



Fulwell Junior School



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



Mission Accomplished: Raffle Rocket Champions



What an outstanding performance by our Greenpower Formula III team this year! From the very start, our young engineers showed incredible dedication, creativity, and skill in the design, build, and driving of their electric car, named the 'Raffle Rocket'. Every stage of the process — from brainstorming ideas, assembling the parts, fine-tuning the

mechanics, to mastering the controls behind the wheel — was met with enthusiasm and professionalism. Race day was nothing short of spectacular! The team worked seamlessly together, combining their technical knowledge and driving talents to deliver an impressive and well-deserved victory, finishing as 1st place overall winners! Their months of hard work, perseverance, and teamwork paid off in the most spectacular way. But the success didn't stop there. Their outstanding performance was further recognized with several special trophies: they clinched 1st place in the slalom event. were awarded 1st place for the Spirit of Greenpower and secured 2nd place in the sprint. This project has been a brilliant showcase of talent, determination, and teamwork – just outstanding!

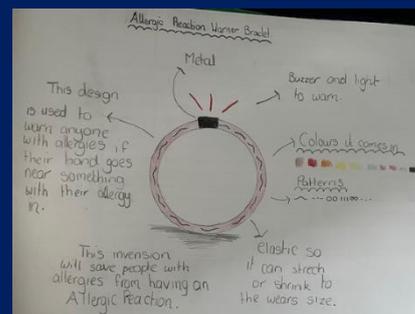


Faculty of STEM

Engineering Success: Building the Future



In our spring newsletter, we shared our successful Engineering Day. We have since received our awards, and we were thrilled with our achievements! We submitted a very high standard of entries, and **all** of the entries that we submitted were awarded a merit or higher. We were thrilled to find out that one of our entries was a winner; Amber in Year 6 was invited to attend the special award ceremony at Sunderland University with her family, where she received a trophy and framed certificate.



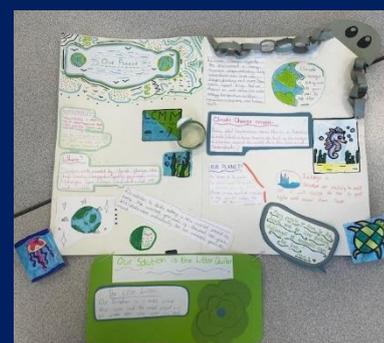
Her invention was an Allergic Reaction Warner Bracelet – a bracelet which alerts people with allergies to harmful ingredients in their food. The judges were so impressed with how many people this invention could potentially help. Well done Amber – another future engineer!

Technext



TechNext is a celebration of the North East's thriving technology sector. It is a festival that takes place in June, and features events held across the region to spotlight the best tech businesses and talent the North-East has to offer, and one of these events was the TechNext Schools competition. As part of our Faculty of Critical Thinking curriculum, Year 6 took part; they had to think of a problem and create a technical solution for it, showing how technology can be innovatively used to address real life problems.

The entries were of a particularly high standard and, as a result, 47 of our children were invited to attend the Schools Challenge Celebration Event. The event took place on Friday 20th June at South Shields Customs House. The children received a framed certificate and were given the opportunity to talk about their design in front of a large audience. The way our children spoke in front of such a large audience, which included tech industry experts, was testament to the oracy skills they have developed since Year 3. We can certainly see a future of public speaking in some of our children's futures!





Faculty of the Arts

Lest we Forget

One of FJS's aims is to share our rich culture, spectacular landscape, and celebrate the excellence of our local community, which shapes our learning focus. Teaching events and history



from World War 1 and World War 2 reflects these aims, and the children always show great respect and admiration.



Each year, we commemorate Remembrance Day, and this year was no exception. Building on curriculum work, the children performed poetry and explored the phrase "**Lest we Forget.**" Marking the 80th anniversary of VE Day, we helped children understand its significance through immersive learning.

After an assembly that highlighted the history and humanity of VE Day, children engaged in tasks such as decoding messages like the human computers at Bletchley Park, studying the technical details of the Union Jack, and exploring art, music, and games from the era. The day was made even more special with children dressed in red, white, and blue.



A highlight was the incredible support from parents and the community, who shared family artefacts — photographs, medals, letters, uniforms, and more — transforming the school's studio into a pop-up military museum. This hands-on experience allowed every child to see, touch, and learn from real historical objects, making the history unforgettable.

We hope that in twenty years, when the 100th anniversary of VE Day comes, these memories and stories will be passed on by future generations — perhaps even by former FJS pupils. Lest we Forget.

Year 3



For or Against? Let's Discuss!



