

# Fulwell Junior School

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



## Something *Wicked* This Way Comes

On Thursday 28th April, a fantastic ensemble from FJS participated in The Shakespeare Schools Festival at The Northern Stage in Newcastle. To say that the abridged performance of *Macbeth* was *wicked* is an understatement.

In December, over two hundred children auditioned and caused turmoil between directors Mr Peat and Mrs Humphries, as the audacious task of condensing the talent down to thirty began. Mrs Humphries said that: we could easily have had a cast of seventy! Once rehearsals began on those long, dark evenings in January, it was obvious that this was a rather special group of young people. Despite a demanding week in school, these children thrust themselves into the gruelling schedule with endeavour and teamwork; it was obvious that the spell of *Macbeth* had taken over and the actors were poised to deliver a *wicked* performance.

Mrs Humphries' soundscape of 70s/80s electro-pop coupled with costumes from a Kraftwerk album cover gave a central concept which the children embraced. Martin Leonard (an RSC Director) said, "In so many aspects of the production – from the costumes, the way that every freeze-frame looked like an album cover, to the fantastic use of body language and the movement sequences, the concept was realised." The directors (and other adults who worked tirelessly with the ensemble) ensured that every movement, piece of characterisation and body language was sequenced to perfection. Mr Peat taught stagecraft and the projection and clarity in pitch of the entire cast was a joy to behold.

On the day that the children performed their bold and brilliant production, they had travelled to Newcastle, changed in actors' changing rooms, ran through an arduous technical-rehearsal and executed a first-rate dress-rehearsal in full costume and make-up. Newcastle was later invaded by Sunderland; it seemed as if half-the city had descended on the theatre to support the cast. Judging by the applause, they were not disappointed. This skilled and committed ensemble's hard work had paid off as their active and inspired storytelling blew the place apart: outstanding, brilliant, *wicked*. The focus and commitment, as well as the significant talent, shone through. This was a truly memorable and life-affirming piece of specialised theatre. All the cast shone in fabulous scenes: the murder scenes, the dagger scene, the witches' cauldron, the battle scene, the last supper scene, Lady Macbeth's demise, saw each and all perform at a professional level. Robbie Embleton who played Macduff spoke on behalf of the whole ensemble when he said that: This has been the best day of my life (so far)! *WICKED*..



# Faculty of STEM

## Computing Focus Days

In June, each year group had their own Computing Focus Day, which allowed children to practice their computing skills such as: coding, problem solving, programming, debugging and encouraged their use of logical reasoning.

Year 3 and 4 took part in a Robot Wars workshop with Mr. Lloyd during their focus day. They used their STEM skills to design and program a robot, then they battled against each other in teams!

Year 5's workshop gave them the chance to learn about physical selection in Computer Science. They worked together in groups to program Crumbles (minicomputers) to follow an algorithm. Their outputs included creating a traffic light system, washing machines and even disco lights! Their debugging and problem-solving skills were heavily used during this workshop as they had to identify which parts of their code went wrong in the instance their program did not run correctly. We also had to ensure our hardware was connected correctly.



Finally, it was time for the year 6's workshop with Mr. Lloyd and it provided a perfect opportunity for the pupils to apply their mathematic knowledge through programming Spheros. As you can tell from the pictures, they thoroughly enjoyed this session!

Overall, our Computing Focus Days were an enormous success and enjoyed by all pupils- we cannot wait to do them again next year!

*Millie D- I didn't know what a crumble was and now I know that it's basically a minicomputer that you can code.*

## Food Technology Week

Our final Design Technology focus for this academic year was Food Technology and what a week it was – filled to the brim with exciting, practical activities creating fantastic real-life links for the pupils at FJS.

The week included learning all about what Food Technology is, the career paths available within this field, how to budget a weekly food shop and what seasonality is and why it is important. Alongside this, Fulwell pupils took time to explore a variety of different recipes, complete a sugar investigation and a taste test. Not to mention the incredible smells wafting their way through our kitchens and throughout the corridors of Monkwearmouth Academy when Fulwell pupils stepped into the kitchen to work their magic. From cookies to bread, scones to pizzas – it's safe to say the staff were not only impressed with the brilliant outcomes but also spent the week feeling rather peckish!



It has been fantastic to hear such brilliant feedback from staff, parents, and children about the joy this immersive week has brought.

*"I have never cooked anything from scratch before, so I am proud of how good this tastes!" – James Yr 6*



# Faculty of the Arts

## Aspirations Gallery

This summer will see the official opening of our 'Aspirations Gallery' in school (Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022). The idea behind the gallery is driven by our school vision which focuses on encouraging children to aspire to be the very best that they can. The gallery will give children the opportunity to have their work exhibited alongside the artworks of professional and well-known established artists whilst providing an insight into careers in the creative arts.



