

ESCOMB PRIMARY SCHOOL

WHAT HIT THE HEADLINES IN NOVEMBER...

This newsletter has been written and produced by Year 6! They have been our roving reporters and captured, in their own words, what has been happening at Escomb Primary School this month!

Unique odd socks and theatre production to prevent bullying!

Best Friends Forever

On 6th November Artefacts Theatre company came into school and performed 'Best Friends Forever'. It was all about bullying and friendship and was a good introduction to our values for this half term of Friendship & Teamwork. The play taught us that there are 4 types of bullying; verbal, cyber, physical and body language. The play was very entertaining but also got some very important messages across to us.

Here are some thoughts about it:

Reception : Will said 'It was good and don't bully!'

Year 5: Joel said 'I enjoyed the dad playing the embarrassing music and you should not bully other people was the lesson we learned.'

What is Odd Socks Day?

Most importantly, Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique. We celebrated Odd Socks day as part of our anti-bullying week on Friday 15th November alongside 'Children in Need'.

Written by Connah, Jack & Charlotte

Perfect Pantomime

On 12th November we were very lucky to have Peter Pan performed to us by M & M Productions.

They performed the pantomime with heart and soul - it gave of a rush of excitement across the hall! Everyone had a fun and enjoyable time; all children felt like a part of the epic show.

We have captured some of their thoughts: "It was very funny and very cool to watch the actors dance and sing in our hall."

"It took us on a magical journey."

The lagoon of eternal youth, was the gold at the end of the rainbow in the story. Captain Hook was really proud - his character portrayal was 'on point.' The work put in by these actors was formidable - we couldn't believe the 3 young superstars could produce such talent!

M&M has once again entertained us with an absolute show stopper! Many thanks to M & M for making this show the best ever!

p.s. We have booked them again for next year!!!!

Written by Francesca, Kayla & Charlie



Year 2 Kurling e Boccia

On 25th November 2019 Year2 attended the kurling & boccia competition hosted at Bishop Barrington Secondary School! They were joined by 3 other primary schools. The whole hall was set up with lots of activities and different kurling games. The class were split up into three teams, they were placed 5th, 6th and 7th. They had a brilliant time and met lots of other children. 'It was a little bit tricky but very fun,' reported Reilly, one of our Year 2 competitors.



Written by Aimee s, Ethan O,
Jayden & Oliver

Escomb School Opens up to Parents

On Wednesday 20th November Escomb Primary School threw open its doors to parents of Key stage 2 children for an afternoon of fun and learning. Parents joined their children in classes and became school children themselves again!

Year 3 did various activities including: Weaving, Mud huts, Stonehenge art and cave paintings. The class weaved using wool and a board, they made many different patterns. The mud huts were 3D and looked very realistic; the children worked extremely hard. The Stonehenge artwork was made by using a silhouette of Stonehenge and paint for the colourful backgrounds.

In Year 4 they created some Roman bookmarks - they sowed using basic techniques. They had a needle and a few materials. Some of the children found this difficult but with the help of their parents, they were able to make fully functioning bookmarks with determination and teamwork!

Year 5 made self-portraits using the style of Manga Art. They drew and worked their socks off for the whole afternoon. They used a mirror, paper and sketching pencils to create their stunning artwork. They are amazing!

Last but certainly not least, Year 6 made clay models making the sculptures using the art style of Henry Moore and the theme of Slavery. The children sketched their designs into their art book and they made their spectacular drawings come to life.

Thank you for reading our news article on Escomb Primary school parents afternoon KS2.

Written by Ross, Esme and Daisy

Unexpected Athletics Victory

On Friday 22nd November Year 6 participated in the Sports Hall Primary Athletics. There were two parts to the competition: Track events and field events. Escomb competed in the second heat for the track events. Doubting themselves after their few first defeats, they were determined to bring it back. Year 6 worked tirelessly to achieve their goal of victory and surprisingly it came true.

Year 6 were very fortunate to have heard famous quotes from both Miss Cox and Mr Gillis. "All children contributed a fantastic effort and I am very proud of all of year 6. Well done!" -Miss Cox. "Year 6 all really enjoyed participating in the games and were rewarded with overall first place. Fantastic sportsmanship!" -Mr Gillis

There was a total of 5 schools who took part and made it a very intense moment for our school. We had a total score of 174 points, taking us into the lip-biting moment of the finishing positions.

Year 6 were crowned victorious by a huge 14 points. Our hardest opponents finished 14 points below; that was a nerve-wrecking moment. We won with a shock on our face!

Well done Year 6.

Written by Connie, Harrison & Finlay C

ARTISTS FOR ADVENT

On 18th November 2019, Year 6 took part in an amazing art session creating a lovely piece of artwork for Christmas. Laura, a professional artist, came to school to help us complete this challenge. She brought with her a life-size wooden 'cut-out' of Reuben, one of the Zurbaran paintings. We had to bring him to life by using magazines that we cut up and stuck to the wooden sculpture following the colour pattern on the original painting. We also learned that Reuben is a biblical character and is the son of Jacob and Leah. We created him for the advent window down in Bishop Auckland. The aim of this year's display is to celebrate the unique heritage of Bishop Auckland as well as the traditional nativity story.