This term, Year 3 have developed their reading and writing skills through some fantastic books. We used the hilarious '*The Boy Who Grew Dragons*' and Anthony Browne's '*Zoo*' to inspire our own narratives, bringing our ideas to life with creative characters and exciting dilemmas. We also explored the features of discussion and persuasive texts, learning how to express our opinions clearly and confidently. To put our skills into practice, we even held our own debates, sharing ideas, listening to others, and backing up our points with persuasive arguments.

Exploring Our Coastline: Sunderland by the Sea

As part of our geography topic of coasts, Year 3 took a trip to our stunning local coastline here in Sunderland. The visit helped us explore how the coastal land is used for homes, events, leisure, and nature. We saw different types of housing, appreciated the importance of green spaces, and even watched the Summer Streets Festival stage being set up — showing how the coast is also a hub for community events. A real highlight was spotting some Cuddy ducks (also known as Eider ducks). Our promenade walk gave us the chance to observe both natural features and human-made structures. We feel very lucky to live in Sunderland, with such a beautiful and diverse coastline right on our doorstep!



Year 3 Science Stars

This term, Year 3 have loved working in the science lab, carrying out investigations about animal diets and different types of skeletons. They explored how herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores eat differently, and how this affects their teeth and bodies. A highlight was making their own skeleton models, which helped them understand how bones connect at joints and enable movement. The children showed great curiosity and teamwork, confidently explaining their models and the functions of the skeletal system. We are very proud of our Year 3 scientists for their enthusiasm, hard work, and the progress they've made this term.

Year 3

Maths Wizards

During the summer Term, Year 3 children have been busy developing their mathematical skills across a range of exciting topics. They've been learning how to tell the time confidently using both analogue and digital clocks, as well as understanding important time-related concepts such as hours, minutes, and durations. Alongside this, the children explored how to use money, including recognising coins and notes, making totals, and working out change — a skill that's both practical and fun! In geometry, the children enjoyed discovering the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, learning to identify and describe their sides, angles, vertices, faces, and edges. These lessons were brought to life using hands-on resources and interactive activities, which the children loved and engaged with enthusiastically. We are especially proud of how hard Year 3 have worked on times table rockstars throughout the year. Their dedication and progress in learning multiplication facts has been fantastic, and we're confident they'll continue to build on this success as they move into Year 4. Well done, Year 3 — what a brilliant term of maths learning!



Fulwell Through the Ages: A Journey Into Our Past

Our amazing team of archaeologists has thoroughly enjoyed this term's Year 3 history topic on Fulwell! We've explored the fascinating history of our school, even spotting some former pupils in the artefacts we uncovered. The children were especially captivated by Fulwell Mill and the way our school adapted during times of war, showing resilience and strength. Throughout this topic, the children have demonstrated a fantastic attitude toward their learning, engaging with the material with enthusiasm and curiosity. It's been wonderful to see their passion and thoughtful discussions about the history of our school and community!



Year 4

Year 5 Ready? Definitely!

Summer term has seen children maturing, to be 'upstairs ready', meaning they are demonstrating the behaviour for learning and concentration necessary for the upper phase of Key Stage 2. Children excelled in the VE Day commemorations, with wonderful respect and admiration – really showing the best they could be, throughout. Alongside this a World Ocean Day allowed children to fully discover the human impact on our oceans. The children, once again, showed how much they care for the planet, and how they feel about the injustices to animals by creating wonderful art collages from once-only plastics. Sharing with children the marvellous art of LS Lowry is always a pleasure for teachers. Children have produced their own designs through the medium of pencil and pastels, entering a national competition. With Sunderland AFC reaching the Wembley playoffs, the children celebrated by dressing in red and white and, who knows, perhaps the good vibes sent had a positive effect on the result for the Black Cats!



'Wear Fantastic!'



This summer term, Year 4 have loved their topic of rivers and the water cycle, they have shown great enthusiasm and shared some brilliant discoveries. The children created detailed diagrams of the water cycle and then looked at the stages of a river and where the source and mouth of The River Wear are. The work in the Year 4 books has been outstanding and their attitude to learning has been fantastic, constantly

asking questions and wanting to know more. We have compared living in rural and urban areas and had a discussion about where we would like to live and gave reasons why. We cannot wait to go on our trip to Stanhope and see The River Wear looking very different to how we are used to seeing it in Sunderland. A fantastic term and year in geography had by all!



Year 4

Who is Jack Crawford?

