



Fellside Community Primary School

Fellside Road, Whickham, NE16 5AY - T: 0191 488 7486

Fellside Matters

Commitment, Confidence, Change, Creativity, Challenge, Collaboration, Curiosity.

Ambition for all.

25th October, 2024

Mrs Green's Weekly Message:

The first half term has come to an end and I think every child (and adult!) is ready for a well deserved week of rest. We hope that, however they spend the week, they stay safe and keep smiling.

As a school, we have been focusing on our School Improvement Plan priorities of improving **writing** across the school, supporting our staff to **develop our school curriculum** areas, and encouraging **ambition for all** of our children. This has been the reason behind some of our teachers going on different courses, as we know that investing on well thought out professional development leads to progress for our children.

As you may know, the government has asked all schools to be aware of their school's attendance and regularly send us updates. We are pleased that, out of 61 similar primary schools in the local area, we are 6th for our overall attendance and are top when it comes to unauthorised absences and pupils who are persistently absent (that is, less than 90%). We know that there are children in our community who have genuine reasons to be absent from school and we work with the families to give the support they need, with the child's wellbeing at the heart of what we do. For children who receive Pupil Premium, however, we are 21st out of 61 schools. This tells us that we still need to support some of our children more and we will be doing that moving forwards. Thankyou as ever, for supporting us in our endeavour to make our school the very best for all of our children.

Have a wonderful October half term; we shall see you on Monday 4th November for a new half term.

Mrs Green

Key Dates coming up:

Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November: Half Term

Monday 4th to Thursday 7th November: Parents Meetings for whole school except Year 5.

Our website is being updated regularly with key dates. Please keep checking on there for any up to date information all the way up to Christmas. There is a handy filter option so you can easily see exactly what is happening with your child's class.

Nursery

Nursery have enjoyed sharing the story “What’s In the Witch’s Kitchen?” and looking for signs of Autumn outside. They have been thinking about how to write their own names! Children enjoyed designing pumpkin faces, pumpkin carving and, of course, their special Halloween Party!

Year One

Year One have enjoyed more “Poem A Day” poems as well as The Three Billy Goats Gruff, which they have had much fun reenacting. As well as using drama in their writing lessons, Year One have been thinking about adjectives. In maths, children have been measuring using non-standard measurements, like cubes. They really enjoyed the print workshop this week, as well as their visit to Wickham School where they took part in relays. Children have learnt the NSPCC PANTS rule as a way to keep themselves safe (see our website – under Safeguarding for more information). A highlight for the class has definitely been welcoming a very, very special friend back to class.

Year Three

Year Three continue to enjoy James and the Giant Peach. In their own writing, they have been learning about kennings poems and writing their own. In maths, they have learned about column subtraction skills. They have also been learning about how computers are connected and how they send messages while, in science, children learned about Mary Anning and why she is remembered.

OVERALL HALF TERM ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS!

Year Five

Year Five have continued to enjoy Holes as their class book. They have written some Halloween based onomatopoeia poetry and, in maths, learned about decimals and how to round, convert and order them. They designed and made their own Mayan masks and, in PSHE, thought about Zones of Regulation and how it can help them. They learned about search engines and web algorithms in computing.

They are looking forward to welcoming Mr Todd back on Monday 4th November!

ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS: 100%

Reception

Our children in Reception have enjoyed many stories about the Large Family! They have been particularly excited by the continuing baking challenges and, this week, write a list of ingredients they needed to make bread... and then used them to bake some delicious loaves. In early maths, they have been looking at measurement, comparing size and weights. They have thought carefully about our Character Compass and the school rules of Honesty, Respect, Tolerance and Integrity. In PE, children have had a lot of fun playing games, moving in different ways.

Year Two

In Year Two, children have enjoyed reading Jack and the Beanstalk by Richard Taylor. In their own writing, they have used commas and verbs to write about the text themselves, after taking part in a lot of drama activities to act out the story. In maths, Year Two have investigated amounts of money, adding a selection of coins. Children have learned about Paul Klee’s Castle and Sun, colour mixing with white to create sunsets. Children have thought a lot this week about Zones of Regulation and how to help ourselves when we are in different Zones. In PE, children enjoyed skipping, using an oversized rope and learning how to ‘jump in’.

Year Four

Year Four are enjoying the book Anglo Saxon Boy while, in their own writing, they have been writing limericks. In maths, they have learned about decimals. They have enjoyed learning about Egyptian Society and making their own Cleopatra-inspired busts. Children have thought about diversity in PSHE and how boring the world would be if we were all the same!

Year Six

In writing, Year Six children have created their own persuasive speeches in the voice of Lord Shaftsbury. They made printed tiles in the style of William Morris in art and design, while, in RE, they learned about Jesus’ miracles, specifically the story of “Feeding the 5000”. They continued with their song writing in music and, in PE, developed orienteering skills.

ATTENDANCE TARGET CLASS: 93.3%