Children across school selected their favourite pieces from a collection of works from the Arts Council all linked to the theme of flight. The top eight artworks were then loaned to us from the Southbank and installed in our gallery space during the Easter holidays.

Our aims moving forward, are to establish the gallery as a space where both pupils and members of our community (local and wider) can exhibit and share their works alongside each other in joint projects, with pupils involved in the selection and curation of exhibits as part of their learning journey at Fulwell Junior School.



Alongside these artworks in school, we are also the proud curators of two sculptures by the British artist Roger Hiorns. His 'engine' installations have been exhibited all over the world and have now taken up residence in their new home in our school playgrounds. These pieces will be with us for the next three years and will continue to inspire and enhance our learning across the curriculum.



## Sculpture Week

Our sculpture week at the beginning of June was planned to bring our 'Take Flight' project to an end. Children across the school explored a range of different sculpting techniques from modelling with pipe cleaners in Y3, paper sculptures in Y4, soap carving in Y5 and wire and mesh modelling in Y6. We even had the wonderful opportunity to visit Glenholme Care Home for a sculpture workshop with some of the residents.

Children used the birds and engine sculptures as a stimulus for their sculpting. The results of their creative efforts can be seen on display in our 'Aspirations Gallery' in school.

# Year 3

## We are botanists...and physiologists!

This term in science we've been learning about plants. We spent time in the garden looking at plants and discovering the functions of the different parts. Later we observed plants even more closely by dissecting flowers, learning the technical names for their different parts and what they're for. Our current topic is about animals including humans. We've found out about the different food groups and nutrients that humans need in their diets to be healthy. We've also discovered that different animals can have different types of skeletons, and why muscles are an important part of our bodies. Just look at

our fabulous human skeleton!



## J'adore le français!

Year 3 love learning French, especially when we sing songs to learn new vocabulary. It's

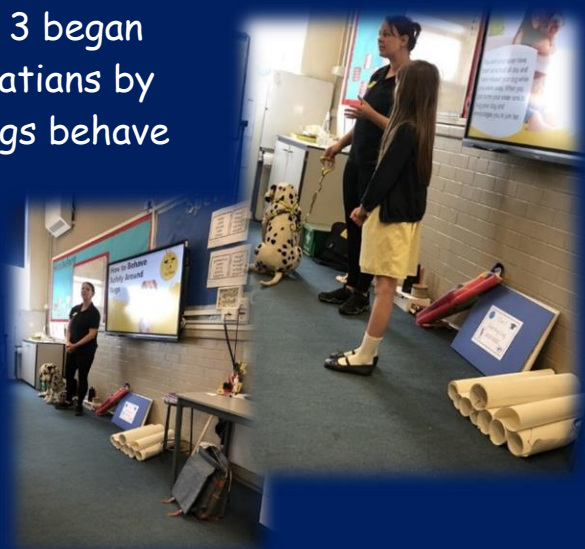
fantastique! Recently we've been discovering the words for different foods and the months of the year.

Did you know that every afternoon we write our date in French?



## It's a dog's life

At the beginning of our summer term, year 3 began reading and studying the story of 101 Dalmatians by Dodie Smith. To gain an insight into how dogs behave and how we can interact with them safely, we asked Katie from Dogs Trust to give us some expert advice. We learnt so much and this inspired us to write our explanation text of 'How to care for a dog!' We definitely have some animal experts!



# Year 3

## The Olympics Comes to Fulwell!



In P.E, year 3 have been learning the skills for some of the events used in the Olympics. The children have loved using teamwork for different events as well as using their mathematical knowledge to measure distance and time. We can't wait to see them put these skills into action on sports day!

## Local Study

In geography this term, we've been learning about costal regions in the UK. We are very fortunate to have a

beautiful coastline right on our doorstep so we have explored our own coast as well as learn about coastal erosion and how it can have an impact.

In history, we have been learning about the history of our local area and how famous our City of Sunderland once was through the coal mining, shipbuilding and glass making industry. We started our topic by looking back at the history of our fabulous school! Built in 1909, did you know that during World War I, our school was used as a base for soldiers?



*Ruby - My favourite subject is history because I like learning about the past!*

# Year 4

## Super Scientists!

Year 4 have been studying 'All Living Things' in Science. We used classification keys to help us identify the creatures we found on our 'Bug Hunts'. It was FUN!



'I loved The Bug Hunt! It was interesting to see how they looked close up.'

