

April '25

The end of term Easter celebrations were a fitting culmination to a fantastic Spring term in school. Gathering together and reflecting on the joy of hope and new beginnings, the 'Stations of the Cross' walk was a wonderful opportunity for the school community to sing and celebrate our way through Arnside village. With a spot of egg rolling and egg & spoon racing, the day finished with our Celebration Worship in St James' to present a range of awards for achievement and endeavours. A huge thank you to all involved, especially the Catholic and Methodist churches for making us feel so welcome.

As the clocks changed, our pupils were thrilled to see the lighter nights back and the chance to play and socialise for even longer! Our wonderful Arnie's after school club with Sam and Julia, take the chance to get the pupils out and about: walking, playing, gardening and exploring, it's a perfect way to extend the school day. The Eco Club have been busy preparing the nature garden and we will soon be hoping to check on our verges and wildflower projects in the local area. Farm Club continues to provide endless exciting opportunities and our groups have recently been checking and maintaining the bee hives as well as helping during the lambing season – hands on learning at its very best.

The Year 5 pupils enjoyed a fantastic morning at Dallam School watching a performance of Matilda. Ex-pupil Libby Green stole the show with the starring role and our pupils loved seeing the characters brought to life in such a creative manner. Dallam School provide a whole host of link opportunities including language festivals, sports and music projects, and it's a perfect platform to get that first 'taster' of Secondary School. The Year 1 & 2 pupils recently took part in an athletics festival and our Year 3 & 4 pupils will soon be heading to Dallam for a rounders competition – well done and good luck to all involved.

Residentials are a crucial part of our school curriculum and they provide an opportunity to learn, grow and develop independence and resilience in a safe and structured environment. We carefully plan each residential, starting with a single night away in a Lakes YHA for younger pupils and culminating in multi-day cultural London experience. Just before Easter, our Year 3 & 4 pupils had a fantastic few days in Coniston and they loved every minute! Based at Holly Howe YHA, we had a mountain walk in the Coppermines Valley, a trip to Brantwood on the launch, and a fascinating visit to the Ruskin museum. Prior to the trip, the pupils had been studying the local area and the Bluebird story, and to experience it all at first hand certainly brought their learning to life. It will soon be the turn of our intrepid Year 5 pupils and a 3 day adventure-fuelled camping trip to the Langdale Valley; we may need a few tips from Bear Grylls...

Our amazing FOANS group continue to provide the school with outstanding support and our next event will be the ever-popular Bunny Bingo, Thursday 24th April, 3.30pm. Pen ready, eyes down and listen out for the Year 6 bingo callers, all are welcome to pop along and try to win a chocolate egg or two. Away from fundraising, FOANS have organised a 'Spruce up' day where parents / carers and members of the school community come along to assist with a whole range of jobs around school, from painting to planting – it's all hands on deck. Thank you everyone, we really appreciate the help, support and kindness.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Helen Keller

Take care and enjoy your summer adventures. Mr Sharp