The children have immersed themselves in learning about The River Wear (not literally!). This term's history focus explored how the river shaped local culture — from the Romans to the Spire Bridge — and why it attracted Vikings and Christians, including the building of Durham Cathedral. Using The Rain's Eye Map, Year 4 studied how trade, bridges, and trains supported Sunderland's growth. They explored heavy industries like shipbuilding and coal mining, examining 1800s census records to understand the risks miners faced. The children also learned about local hero Jack Crawford, creating brilliant performances and presentations, and finished by investigating why Sunderland was bombed during WWII.



What's that coming over the hill – is it a monster?

Year 4 have continued to impress with their independence and creativity in writing. After creating their own monsters in a non-chronological report, the children developed action-packed narratives, including character descriptions and dramatic events. Using *Tuesday* by David Wiesner as inspiration, they explored recount writing from both positive and negative points of view, before taking on the role of newsreaders, performing with an autocue. To end the year, pupils completed a free write on a topic of their choice, showcasing all the key features taught throughout Year 4. A fantastic year of imaginative and skilled writing!



Looking after our health!

This summer term in science, our topic was called Teeth and Eating. We learned about the different types of teeth and their functions, and investigated which drinks are worst for our teeth — surprisingly, orange juice topped the list! The children discovered that while fruit juice is healthy, it's important to brush our teeth afterwards. We also explored the human digestive system, creating messy (but fun!) replicas using everyday items like bags for stomachs and tights for intestines. Finally, we studied food chains, learning key scientific terms like *producer* and *consumer*.



Derwent Hill

Derwent Hill...Smashed it!

Our Year 5 children were absolutely phenomenal during our residential at Derwent Hill. They truly embodied our school values—demonstrating resilience, discovery, confidence, and outstanding teamwork every step of the way. Whether supporting each other through gorge-walking, cheering friends on to take that leap on the Big Swing, or setting a shining example in making their beds and keeping dorms tidy, they consistently showcased kindness, encouragement, and responsibility. That sense of camaraderie and personal growth—so central to Derwent Hill’s learning ethos, which emphasises self-awareness, challenge, and teamwork through outdoor adventure—was clear all week long. Year 5 returned home with memories and stories that have continued to light up corridors and classrooms weeks later. Their determination, laughter, and shared triumphs made Fulwell Junior School incredibly proud, and this trip has gifted us all memories to last a lifetime. Check out our recent Youtube video showing you our adventures!



Derwent Hill



Year 5

Year 5 have had one of their busiest and most exhilarating terms yet—so packed that even their teachers' heads are in a spin! From mastering Bikeability and conquering the challenges of Derwent Hill, to regular outings at Monkwearmouth and unforgettable visits to Nissan and Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, it's been a true whirlwind of experiences. These trips have showcased the children's enthusiasm, resilience, and incredible adaptability—they've balanced high-energy adventure with dedication in their assessments. Their ability to stay focused amid such a hectic schedule speaks volumes about their maturity and readiness. We simply could not be prouder—they are definitely Year 6 ready!



Let's look after the planet!

In Year 5 geography, our focus on energy and sustainability has sparked a genuine sense of care for our planet. The children have been exploring renewable and non-renewable energy sources, mapping power stations across the UK and examining how European countries are embracing greener alternatives. Our recent visit to Nissan's site in Sunderland beautifully reinforced this learning—students saw first-hand how the plant powers itself with its own 10 on-site wind turbines and a dedicated solar farm, generating around 11 MW of clean energy. They were thrilled by the futuristic electric car designs and insight into green manufacturing practices. It's clear these young eco-aware minds envision themselves one day driving such vehicles. It's been inspiring to see the children connect curriculum to real-world sustainability efforts, deepening their understanding of how local businesses and global industries can work together to care for our world.



Watch Me Grow: From Caterpillar to Butterfly



In science this term, Year 5 have been learning about Living Things and exploring the world around them. We have taken a closer look at plants and how they reproduce to moving on to explore the life cycles of different types of animals including insects. Here we had the opportunity to look after our very own caterpillars! We watched their life cycle carefully as they transformed from tiny caterpillars into beautiful butterflies before releasing them into the garden.

Year 5

Bikeability

The Year 5 children excelled in Bikeability and were outstanding in how they listened to and engaged with their instructors. Through Level 1 and 2 training, they mastered essential skills like bike control, signalling, lane positioning, and negotiating junctions and parked vehicles cycling. Their attentive attitudes and newfound confidence mean they can now ride safely and responsibly around our local area—especially with new bike lanes being installed across the city. Many have completed both Level 1 and 2, so they understand the rules of the road and are now excellent role models for safe cycling. It's been a delight for staff and parents to see them emerge as independent, road-savvy cyclists, ready to ride with care, awareness, and confidence.



