

Fulwell Junior School

Respect, Aspire, Achieve – Be the best that you can be!



A Royal Day Out!

On Wednesday 28th June, our Coronation Bench journey took another exciting turn as the children who designed, it accompanied by a number of staff, travelled to London for a VIP visit to the Tower to officially unveil our bench. We all had a VERY early start as our train left Durham for King's Cross just after 6.00am!! On emerging from the station at Tower Hill, we were met by the breathtaking view of the Tower of London from the opposite side of the river. As we made our way along the bank of the Thames, we caught the first sight of our bench taking pride of place overlooking the river and Tower Bridge.

The official unveiling was conducted by Mr. Speck, Isla Kelly, Catherine Jones (Schools Coronation Project Manager) and one of the chief Yeomen (Beefeaters). Once the ribbon was cut the bench was announced 'officially' open and we all took the opportunity to 'take a seat'...and a selfie!

After the opening, we were treated to a bespoke workshop in the grounds of the Tower led by 'Colonel Blood' who helped us learn all about the attempts to steal the Crown Jewels before we then enjoyed our very own VIP viewing of the Crown Jewels led by one of the King's security personnel. We were blown away by the size of the gemstones in each of the crowns...and the thickness of the doors to keep them safe and secure! There were so many amazing moments throughout the day including seeing the ravens which roamed and guarded the Tower, watching the changing of the King's guards, taking in the views of the city from the battlements, walking over Tower Bridge and along the Southbank, spotting iconic sights and buildings along the way. We were very ready for our late lunch at Nando's and a chance to rest our feet before heading back to the station!

Our bench will remain in London overlooking the river until September. We are planning to install the bench at the new City Hall on its return to Sunderland in the Autumn before it returns to school permanently.

We are hoping to set up a 'gallery' of 'selfies on the bench' on our school website and Instagram so if anyone is visiting London over the summer – please look it up and 'take a seat' ...and a selfie...and send it into school!

Faculty of STEM



Back in Spring we entered 30 children from Y3-6 in a Primary Engineer's National Competition, 'If you were an engineer, what would you do.' What fantastic success we had! Many of our children achieved merits and distinctions for their creative designs and innovative ideas. One of our Y3 children, Amelia, was selected as a winner out of 45000 entries! In May we attended an award ceremony at Sunderland University where Amelia was awarded for her winning design, 'Sleep Tight'. A future engineer! Well done, Amelia!



VEX Robotics!



Over the course of the year a group of Y6 pupils have been involved in VEX Robotics Club. Pupils created a competition field and built their own customised robots to compete in an end of year competition. Our six pupils - Finley, Ivy, Logan, Evelyn, Grace and Harrison - attended this event at Nissan on the 20th June with other schools across the North East. Our pupils performed outstandingly and demonstrated all the skills they had learned across the year. The judges praised the teamwork between the pupils and we ended up placing 4th out of 17 different teams!

Armed Forces STEM Event & Competition



Earlier in the Summer Term a selection of our Y3 & Y4 children attended the National Armed Forces & Emergency Services Event at the Stadium of Light. They had a great time learning all about careers in the Armed Forces and the links with STEM. This inspired us to hold our own Armed Forces Day. We learnt about careers in the forces and thought about what the Armed Forces meant to us.

We also entered Pathfinder's postcard competition. Four of our children were selected as postcard winners: Grace, Elijah, Hannah and Ari. Their designs were published in June's edition of 'Pathfinder' and printed as postcards which were handed out at Falmouth and Sunderland's Armed Forces Events in June. Well done!



There have been many more great achievements and successes in our Faculty of STEM this term, including eight of our Y5 children representing FJS at the Rail Engineering Competition at the Discovery Museum in Newcastle. We have also held Computing Focus Days for all year groups with our computing specialists.



North East Goblins 2023

Overall Winners!



What an achievement! Fulwell Formula II crowned champions of our first ever Greenpower race day.

Back in May, we were chosen as a group of 12 engineers to form Fulwell Formula II. We quickly got to work building the car. It wasn't easy but our determination, teamwork and resilience meant we did it. Seeing the car complete made us so proud! We couldn't wait to drive it. Over the next few weeks we used the playground to practice driving and to work on our confidence. "It went much faster than I thought!" stated James after his first drive.