Ava. Class 5

'It was interesting to discover which creatures were in the grass and which were in the soil and which environment each one preferred.'

Zoe. Class 5

'I liked designing our 'Take Your Litter Home' leaflets. I liked finding ways to protect animals.'

Faith. Class 5



## Times Table Megastars!

Throughout the year, Year 4 have been working so hard on their times tables to ensure they are ready for their Multiplication Tables Check which took place in June.

Their resilience is to be admired and we are so proud that 91% of the children got over 20 out of 25 in the test itself. Amazing effort and we are so proud!

# Year 4

## Crime and Punishment!

This term, in history, we have been learning about crime punishment throughout time. We experienced what it was like in a Victorian school classroom, the adventures of highwaymen and how the police force has changed since it was established in 1829. Using our communication skills, we even interviewed each other for a role in the police force.



*Lizzie - My favourite part was looking at all the artefacts that showed us what was used as a punishment...especially in schools!*

*Tomkin - I liked it when we had different pictures and artefacts to look at and we had to use the clues to figure out what they were.*

## Rivers

In geography, we have been learning about rivers. We have been discovering the technical terms for rivers, how they are formed and locating rivers around the world as well as in the UK. Did you know that our River Wear is 60 miles long from the source to the mouth?

*Katy - I have really enjoyed learning about the different courses of a river. I never knew that there was an upper, middle and lower course and I enjoyed looking at how rapid the waves can be.*

*Oliver - I really enjoyed learning about the water cycle because I didn't know anything about it before but now I know loads about it.*









# Year 5



## Derwent Hill

The annual trip to Derwent Hill took place between 20-24 June. Seventy-nine Year 5 children set off in the blistering sunshine with their parents waving them off. Split into seven groups, the school couldn't have selected a better week. A fun-filled week

ensued with: Gorge Walking, Hill Walks, Climbing, Canoeing, Orienteering, High-Ropes Courses, and off course the FJS right-of-passage Big Swing.

Children thrust themselves into the activities facing challenges with endeavour, teamwork, and resilience. The wonderful thing about the week was how children supported one-another. No-one was left behind and children showed encouragement and took as much pleasure in each other's achievements as they did their own.

The warm evenings allowed children to stay up late and play on the luscious lawns. As usual, the food was delicious, and children refuelled for activities with their friends. The week was wrapped up with a Talent Show, where staff were 'roasted', children performed comedy and gymnastics, magic tricks, and some remarkable performance art.

Well done to all children who participated.

*Lula - I think it was a once in a lifetime experience and I would recommend it to anyone!*

*Mae - I enjoyed gorge walking because it was so fun jumping in and sliding down the slides but also going underneath waterfalls.*

*Lenny - I really enjoyed going on the big swing because you can overcome your fear of heights!*



# Year 5



## Victorious Footballers!

In May, our fabulous year 5 football team won the Primary School's Cup! After a few tough matches against Grange Park, Dame Dorothy and Redby, it was our magnificent teamwork that prevailed, and we were declared the winners after a 1-0 victory!

## Our Visit to Durham School

Year 5 were very lucky to be invited to take part in a series of workshops at Durham School, all linked to our Take Flight Project. We were in awe of the beautiful building - it reminded us of Hogwarts! The school is in the heart of the stunning city of Durham. We took a walk down to the

riverside to do a field study of what river birds we could find. They were definitely different to the sea birds we're used to in Fulwell, and it was

fantastic to be able to explore the riverside. We then spent some time in the Art and Drama departments. We made bird puppets, and then we used them to perform as birds! We loved spending time in the Science labs to make rockets! It

was a gorgeous day, so we were also able to launch them.



## Getting Crafty in Art Club!



Year 5 Art Club have recently taken part in a Glass Angel Making Workshop, which involves using their creative skills to produce a beautiful glass decoration using different pieces for the angel, such as a crystal dress, silver wings and a jewelled halo. Additionally, Art Club enjoyed participating in making their Little Angels, using a variety of rainbow-coloured pieces

and pearls to create a set of four mini angel decorations that they could make into a keyring.

# Year 6

## Our Visit to Sunderland University

Year 6 were given the opportunity to visit Sunderland University and take part in their Primary2Uni day.

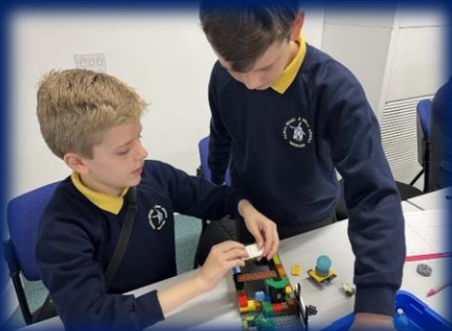


We started the day in one of the lecture theatres. We felt like we were in a cinema! There, we met some student ambassadors who were already studying at the university. They were doing such a wide range of degrees like Criminology, Biomedical Science and Human Resources and Business Management.