River of Progress: Industry Along the Wear

This term, Year 5 have been learning all about Sunderland's industry in our history lessons. To further enhance our learning, we went on a trip to Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens to take part in a workshop all about the industry around the River Wear. The workshop was led by Marie at the museum, who told us all about the history of the River Wear and how Sunderland's industry was built on the River Wear and bridges – this was a lovely link to our 'Bridging our Future' project. We got the opportunity to hold and examine a variety of historical artefacts, one of them being the earliest example of glass (that we know of) in England. It was fascinating! What a lovely way to end our local history topic!



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Coaches in Motion: Built by Teamwork

During our faculty lessons, we have been creating and designing our own buses! This was a huge throwback to Year 3, when we used a similar design to create our own trains. What a full circle that is! Since Year 3, we've become so much more independent, and our teamwork skills have grown significantly through our work in our faculty of collaboration sessions. We've become better communicators and we are able to delegate tasks well within a team. It was challenging to create the buses from scratch, and it really tested our resilience because we had to re-make certain parts in order for our design to work but this made it very clear that we have such strong teamwork skills in Year 5!



Year 6

We are incredibly proud of our Year 6 pupils and the dedication they have shown during their final term at Fulwell Junior School. They have worked so hard in lessons, during booster sessions, and at home, showing real commitment to their learning. Through their determination and focus, they ensured they were more than ready to complete their SATs. They approached the tests with resilience, confidence, and a fantastic work ethic. Their outstanding effort throughout the year has been rewarded with excellent results, and they should be very proud of all they have achieved. While we are sad to see them go, we know they are more than ready for this exciting new chapter, and we are certain they will impress their new schools just as much as they have impressed all the staff here at Fulwell Junior School.

Beamish: Bringing the Past to Life

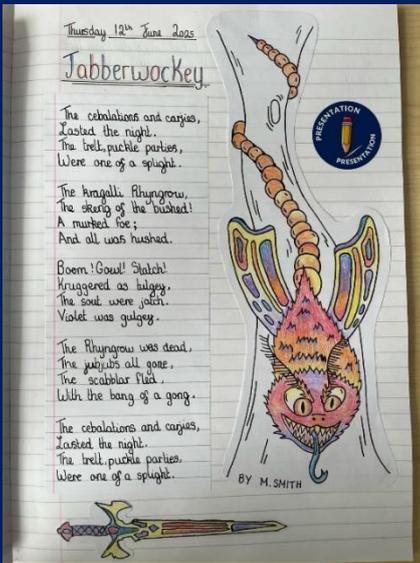
As part of their World War 2 topic this term, our Year 6 pupils had a brilliant time visiting Beamish Museum! The sun was shining as the children took part in an evacuee workshop on home farm, giving them a real taste of what life might have been like for children their age during the war. They threw themselves into every activity with enthusiasm, from blacking out windows to feeding the pigs and even spotting the differences between German and British aircrafts. It was a hands-on, fun and informative way to bring their learning to life, and they impressed us all with how much they remembered from their lessons! After the workshop, we had a lovely stroll around Beamish in the sunshine and, of course, a visit to the sweet shop was a must! It was a fantastic day out and a lovely way to round off the term and celebrate coming to the end of Year 6.



Holiday Planners

This half term, Year 6 have been putting their maths and geography skills to the test by planning and budgeting for their very own holidays! As part of a fun and practical project, the children worked in teams to apply a wide range of maths knowledge from across the Year 6 curriculum. They researched destinations, compared average rainfall and temperatures, converted miles to kilometres, and calculated the best value flights and accommodation. From booking hotels and arranging airport transfers to deciding whether all-inclusive or half-board was the better deal, the pupils showed fantastic teamwork and problem-solving throughout. It was brilliant to see them using real-life maths in such a meaningful and enjoyable way. The creativity and enthusiasm they brought to the task made for a fantastic end-of-year project!

Year 6



The Final Piece of Writing

Year 6 worked so hard on their final independent story, which would help them to secure their end of Key Stage 2 writing grade. Writing experts came to read them and were very impressed with their creativity, with stories ranging from magical portals into imaginary lands to World War 1 trench settings. We even had narrative poems including cleverly rewritten versions of a poem we loved performing earlier this year. We have really enjoyed reading Tom's Midnight Garden. We brought this wonderful time travel story into the modern day, giving us an opportunity to work on our informal language skills by writing text conversations, playscripts of phone conversations and letters to friends.