Finally the race day was here. We arrived at Gateshead International Stadium on 28th June kitted out in our 'Future Engineer' tops and ready for a fun-packed day of racing. "I could barely contain my excitement!" exclaimed Zoe. All of the cars were lined up ready for scrutineering. Our car looked amazing – the CD's on the bodywork really stood out.

The car passed scrutineering and we were ready for racing. Our six drivers: Zoe, Ruby, Oliver, Milo, Brody and Lily showed great confidence, skill and control in both the drag and slalom races.

Our pushers, Jack and Florence, were so strong and really helped the drivers with their speed while James, Charlie & Emma snapped some great photos and videos of the day.



After lunch it was time for the sprint race. Ruby was our chosen driver and she was amazing! The whole crowd gasped as she over took the other cars and finished well ahead of them. "I'm still shaking, that was incredible!" said Emma.

Finally, it was time for the results. Out of 21 other schools we came 3rd in the drag, 3rd in the sprint and 1st in the slalom! We also won the award for 'Greenest Bodywork'. It was time to announce the overall winners...it was us! Team 9, Fulwell Formula III! We were in shock! Our first year entering and we had won the event overall. "I don't want to let these trophies go!" Charlie said, while gripping it tightly.



The entire team have been incredible throughout the whole project. They have shown the most outstanding teamwork and resilience from the build right up to the race day. The organisers of the event complimented the children in abundance over the course of the day for their behaviour, support and attitude towards each other and other participants. We are so proud of each of them and hope that this inspires them to be engineers in the future. Well done Fulwell Formula III!



Faculty of the Arts

Art Focus Day: Sculpture: Working with Clay



All children designed and made a decorative clay tile based on the theme of wheels – using their sketches and drawings of bike parts etc from earlier in the year.



We learned about the work of Antoni Gaudi - a well-known ceramic artist and architect, briefly

looking at his architectural designs before more closely looking at his hexagonal ceramic tile design ('Symbols of the Passeig'). We then created our own designs for a tile focusing on the following key skills:

- Kneading / rolling out clay for tiles
- Cutting clay
- Making slip
- Pressing in and cutting away the clay (incising)
- Working in relief / embossment (adding to the clay)



We used air dry clay which took a few days to dry out. Once our tiles were fully dried, we took them home to decorate our houses – as they would have done in Victorian times.

Focus Day: Art: 'Close-Up to Fulwell'

The focus for the day was on exploiting the links between Art and Geography whilst bringing children's attention and engagement back to artworks in our Aspirations Gallery.

We focused on the artworks by Mishka Henner – exploring the idea of using aerial photographs as a stimulus for our own artwork. We studied aerial photographic images of the local area focusing in on close-up parts using viewfinders. These images were then re-created using oil pastels. The finished artworks are awaiting framing and will then be exhibited around school in September 2023.

Aspirations Gallery Update:

Due to our planned refurbishment / development over the next academic year, our Aspirations Gallery will be temporarily closing in July 23. Most paintings will be returned to the Southbank Collection, although our favourite, The Kestrel by David Woodford, will return to the gallery when it re-opens in Summer 2024. We have already selected the next pieces to accompany this artwork with every class having the opportunity to view and select their favourites from a shortlist of landscapes from the Southbank Collection in London. Interestingly, nearly every class had the same top 3 paintings in their selection. These pieces will be prepared for the gallery re-opening in July 2024...watch this space!

Sports



As the summer term draws to an end, we hope that everyone involved in representing our school netball teams this academic year have enjoyed being part of 3 amazing school teams. A massive well done to all our players who have turned up to training each week, who have shown all of our school values when competing against other schools, who have played for not 1, not 2, but sometimes all 3 of our teams when needed and for being an absolute pleasure to coach. We hope our year 6 players carry their netball skills forward and progress in sports at their new schools come September and we

look forward to seeing our year 5's at trials next academic year.

A big thank you to those children who have stepped in to play for our teams when we have needed extra players and to all of our parents/carers and other family members who have ensured children have attended training and supported our teams during their games. We hope you have enjoyed it just as much as we have.

