see what makes Robinwood so special, not just for the three days but for years and years afterwards.

<https://sway.com/l6vQMWjBRKeqk1X9?ref=Link>

**Mr Ayres**



## Emergency expedition!

On Monday Reception class enjoyed an action packed visit to the Police and Fire Station in Barnard Castle. All the pupils were given the opportunity to sit in a fire engine and police car and the fire fighters explained how fire engines are equipped for emergencies. The children particularly enjoyed using the large fire hoses and pressing the buttons to hear the fire and police sirens! Many of the children asked interesting questions and a super afternoon was had by all!



## It's all going swimmingly!

In English, the children have been using adjectives to describe a setting based upon the Fairy Tale 'Little Red Riding Hood'.



They worked in pairs to create a new setting and then went on to describe it. In Art they thoroughly enjoyed creating fish from their recycled plastic bottles.

## House Art Competition

Monday saw the return of our annual House Art Competition and all pupils from Reception to Year 6 were able to spend the morning creating their masterpiece. This year pupils were given an animal theme in line with RSPCA Awareness Week. The children used their time during lessons last week to produce a variety of preliminary sketches and were able to choose their preferred media when completing their final entry. 183 paintings, drawings, zentangles, collages, cartoons and watercolours were entered and the standard of art work is truly amazing. Pupils approached the task in true Barney spirit with a real 'can do' attitude. They put into practice the skills taught during Art lessons and a real sense of pride shone through from them all. I would like to thank the staff and pupils for making the event a resounding success and also the Senior School Art Department for undertaking the difficult job of choosing the winning entries. We now eagerly await their decisions and will announce the individual winners during assembly very soon. **Mrs Small**

## Buenos Dias

Year 3 have had an exciting start to this term, finding out the different places around the world where Spanish is spoken and learning some interesting facts about Spanish culture. This week they have been practising their new language skills, enthusiastically greeting each other.



## Just my bag!

Year 4 are continuing their work on recycling in Art and Technology lessons this term and we would be very grateful if you could donate any surplus plastic carrier bags you have at home. All donations will be very welcome in the Art Room at your earliest convenience. Thank you!  
**Mrs Small**



## Awards This Week:

### Merit Certificates:

Dominick Armstrong, Lilly Cassidy, Teddy Hall, James Harburn, Olivia Harland, Harriet Hatton, Fenella Heagerty, Annabel Jackson, Arabella Milbank, James Nath, Thomas Scott-Priestley, Isabelle Shield, Edith Smart, Theo Swan, Hugo Thompson, Freya Turner, Flora Whitaker, Ed Wicling, Francesca Wilks, Tom Staley, Megan Sunley, Finley Cable-Jones, Dylan Dougal, Vivi Gledhill, Reuben Hosking, Sebastian Howard, Oona MacConachie, Caitlyn McLean, Peter Stevenson, Lucy Willsmore, Jack Baptist, Alexander Carr, Fiore Catellani, Callum Clark-Alderson, Joel Morgan, Sophie Richardson, Isla MacConachie, Rory Metcalf, Tilly Gray, Charlotte Owens, Ella Turner, Liberty Forsyth

## Maths Puzzler

Some great answers from last week's puzzler! Year 5 even got in on the act finding their own objects between certain lengths. Merits to everyone who answered.

This week's puzzler comes from Robinwood and has certainly stumped us so far! You have three houses, each needing Gas, Electricity and Water. You need to connect up the houses to their services without crossing any of the pipes! A whiteboard might be useful just in case it takes a few attempts!



Good luck!

**Mr Ayres**

sta@barneyschool.org.uk



## Headmistress's Commendations:

Lilly Cassidy, Jack Baptist,  
Alexander Carr, Harriet Hatton,  
James Harburn, Archie Lanigan-O'Keeffe

### Well done!

We would like to wish a very  
happy birthday to:

Archie Rickard  
George Goad  
Scarlett Williams  
Samuel Baker-Bird  
Molly Rendall  
Sebastian Howard  
Isla Morgan

Best wishes from everyone  
at Prep School!

## Second Hand Uniform Shop

We are gradually building up our stock levels and are happy to take in any prep skirts and ties from Year 6 pupils who will no longer need them as well as any uniform particularly rugby/hockey kit that will be outgrown by September. We currently have a good stock of athletics spikes, cricket shoes and pads, weatherlayer tops and summer dresses.

Also now available from the second hand uniform shop is a small supply of NEW Playerlayer socks, skorts and shorts. Feel free to come and browse Fridays 3pm-5pm in the main corridor of Senior School.

## Forthcoming Events

### May

Sat 5	Exeat Weekend
Sun 6	Exeat Weekend
Mon 7	Exeat Weekend
	<b>No school - Bank Holiday</b>
Tues 8	Year 4 Residential Trip to Gibside School Nurse visiting Reception Class, 1:30pm
Wed 9	Year 4 Residential Trip to Gibside
Fri 11	Prep School Open Morning, 9:30-11:30am
Sat 12	Senior School Open Morning, 9:30-11:30am Cricket v Mowden Hall: U11 (A), 2pm (d12:30)

## App of the Week

### Euclidea

Euclidea is a collection of interactive geometric puzzles with 120 levels.

The idea is to build geometric constructions using straight edges and the compass. It is described as a game that values simplicity and mathematical beauty. Find the most elegant solution — the one, which is built in the least possible moves, and you'll get the highest score.

Let me know how you do!

**Miss White**

aaw@barneyschool.org.uk





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# MEDIAEVAL DAY

*On Thursday 17th May, Barnard Castle Prep School will be transported back to Medieval times and we would like to invite all pupils to join us on our historical adventure. This will be a chance for the children to dress up and enjoy the day's festivities.*

*Will they be a knight in shining armour, a jester, a fine lady, squire, crusader, peasant or monk? It's up to them!*

*It's set to be an action packed day for them all with live entertainment, workshops and a chance to learn more about life in Medieval times.*

*We are looking forward to this historical day!*



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**Prep School Open Morning  
Friday 11th May 09:30-11:30**

**Senior School Open Morning  
Saturday 12th May 09:30-11:30**