Computing Workshops at Monkwearmouth

Year 6 had a brilliant time visiting Monkwearmouth Academy for a special computing workshop this term. The children were warmly welcomed by the computing staff and had the exciting opportunity to work with three different teachers throughout the day. They explored a range of digital tools and platforms, including PowerPoint, Canva and coding software, to design and create their very own interactive quizzes. It was a great way to develop their digital literacy and get creative with technology in a hands-on and engaging setting. The pupils loved exploring the fantastic computing suites at the academy and showed great focus, teamwork and imagination in their work. It was a fun, inspiring day that gave them a real taste of what computing will be like in secondary school!



Success at FJS!

We are the champions!

We are the champions! What an end to the season the girls have had: not only did the girls come joint top of the league with Bernard Gilpin but then they also went onto win the Veronica Jordan trophy to be crowned overall



league champions! It was a nail-biting end to the season; we won our games against Benedict Biscop 1-0 and Castletown 3-0. Then it all came down to the final match. We had to beat Bernard Gilpin to win the trophy, whoever won the game would be crowned winners as both teams were on the same points and goal difference. We managed to grab a goal with three minutes to spare and won the game 1-0. A truly fantastic night and a great way to end such a successful season of girls' football!

We have already got the ball rolling for next season and have held trials for our new team starting in September. The turnout for the trials was amazing with the highest number of people trying out we have ever had- truly a great sight to see! What a fantastic year for girls' football at Fulwell Juniors!

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Football Triumph: A Historic Season

Our Year 5/6 football team couldn't have ended the year on a higher note. After an already incredible season full of success, they added two more trophies to their growing collection. First, they made history by winning the Durham County Cup for the first time in the trophy's 50-year existence-an outstanding achievement, especially against competition from over 300 schools. They then went one better by retaining the Robinson Family Shield, delivering a superb performance in the final to secure victory. As we celebrate this incredible year, we also say goodbye to a group of exceptionally talented footballers who have represented Fulwell Junior School brilliantly: Mitchell Underwood, Leo Scott, Noah Little (top goal scorer), Archie Harper, Cole Daniels, Oliver Ogden, Nathan Owens, Oliver Wilkinson, and Zac Errington. We are immensely proud of all they have achieved and wish them the very best as they continue their footballing journeys.

Success at FJS!

Shooting for Success: Our Netball Journey

What a year it's been for our girls — from the first match in September to a brilliant end to the season on 8th July! We kicked things off with an early win at Monkwearmouth in the Autumn Term. In Spring, both teams reached the Sunderland finals, with Fulwell 1 claiming 2nd place and going on to represent Sunderland at the Tyne & Wear finals, where they proudly secured 3rd place! Just a few weeks later, we ended the season with a bang. On Tuesday 8th July, both teams delivered some



of their best netball yet. Fulwell 2's teamwork and determination were clear to see, while Fulwell 1 battled through intense matches to be crowned winners of the End of Season Tournament! Both teams have grown so much this year. Every training session, match, and tournament has been full of skill, resilience, focus, respect, and team spirit. We're incredibly proud of all they've achieved. We wish our Year 6 players every success at their new schools and look forward to seeing our Year 5 players at trials after the summer. A huge thank you to parents and grandparents for your continued support — and an extra special thank you to Miss Gibson for all her fantastic work with the teams this year!

From Page to Performance: Matilda Comes Alive

Our amazing choir took to the stage at Monkwearmouth Academy to perform Matilda the Musica Jr. And what a performance it was! The show was packed with incredible singing, dancing, and



acting, and the talent on display was just mind-blowing. A massive thank you to all the cast for their hard work, dedication, energy, and enthusiasm. They put so much effort into every rehearsal and performance, and it really showed on stage. From our two quick-witted, rebellious Matildas, to terrifying (yet comical) Trunchbull, every single child shone on stage, and we could not be prouder of everyone involved. We are sure that we will see some familiar faces on the Westend stage in years to come! Well done, everyone - you should all be so proud of yourselves!

Farewell Year 6!

We've watched you grow, we've seen you shine,
With teamwork, laughter, and every written line.

You faced each challenge, big or small,
With resilience that inspired us all.

You aimed for excellence each day,
In every task, in work and play.
You helped each other, stood up tall—
Together, you've achieved it all.

Now secondary calls your name,
New goals to set, new dreams to claim.
But as you soar, just always know—
We helped you find your wings to go.

So off you fly, so brave and true,
Our pride goes every step with you.
And wherever in the world you roam,
FJS will always be your home.

Fulwell Junior School

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Sunderland, SR6 9EE



@fulwelljuniors



@FulwellSchool

Key Dates

INSET DAYS:

Thursday 4th & Friday 5th September 2025

CHILDREN RETURN:

Monday 8th September 2025