The Year 5/6 Football Team have had a fantastic year playing some excellent football. As well as competing amazingly in league fixtures. They reached the Semi-Final of the EFL kids cup and the Final of the Watson Cup.

The Year 5/6 Girl's Team was formed in September and has competed excellently all year. The standard of football has been great. The managed to qualify for the Jill Scott Cup Finals and performed amazingly on the day. A Year 4 Football Team



was formed to compete in the County Cup and with convincing performances made it to the semi-finals. Narrowly missing out on the next round on goal difference.



Year 3



Local Experts!

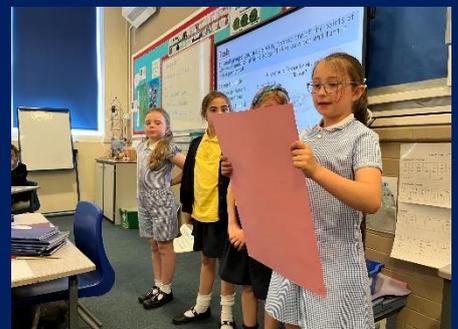


In this final term of year 3, we have been learning about our local history. We are extremely lucky to live in a city filled with a fascinating past, especially our very own area of Fulwell. Throughout this term, we have been looking at how Fulwell has changed over time, in particular Sea Road. Year 3 were blown away when they discovered that there used to be a cinema in Sea Road, I know a lot of them said that they would love to have that back! Perhaps there could be some persuasive writing in there somewhere! We have also looked at some of historic buildings that make our area stand out among the others including, Fulwell Windmill, St Andrew's and St Peter's church and not forgetting our very own school, which has an incredible 114-year history. The children loved how there were so many stories to tell! We have been fortunate to have had a session with Reverend Tim May from St Peter's about what life was like in the monastery in the past, observed real artefacts that would have been used in the time our school was built and even experienced what it would have been like to have been an FJS child during World War II. History learning at its finest!



Inspiring Authors

 In our English lessons, year 3 have read two very different stories! In the first half term, we read 'The Boy Who Grew Dragons!' which is a brand new story to be taught in year 3 and let's just say...it was a real hit! The children loved the comedy and many of them are now wanting a pet dragon of their own...sorry parents and carers! Our final text of this year has been 'Zoo' by Anthony Browne. Again, year 3 loved the comedy of the character of dad and the constant play fighting of the narrator and his brother Harry. From this, year 3 have produced some superb writing where they have really shone their creativity and all the techniques they have been taught. We definitely have some budding authors in the making...they really have their teachers on the edge of their seat!



Year 3

The Science of Life



In science this half term our two topics have been plants and animals, including humans. During our plants topic, children learned the parts of a plant, explored the requirements for plant growth and survival, water transportation in plants and different types of seed dispersal. In our animals including humans topic, we are currently learning about our bones and different types of skeletons, such as an endoskeleton, exoskeleton and a hydrostatic skeleton. We have also been learning about nutrition and its importance in keeping us healthy and supporting our growth and development. Year 3 have also been incredibly fortunate to have been allowed by Mr Speck to have a weekly visit to our school garden, in particular, our pond. We have been amazed with the tadpoles we saw on week 1 and how they have grown and changed over the past few weeks.



Coasts



Not only have we been appreciating our local area in history but in geography too with our topic of coasts. We have been learning the features of the coast as well as using digi-maps to plan journeys around our coastline. With a beautiful coastline on our doorstep, year 3 ventured down to the beach to carry out fieldwork by interviewing members of the public about the uses of our coast with some amazing results. Class 2 even had the opportunity to meet Anthony Patterson, Sunderland's goalkeeper!



Times Ticking!



In maths, we have been learning to tell the time! Children have practised telling the time within 5-minute intervals on an analogue clock and have even taken their learning one step further by solving time problems! Over the last few weeks, we have begun our geometry topic, where we learn all about angles, turns and both 2D and 3D shapes!



Year 4

We are authors!