We took part in a workshop all about which careers require degrees and which ones don't. We were surprised to find that the oldest student to have ever graduated from Sunderland University was in his eighties, so you're never too old to learn!



We then went on a tour around St Peter's Campus, and we learned so much! There is even a live court room which is sometimes used for actual legal cases. We were really inspired by the life of a student - even the



library was so impressive. There was also some really cool equipment in the technology building - the university even has its own robot dog! There is also a real radio station - Spark FM - and TV studio.

# Year 6



## Délicieux café!

As part of their French learning, year 6 decided to turn their classrooms into a French Café and taste some of the food that is well loved in France.

*Isabella - I enjoyed the French food tasting, especially the brie! I thought it was fun because we got to learn new ways of saying things and if we went to a French speaking country, it would help us know how to ask for things.*

*Sounds fantastic! - Sonne Fantastique!*



## Reflection on life at FJS...

Year 6 have been reflecting on their time in Primary School now that they're so close to moving on to the next step in their educational journey...

*'I loved Sculpture week and Science week- I really enjoy doing the special weeks. I have really enjoyed Year 6 and I hope that I have been a good role model to the younger students.'*

*Isabella Hodgson*

*'I have made new friends and increased my confidence. I have really enjoyed my time at this school and the teachers have really helped me'*

*Ava Lennox-Hughes*

*'I loved the special trips I went on and I am really proud of the English, Maths, and artwork that I've done. I have made so many friends, I am going to miss them.'* Lucy Campbell-Renton

# Aspirations

## Step Into The NHS



At the beginning of April, we launched our exciting 'Step into the NHS' event. Step into the NHS is an exciting national initiative designed to help raise career aspirations, challenge gender stereotypes, and put learning into a real-life context for the future.

Our children were visited by lots of parents, grandparents and other family members who work for the NHS in a variety of roles: we had talks from GPs, Pharmacy Dispensers, Nurses, Audiologists and Eye Doctors! Everyone spoke so highly of working for the NHS and told us all about what a rewarding career it is.

As part of this exciting week, Year 5 got the chance to visit Sunderland University to take part in a workshop called "Inside The Doctor's Bag", where they also go to explore the campus and find out what it was like to live the life of a university student.



Lots of us also entered the Step Into The NHS competition. Children had to think about a particular person or team within the NHS that they wanted to say "thank you" to and create a way of doing so. We were blown away by the standard of entries. Unfortunately, we didn't have a winner, but Zara King in Class 10's entry was among the top ten entries in the North East, and she

received a Highly Commended certificate!  
Well done, Zara!

*'Thank you so much for coming in today!  
We're all really impressed. You were wonderful and that was very interesting!'  
Isabella, Class 3 about our visit from Dr Foster.*



# Faculty of Collaboration

Every term in Fulwell Junior School, we develop our personal skills through three faculties: The Faculty of Communication in Autumn term, The Faculty of Critical Thinking in Spring term, and The Faculty of Collaboration in Summer term.



So, this term, we are developing our teamwork and leadership skills in The Faculty of Collaboration. So many jobs require effective teamwork, and we try to develop the resilience and respect that is needed for this skill. Through practical activities like passing a hula hoop along a row without letting go of anyone's hand and building as tall a structure as possible within 30 seconds after having time to plan, we improve our collaborative working skills! Taking responsibility within a team is also a really important aspect of working collaboratively, and we work on this too!



*'Collaboration is important because in nearly every job you have to work with people, and it is good to help and support each other.'* Cole Y3

# Thank you and farewell!



As another school year comes to an end, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our children for all their hard work and incredible effort over the past year as well as the support from our parents. We would like to wish our Year 6's the very best of luck as they venture on to their new secondary schools. Thank you for your determination and resilience over the last four years, you have been extraordinary and your attitude has been one to be admired.

Finally, we have to say a very sad but fond farewell to our very own Mrs Hands who is retiring after 25 wonderful years at FJS. On behalf of all the staff and children who have had the absolute pleasure to work with you over the years, a huge thank you. You have brought us so much enthusiasm and joy that is irreplaceable.

Wishing you lots of luck in your retirement, you will be so greatly missed!

Fulwell Junior School

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## Key Dates

INSET DAY: MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

CHILDREN RETURN – TUESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER