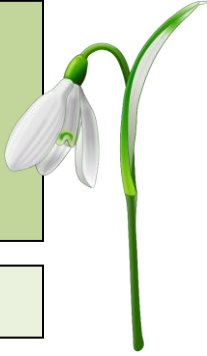


Roseberry
**Primary & Nursery School
Newsletter**



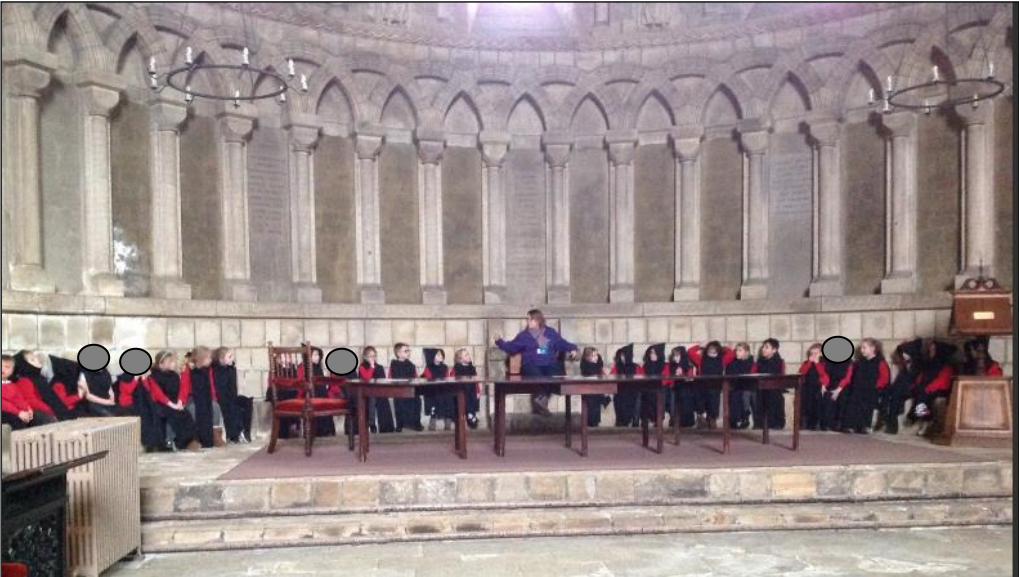
February 2020

CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENTS THROUGH VISITS

KS 1 pupils visited Durham Cathedral as part of their History study.



The children were exceptionally well-behaved during this visit and received glowing reports from the staff of the cathedral. Every pupil received a merit for their merit cards.





Year 5/6 pupils visited the Victorian Tunnels in Newcastle as part of their History study. The children met Basil, a 90 year old gentleman who was evacuated from Newcastle when he was 10. He shared personal memories of his time during the war; the children and staff were fascinated! The children also visited Seven Stories and Ouseburn Farm. Everyone's behaviour was superb and a credit to the school.

KEEPING SAFE AND HEALTHY AT ROSEBERRY

KS 2 pupils had the opportunity to learn how to stay safe whilst out and about on their bikes. Many pupils were awarded certificates and badges for their excellent work from the Bikeability Team.

Year 5 pupils learned a lot from their weekly visitors from various organisations such as The Dogs Trust and the Civil Contingencies Service, which ended in February. Here are some of their thoughts...

I learned that fly-tipping is when a person collects mounds of rubbish and puts it in a place to hide it. (Kaicee)

I learned that if you fall over into dog poo, you might get an eye infection because the dog might have worms. That's why you must get your dogs wormed. (Chloe)

Dogs feel lonely and scared when they're left outside a shop.
(Ella)

The police told us that fly-tippers can get a £60 - £1000 fine. (Abigail)

Safer Internet Day was celebrated this month with the theme 'Free to be Me'. Pupils were taught that anyone can fake their online identity and they need to be sure who they might be chatting to. Thanks to Miss Blakeney for co-ordinating this important online safety work.