We have loved our Summer Term English stories in Year 4! The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane is a wonderful story of a toy rabbit who gets lost and learns lots of lessons on his way home. The children loved creating their own narrative linked to their own toy. We have seen some truly beautiful and emotional pieces of writing! We are currently writing our final narrative based around Graeme Baker Smith's Farther, unpicking clues from the fantastic illustrations and putting these into words has been great fun! Can your child give you an example of pathetic fallacy? Year 4 have really impressed all of the Year 4 teaching team with their superb writing this year, it has been a joy to see their amazing progress!



Times Table Experts!

We have worked so incredibly hard on our Times Tables all year, and we have now taken our official Multiplication Tables Check. We are so proud of ourselves and we know our teachers are so proud of us too. Times tables help us so much across the whole curriculum – they help us with division, fractions and number fluency. So no matter how we did in the check, we know that we are setting ourselves up for success as we move up to Year 5 by becoming so fluent. We have also spent some time looking at time, shape, position and direction and statistics and, as always, developed our reasoning skills with some problem solving!



We are history detectives!



Our detective team's investigation has been a little closer to home this term, we have been learning all about the history of Sunderland! The children have handled real artefacts from our iconic shipyards and investigated the life of those who lived there over time. We have even been visited by a real fifth generation Foy Boatman. We've looked at the Wearmouth Bridge and the impact this had on our city as well as learning all about the life of Jack Crawford- can your child remember the song? We are currently investigating life in the coal mines in the 1800s - great work so far detectives!

Year 4

Super Science



In Science, we have been learning all about the digestive system and how the organs in our body work together to digest food. We had so much fun making a model of the digestive



system, showing how food mixes with saliva, a stomach acid, passes through the small intestine which makes sure our bodies get the nutrients it needs, and gets rid of waste. We also really enjoyed learning about food chains. We found out that humans and animals adapt their diets depending on what is available to them – we said we would be up

for trying seaweed like the Japanese, but weren't so keen on trying guinea pig like the Peruvians!



Incoming...River Wear Tour Guides!



In geography this term, Year 4 have started to investigate the topic of Rivers. First, we learned what a river is and what part it plays in the Water Cycle. Then we explored the different parts and features of rivers. We used atlases to locate some of the largest and most famous rivers in the world, then focussed in on major U.K rivers and used digi-maps to locate them. Now, we are discovering more about our very own river, the River Wear. We heard a fantastic talk from a Foy Boatman, who

works on the river, we have looked some of the features from source to mouth and are very excited about our upcoming trip to trace the river from Wearhead to Monkwearmouth.



Puzzles

A huge thanks to Miss Birch's year 4 blogging club for creating the puzzles for this edition.



Word Search

S C H O O L T T A S
A V A L U E S O O B
P R O G R E S S T O
T A O O A T O O A O
O T E A C H E R S K
C O M P U T I N G S
L E A R N I N G H E
A C O O K S T T T T

Can you find all the words in the word search

School

Computing

Books

Cooks

Progress

Values

Teachers

Learning

Puzzles

Riddles

- 1.What has hands but cannot clap?
- 2.What do you call a fish with no eye?
- 3.What can clap but isn't alive?
- 4.What do you find at the end of a rainbow?
- 5.I have a head and tail but no body what am I?
- 6.A woman and her 9 friends are under 1 umbrella but no one gets wet. How?
- 7.What is so fragile that when you say its name it breaks?
- 8.What has a neck and no head?
- 9.What happens once in a minute twice in a moment but never in 100 years?

Guess the Celebrity

Ariana Grande

Emma Watson

Evanna Lynch

Taylor Swift



James Bond

Justin Bieber

Daniel Craig

Leonardo DiCaprio



Taylor Swift

Kim Kardashian

Adele

Beyonce



Elton John

Daniel Radcliffe

Harry Styles

David Walliams



In summer!



In this newsletter, there are lots of little suns hidden. How many can you find?

Year 5



Industry in Sunderland

In Year 5 history this term we've been exploring the industrial past of Sunderland, by looking at the traditional industries like coal mining and ship building and exploring how and why this has changed. The children particularly enjoyed examining the 1939 census to find out the sort of jobs people had at the onset of WWII and are keen. We've also explored the effect of WWII on life in Sunderland and the contributions our shipyards made to fighting the war.



Nous Adore Apprendre Le Français!