We are very grateful to have had this moment with Laura to make a magnificent piece of artwork. The finished product looked absolutely stunning. We had such a great time creating Reuben. We are so happy to have had the opportunity to design this sculpture that will represent our school. Here are some of our classmates thoughts:

'It was challenging but it was worth all the effort.'

'It was an amazing experience and has inspired me to create my own piece of art work out of magazines!'

'It was the best bit of artwork I've ever done. I loved every second of it.'

'The children worked amazingly together to complete Reuben and the overall project looks very artistic.'

'The whole class loved it and it was a great way to start our Christmas!'

Our recreation of Reuben will be revealed on Friday 20th December at 11:00am Baby & Toddler Kingdom, 153 Newgate Street.

By Jess, Anna and Finlay B

Recognition for our Outstanding International Work!

On 19th November four Year 6 children went to Durham Town Hall to celebrate Escomb Primary School's incredible achievement: 'International School Award' Everyone enjoyed the event and we were very proud to come back with a certificate and a plaque to recognise our hard work.

We got chosen for the award because in our school we learn about lots of different countries and their culture and customs and we have projects that link us with schools in Finland, Spain, Czech republic, Japan and Tanzania .

At the award's ceremony we heard a story from an inspiring young man called Jonathan. He told us about he had overcome many challenges growing up because he was born with a condition called Asperger (A type of autism) and about how his love of drawing helped him. He also told us about how he met Peter Barron, an author and also former editor of The Northern Echo, at an awards night. Peter asked him to illustrate his book 'Snowdrop'. They then published the book together. We also learned a lot about how everyone is different and people should respect one another.

We were so inspired by Jonathan's story that we asked Peter and him to come to school to tell the rest of the school about their friendship and their book. Hopefully they are coming to school on 17th January!

Written by Kam, Skye & Brodie



SAFEGUARDING MATTERS. . .

Year 6 Safeguarding Soldiers have been working together to see how we can improve certain things in our school. Keeping everyone safe at all times is very important. We have noticed that there are some things that you can help to do to keep us safe.

At the end of the day children in Year 2 and 3 leave school from the main entrance. This means that the doorway is really busy at this time. It is very important that our teachers can concentrate on looking for our parents and making sure we get to them safely. This is sometimes made really tricky because parents need to come into the school office. If you do need to come into the office at this time, please could we ask that you wait until all the children have been handed over to their parents? It would be good if you could not come into school between 3.20 and 3.30p.m. It also means that Mrs Peart and Mrs Tague and other teachers can do their normal safety checks on people coming into school.

Please can you keep the area by the school gate clear so that bus children have somewhere to wait – it means that teachers know which children are getting on the bus.

Parking outside school is really dangerous. Please can you keep us safe by making sure that you do not park on the zig-zags or yellow lines. Local residents have asked that you do not block their driveways or use them as turning points please, particularly at the lane end and the vicarage.

We have also been looking at climate change and our carbon footprint and seeing what we can do to help. We have noticed that parents keep their engines running whilst waiting outside school, especially on an afternoon when they come and park up early. We know you do this to keep warm while you are waiting but have you ever thought about the harmful exhaust fumes that your car is emitting? Do you realise that we are breathing in these fumes!!!!

Thank you for helping make sure we are safe.

An incredible trip to the Czech Republic

At 2:00am on Sunday 24th November this amazing journey began. Six Year 6 children travelled to the Czech Republic with Mrs Collings, Mr Cox and Mrs Tague as part of our Erasmus+ project 'Full Steam Ahead'. These brave explorers took a bus, rode a train and disappeared above the clouds on two flights! When they arrived they were welcomed by their host families. They have been sharing their adventures with the rest of us by keeping in touch with Mrs Gill (and their parents!) on WhatsApp.

They have been really busy taking part in lessons with their Czech, Spanish and Finnish partners and visiting lots of places of interest so that they are experiencing Czech life to the full!

We can't wait for them to come back and share their adventures with the whole school. Their own news article will follow shortly!

Written by Aimee T, Lucy & Kain

After School Clubs

Jujitsu—As per letter given to children from the provider at a previous class—the last session for this term was on 27th November. The sessions will resume on Wednesday 15th January 2020.

All other After School Clubs will continue this term and will finish week ending Friday 13th December 2019.



Congratulations



Star of the Week Award

8th November 2019

Class Nominations

Reception	Hugo M
Class 1	Beth H
Class 2	Harper B
Class 3	Christopher R
Class 4	Amber W
Class 5	Fynley B
Class 6	Amelia A

Superstar of the Week!

*** Beth H ***

Star of the Week Award

15th November 2019

Class Nominations

Reception	Charlie G
Class 1	Luke Mc
Class 2	Daniel K
Class 3	Keira S
Class 4	Daisy B
Class 5	Caden C
Class 6	Ross J

Superstar of the Week!

*** Charlie G ***

Star of the Week Award

22nd November 2019

Class Nominations

Reception	Mason F
Class 1	Thomas E
Class 2	Ella S
Class 3	Noah G
Class 4	Jake O
Class 5	Finley B
Class 6	Ross J

Superstar of the Week!

*** Ross J ***

Star of the Week Award

29th November 2019

Class Nominations

Reception	Amelia W
Class 1	Luke P
Class 2	Thomas A
Class 3	Kate D
Class 4	Ellis W
Class 5	Chloe D
Class 6	Whole Class

Superstar of the Week!

*** Luke P ***