Sporting activities obviously helps keep children healthy. Our subscription to the Schools Sports Partnership enables our children to participate in many sporting activities.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Year 4 pupils have been heavily involved in looking after our local environment by participating in a litter pick and they have been working with Oases on an eco-brick sculpture (see below). Thanks to parents for their support with this worthwhile project. Pupils also learned how waste has changed over time by interviewing members of the older generation. The pupils then presented their work to the rest of the school and their parents in an assembly.



Alice from Oases sent us this email,
"Thank you very much for taking part in the Building a Waste Free Future project over the past couple of months. We have thoroughly enjoyed working with your school."



ATTENDANCE

Please remember to contact the school on the first day of absence to ensure the safety of your child and if you change your telephone number, please let us know. A Star Attendance currently monitor our attendance and may conduct a home visit to offer support in maintaining and improving your child's attendance. Alternatively, we can make a referral for 'Early Help' if you feel it is appropriate. Please contact our parent support advisor, Mrs Donnelly, if you would like to know more.

Because our attendance is below the national average, it is an Ofsted issue we need to address. Ofsted identified **holidays in term time**, as a specific problem affecting our attendance levels. Please note the school can only authorise holidays in term time if there are exceptional circumstances and evidence is provided. Your co-operation on this matter is greatly appreciated.

MUSIC AT ROSEBERRY



Every week we have Musical Thursday, where children listen to and perform a range of musical styles. Here you can see Year 6 pupils performing in assembly to the rest of the school using xylophones. Hymn practice/singing also takes place every Thursday afternoon and below, you can see Year 4 pupils enjoying their weekly drumming lessons.



PARENTAL QUESTIONNAIRES

Thank you to all parents who returned our questionnaires. Unfortunately only 13 out of 260 (5%) questionnaires were returned to school. The percentages are reported below but caution is advised with such a small response rate. We will assume that most parents are happy with things if they haven't responded.

Jan 2019	(Please tick.)	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	My child enjoys school	77%	23%		
2	The school keeps my child safe	77%	15%	8%	
3	The school informs me about my child's progress	46%	46%	8%	
4	My child is making enough progress at this school	54%	31%	15%	
5	The teaching is good at this school	77%	23%		
6	The school helps me to support my child's learning	77%	8%	15%	
7	The school helps my child to have a healthy lifestyle	46%	54%	6%	
8	The school makes sure that my child is well prepared for the future (for example, changing year group, changing school, and for children who are finishing school, entering further or higher education, or entering employment)	45%	36%	9%	
9	The school meets my child's particular needs	58%	42%		
10	The school deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour	42%	42%		16%
11	The school takes account of my suggestions and concerns	42%	50%		8%
12	The school is led and managed effectively	54%	38%		8%
13	Overall, I am happy with my child's experience at this school	69%	23%	8%	

Please note some questions were not answered as parents felt they did not have enough experience or did not know enough to give an informed answer. Some percentages, therefore, do not add to 100%.

Positive comments:

"Pleased with Roseberry so far – my daughter is extremely happy in her class and loves attending breakfast club. Communication is excellent and I find Classdojo very useful for this"

"The teacher made the transition from Year 1 to Year 2 a great success..."

"Teaching is brilliant..."

"The nursery is amazing and the staff are fantastic. My son is coming on amazing thanks to the team's efforts."

*"Reception class is fantastic and I am very happy with the progress my child's making."
"Although my child has only been at Roseberry for a month, she is very happy and settled in great."*

*"Communication is good in terms of Clasdojo, text messages...
overall happy with the school and teaching staff are a credit"*

Concerns:

"A lot of parents smoke and swear outside the school. This is mentioned on Clasdojo quite regularly but perhaps another method could be employed. Not sure what could be done really which is a shame."

"Year 3 is currently on 3rd teacher of the year... I don't feel the children can be getting a good standard of teaching over the full year"

"concerns about pupil premium..."

"Bad behaviour is always overlooked and never dealt with appropriately... further negative comments relating to certain groups of staff..."

"difficult to arrange time off work for achiever assemblies with one night's notice...attendance officers should not conduct house visits so prematurely in the term especially when school send child home poorly..."

"Class dojo is rarely updated , therefore I only find out about progress at parents' evenings...behavioural problems ... never seem to have a full time teacher – again throughout the years, not just Year 5"

Thank you to everyone for your comments. We pride ourselves on taking parental concerns seriously and remember our motto is "Together we achieve more!" With regard to the above,

- Pupils have made posters about smoking which are displayed around the school premises for parents to see.
- Teachers' notice periods mean our new teacher cannot start until after Easter. We will hold a meet & greet session so all Year 3 parents can meet Mr Neasham who is employed on a permanent contract.
- Pupil Premium – the majority of the money goes towards staffing costs e.g. parent support advisor and teaching assistants. (The £1320 we receive for each child, when divided by 190 days = £6.94 a day)
- Just a reminder needed that all teachers' are entitled to 10% PPA and time to fulfil subject leadership responsibilities. This is a statutory requirement. This is why your child's teacher cannot be in class 5 days a week.
- Achiever of the Week – pupils can't be chosen until Thursdays. This has been reviewed in the past following parents' comments about short

notice but staff felt it was too much of a delay for children to be discussing their achievements from the previous week. We appreciate it's inconvenient for working parents so if anyone has any suggestions, we'd like to hear them. You could message us via Classdojo.

- The vast majority of parents and all staff feel negative behaviour is dealt with in a timely and appropriate manner, according to the school's behaviour and positive relationships policy. However, if any parents feel unhappy with the policy, please pass your comments on to your child's class teacher and we will try to resolve the concerns. Again, quoting our motto, "Together we achieve more!" we believe it is important to contact the school if you have any individual concerns.

PARENTS' EVENINGS

We love to see as many parents as possible at parents' evenings. This is your chance to find out about how your child is doing at school and what progress they are making. You can view their work and speak to the teachers. You will be receiving appointment letters soon. Parents' evenings will take place week beginning 30th March. If you can't make the chosen dates, please contact your child's teacher and we will try to accommodate another time and date to suit you.

HEADTEACHER'S WEEKLY AWARDS

Well done to the following children for impressing Mrs Lee in January:
10/1/20 – Joel (Year 5) for fabulous effort in his written work and great explanations in Maths
17/1/20 – Tulisa (Year 5) for her Maths skills in area and perimeter and always trying her best
24/1/20 – Oliver (Year 1) for being so polite and well-mannered as well as his great work in gymnastics
31/1/20 – Ellie-May (Year 6) for excellent behaviour and some great work in fractions

Well done to all our achievers. Keep up the good work!

HEADTEACHER'S WEEKLY AWARDS

Well done to the following children for impressing Mrs Lee in February:
7/2/20 – Daniel (Year 4) for fabulous work in reading and creating some great questions for the teacher
14/2/20 – Elia (Year 3) for showing resilience whilst learning multiplication and division and her positive attitude to learning
28/2/20 – Kasha (Year 2) for her enthusiasm for poetry, writing 3 extra poems in her own time at home

Well done to all our achievers. Keep up the good work!

NEW PARENT GOVERNOR

Mrs Talbot was elected as our new parent governor representative.

DIARY DATES

Sport Relief – Friday 13th March – wear sportswear
Spring Anti-bullying day – Monday 16th March – wear blue
Audio testing in Reception classes – Tuesday 24th March
Earth Hour – Friday 27th March 2: - 3:00 p.m.
Parents' evenings – Monday 30th March and Tuesday 31st March
Egg jarping finals - week beginning 30th March
Robins and Reception Easter Bonnet Parade and Disco – 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday 1st April
Autism Awareness Day – Thursday 2nd April
Grand final (pupils, parents, staff) – Friday 3rd April at 9.00 a.m.
Family decorated eggs competition – due in Wednesday 1st April
Break up for Easter holidays – Friday 3rd April
School reopens Monday 20th April

EYFS visit to Hall Hill Farm – Wednesday 22nd April
Destination Judo taster day – Tuesday 28th April
Taylor Shaw VE Day Thursday 7th May
BANK HOLIDAY (VE celebrations) – Friday 8th May
KS 2 SATS week beginning 11th May