In French we've been learning about the rooms of the house and how to say where we live. The year 4 and 5 French drama club are rehearsing a performance of Cendrillon (Cinderella). Check out our amazing cast!

The Haunting Highwayman

In Year 5 English this term we have focused on advancing our skills when it comes to writing narratives through using advanced structural techniques such as switching tense to include a flashback into our story as well as rewriting the famous poem - The Highwayman - into a narrative. What a challenge but year 5 have shown incredible resilience! No doubt we have some future authors amongst our year 5's. We look forward to seeing your books on the shelves one day!



Year 5

In science we have been exploring Living Things and their Habitats. We started by focusing on grouping living things and successfully using classification keys to identify different animals. We have recognised that environments are changing around us and discussed the dangers this poses for many species. Year 5 had great fun admiring the hard work of birds this term when presented with the challenge of building a nest themselves - it was a lot harder than we first thought! We have finished the year by studying the life cycles of different animals and exploring the process of reproduction in plants.



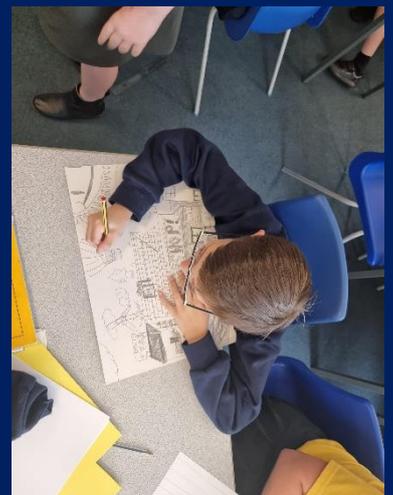
We studied percentages and how to convert percentages into fractions and decimals. After that, we learnt to calculate the area and perimeter of rectangular shapes. We then moved on to exploring statistics and interpreting graphs and tables. Next, we developed our shape knowledge by measuring, drawing, and calculating angles. Then, we discovered more about shape and looked at translation using co-ordinates. After that, we focused on adding and subtracting decimal numbers. Finally, we learnt more about measurement and negative numbers.

Let's look after our planet!

In our final term of year 5, we have learnt about energy and sustainability. We learnt about renewable and non-renewable sources of energy. We then discovered why the UK has fossil fuels and how the use of fossil fuels has changed over time. After that, we focused on the history of our area in relation to coal mining and why it changed.

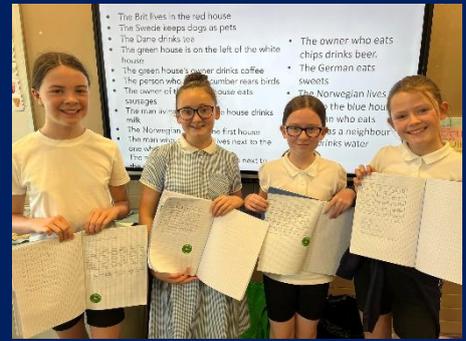


Finally, we explored how renewable energy can help the environment and how our carbon footprint can have a negative impact on the environment and the cost of living.



Year 6

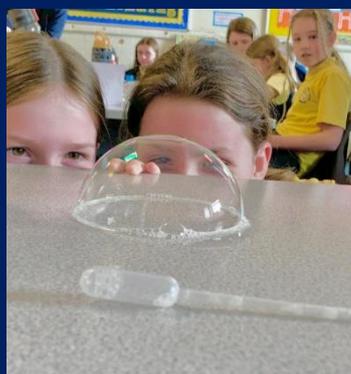
Year 6 have spent the Summer Term preparing for Year 7. The children have been encouraged to take their own notes; organise their equipment and working areas; and explain their thinking to a greater degree. Children have been exposed to real world Maths problems and the usual reading and writing activities have focussed more on 'choice' and individuality. With leavers' assemblies and a few treats, we aim for all Year 6 to have a wonderful end to their time at FJS.



A huge part of Year 6 that our pupils look forward to is gaining their Bikeability qualification. We learned how to be safe on the roads on our bikes as well as having a lot of fun in the sunshine! If we use our new skills to cycle sometimes instead of taking the car, imagine how much we could reduce our carbon footprint.... Leading on nicely to our Geography topic of Energy and Sustainability where we learned about fossil fuels and ways they can be reduced and replaced by greener, more sustainable energy sources such as wind farms.



Not only that but year 6 have recently had a trip to the Beacon of Light, run by Redstart. Redstart is a financial education charity, passionate about giving young people the tools to help them take control of their financial futures. Children are each given £500 of virtual money and tasked with growing this throughout the workshop. A winner will be identified at the end of the workshop, this being the child who has made the most money as a result of taking part in different activities. Engaging in this Redstart workshop allows young people to take part in activities and discussions that develop their knowledge and understanding of key money principles including; Budgeting and Saving, Risk and Reward, and Lending and Borrowing.



Science:

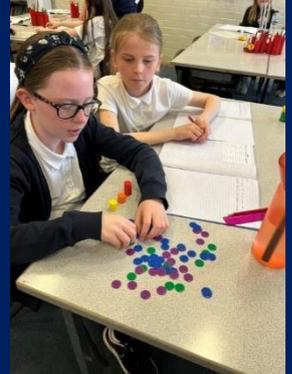
This term, we explored the topic of living things and how to categorise mammals based on their features. We studied the work of Carl Linnaeus to help us classify both organisms and micro-organisms. After that, we looked at animals including humans and how the human body functions, focusing on the parts of the circulatory system.

Year 6



Marvellous Maths!

After our focus on technique for SATS, Year 6 have delved into various problems to practise their problem-solving skills. Children have learned how to work systematically to ensure that they have found all possibilities. We looked at ratio and algebra problems together, as well as independently, to retrieve all answers and discuss how to set out the possibilities in various ways. The children have reflected on their answers and reviewed whether their chosen method was the most efficient and why.



Sunderland in the War

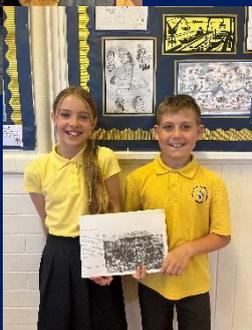
World War 2 is always a favourite History topic. Seeing the fascination, interest, shock and horror on the children's faces makes teaching and learning worthwhile. Using our fabulous Wall Installations has been great – not only for outdoor learning in History – but for children to see how important our locality and river were to the war effort. Children have learned about the impact of The Blitz, Operation Pied Piper (the evacuation of children) which was followed up by Beamish attending the school to deliver an interactive lesson, alongside our fabulous

artefacts from the Museum and Winter Gardens. However, bringing learning closest to home was identifying where bombs landed in and around Fulwell during World War 2. Many children found locations near the school and their street. Yet, Mae and



Ollie in Year 6 went one step further. Whilst looking at photographs of bomb sites, they found a picture of their own homes! The children live next door to each other and

explained how the house were demolished and new ones built after being obliterated during a German air-raid. I cannot think of a better example of bringing History to life! Amazing!



Year 6 Trip to Loch Eil



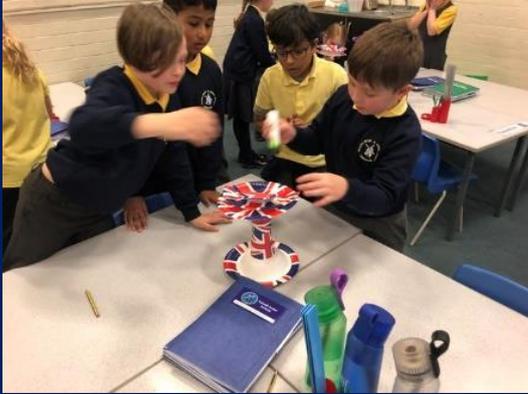
Year 6 Trip to Loch Eil



Careers and Aspirations



Faculty Focus and Money Matters



Our Faculty Focus this term has been Collaboration, in which we have been learning about the importance of working together to achieve something. We have been playing games and completing STEM challenges that involve us working as a team, and then reflecting on how we may not have been as successful if we hadn't been working together. Although we have been focused on developing

our ability to work collaboratively, we have also been bringing in our learning from the Faculties of Communication and Critical Thinking, and applying them to demonstrate that these skills all work alongside each other.



In Money Matters, children in Year 5 have been learning about debt (including student finance!) and how banks can lend, and people can borrow, responsibly.



In year 6, they have been putting the skills learned in their faculty sessions to the test by giving presentations, completing memory challenges, working in new and less familiar groups and practising speaking in front of the class- all in an effort to be Year 7 ready!

Careers in Finance

Not only are we beginning to understand how to manage our own money in the future, but we are also learning that there are a broad range of careers in finance too, from accountants to brokers. Children in years 3 and 4 were visited by Jamie Bell, who is the Finance Director from the DfE. She talked about her career path, and how she prioritises how the government spends its education budget to benefit everyone as much as possible. It was great to hear Jamie talk about not only the important communication and critical thinking skills she uses in her job, but also the importance of Maths in her career.



Careers and Aspirations

Step Into The NHS

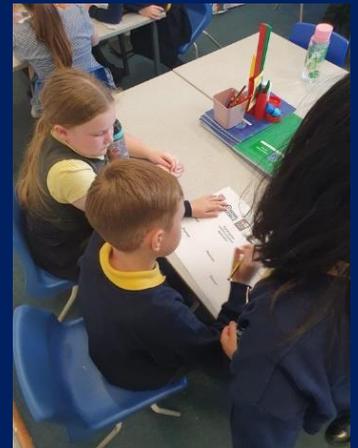


This year, not only were some of us visited by Joanne Ford, who is a Neonatal Nurse, but we were also immersed in a range of specific jobs within the NHS. We were lucky enough to be able to use actual medical resources, such as blood pressure monitors, stethoscopes and pulse oximeters to allow us to explore careers such as Nurses, Paramedics and Physiotherapists.



Armed Forces Careers

Following an Armed Forces Career event that Mrs Haswell took a select group of children to, we took the opportunity showcase the range of jobs within the Armed Forces, from Infantry Soldiers and Engineers to Chefs, and even Musicians - there really is something for everyone! We linked the Army's vision of "Be The Best" with our own – "Be the best that you can be", and we were able to explain what the Army means to us – with many children saying the Army makes us feel safe and protected.



Career talks

Year 4 have been learning about the different types of teeth and their functions in Science, and so we invited Fearne's Mum, who is a Dental Nurse, into school to talk about her career.



Year 4 were also lucky enough to receive a visit from Indie's grandad, who is a fifth generation Foyboatman on the River Wear. He told us all about how his job has changed over time, and how technology has developed over time to make this job more efficient – for example, he was able to show us the app that he uses on his phone to tell him when the ships are due in.

Thank you and farewell!

As another year ends, there are going to be not 1, not 2 but 3 farewells from Fulwell Junior School. First, our lovely Miss Hodgson, one of our wonderful teaching assistants, who is going to spread her wings (quite literally!) and take on a new career in the travel industry. We also have Mrs Haswell, who has been with us for 7 years and has worked incredibly hard from being a class teacher to one of our assistant heads, leading the way to our school becoming a STEM school. Last but not least, after 18 incredible years, Mrs Softley is going on to undertake a new role. She has been an amazing SENDCO and will no doubt have many happy memories throughout her remarkable career at our school. On behalf of all of the staff, children and parents of Fulwell Junior School, we thank you all for your hard work and dedication over the time you have been with us. You will be a huge miss and we wish you all the very best in whatever your future holds.

Not only that but we are ready to say goodbye to our year 6's who are more than prepared to start the next chapter of their journey in education. We hope you have had a wonderful four years here at FJS and that you look back on your time with us with fond memories that will last a lifetime. All staff wish you the very best for your exciting and prosperous future!

Finally, on behalf of all staff, we wish you and your families a happy and safe summer holiday and we hope you all enjoy a well-deserved break. Thank you for your continuous support and all the children's hard work. It has made this year such a success! See you all in September for another very exciting year!
Let the building work commence...

Fulwell Junior School
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Sunderland, SR6 9EE

 @fulwelljuniors

 @FulwellSchool

Key Dates

INSET DAY: MONDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER

CHILDREN RETURN – TUESDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER