

FULWELL JUNIOR SCHOOL



Respect Aspire Achieve—Be the best that you can be

Edition 07 : Autumn Term December 2018



'O brave new world!'...

Although The Tall Ships sadly set sail from Sunderland's shores, Fulwell Junior School stirred up a storm once again at the Northern Stage Theatre in Newcastle on Friday 9th November. As a Rights Respecting Silver level school we believe that 'education should help us use and develop our talents and abilities' (UN Rights of the Child Article 29). Shakespeare is an embedded and integral part of our curriculum from Y3 to Y6 and mirrors our high aspirations for all our pupils who have readily risen to the challenge of tackling the plot and tricky language and phrases from the script. It was a joy to walk around school and hear our Year 3 pupils debating in the playground who is better – Caliban or Prospero? As part of the Shakespeare for Schools Festival, Fulwell Juniors delivered an electric performance of The Tempest. Taking inspiration from the magic of the big top, Prospero (the ringmaster) told this famous story with the help of a charismatic circus troupe including Ariel (his beautiful assistant), mime artists clowns and strongmen all to a lively and pulsating soundtrack of Irish punk music. Our rehearsal schedule was relentless but we were blessed with a very enthusiastic and committed staff and a cast who were wonderfully supported by family and friends, helping performers in learning lines and boosting their confidence. Beyond the words of The Bard, the pupils injected singing, dancing and plenty of laughter to entertain the audience with this captivating spectacle. Move over Hugh Jackman ... **THIS** was 'The Greatest Show'.



Year 3's Brilliant Start!



Wildlife Warriors

The Year 3 Wildlife Warriors have had lots of fun helping wildlife this half term. The children have built homes for hedgehogs, planted daffodil bulbs, researched different animals and made bird feeders out of old plastic bottles. They were lucky enough to spot a squirrel and even got a close-up view of our resident baby hedgehog whom the children have nicknamed 'Spike'. Jack Ewin said building the hedgehog dens was, "one of the best things I've ever

done!"

Zara, Jake and Cole filling their bird feeders with seed. Lilly planting daffodil bulbs



Stone Age Painting

Year 3 have been learning about prehistoric times in history, beginning with the Stone Age. As part of their learning, the children looked at some examples of



Stone Age cave paintings and discovered that prehistoric artists had a limited colour palette, as they used available minerals for their "paint" and they mostly painted animals and hunting scenes, as this was such an important part of their lives. In the spirit of their arty ancestors, the children used sticks, and only sticks to paint their designs!



Kite Creating

This term, our class novel in year 3 was 'Beaver Towers' by Nigel Hinton. It's an exciting adventure story in which the main character, a young boy called Philip, is transported away to another land by a magic kite where he must then save a loveable bunch of beavers from the evil witch and her minions known as The Growlers. Inspired by the story, Year 3 designed, built and flew their own kites and then wrote the instructions needed to assemble them.



First, the children looked at lots of different materials and decided that plastic bags would be best, as this type of plastic is light, yet waterproof. The frame was constructed from paper straws. The children then used glitter and sequins to add some sparkle and magic to their designs. The kites worked amazingly well and the children had lots of fun testing them out on the yard one windy afternoon. *Holly, Tia and Luke with their handywork!*



Year 3 'Rock Stars'!

In Science, we have been studying rocks and have explored how sedimentary rocks are formed by making our very own 'Sedimentary Sandwiches'! Metamorphic rocks were recreated using melted chocolate and the properties of different rocks were investigated in class. We had a fantastic visit to the Great North Museum (The Hancock) to learn about how fossils were formed. We also saw amazing crystals and explored the fascinating exhibits.



This term some of our parents and grandparents were able to spend an afternoon working with us in our new classrooms.

During the afternoon we made a family tree, memories jar and a family flag linked to our 'All At Sea' project. Some of the flags are now on display in our classrooms.

"My Nanna and Grandad help me with the names for my tree, I didn't know all of the names so they helped me a lot". Jess W

"My Dad helped me to attach string and a shell to the top of my jar. When I took it home I put it in my bedroom and I hope to fill it with good things". Evan

"Dad helped me at the end of the afternoon to draw all the little spikes on my family flag. He also helped me draw the glasses on the faces. It was nice to spend time with Dad because he's normally at work and I like to spend time with him". Scott

Thanks to all our parents and grandparents who visited and got 'stuck in' to our curricular topics. It's never too late to go back to school!



YEAR 4 HAVE THEM ON THE RUN.....!

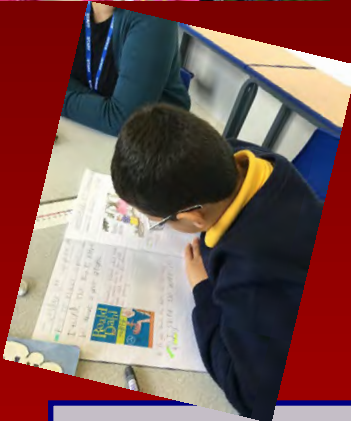


What a fantastic start to the year, the children of year 4 have had! We have been so busy with so many fantastic topics and amazing opportunities that we have grabbed with both hands.

Early in October, all of our year 4's had the chance to take part in a 2k Fun Run at Silksworth Ski Slope! The atmosphere was buzzing with over 1000 children from across the city and many



spectators! Our children represented our school incredibly well and really showed true resilience and respect. Their enthusiasm was infectious and seeing our children encourage each other the whole way until the end was a joy to watch. We certainly had a few aspiring Mo Farah's running round the course and a few children who felt truly exhausted after their amazing effort (staff included!).



We have also been working extremely hard in English to get our writing to be magnificent and it's clear that we have some budding authors in year 4. We have studied Bill's New Frock, The Tempest, Wing and most recently, As You Like It.



Year 4 Open Afternoon :

It was great to see so many of our parents coming down to the October parents open afternoons. It was a super opportunity for everyone to see first hand the excellent efforts of our hardworking children.

Parents were able to see their child's books and observe lessons in action—it was a really positive event and we hope everyone who came along enjoyed it!



Virgin money | make £5 grow

We were approached earlier in the year by Virgin Bank to see if we would be interested in getting involved in their enterprise scheme 'Make £5 Grow'. The scheme gives young people aged between 7 and 11 years old the experience of starting a small business using a £5 loan from Virgin Money. As a year group we decided to create a themed calendar to sell to our Year 4 families



in the hope of making a profit. We used our loan to purchase props for our photo shoot and the remaining

money was used to get our calendars professionally printed. It was a very exciting, enjoyable and beneficial process – Looking forward to seeing our money grow!



In History, we have been learning about the lifestyle of the Anglo-Saxons. We have been investigating where and how they lived, clothes they wore, games they played and food they ate.

We have even cooked and tasted Anglo-Saxon biscuits – they were delicious!



PARLIAMENT WEEK : JOIN THE BIG DEBATE.....

We began our ambitious but exciting journey towards becoming a Parliamentary School by participating in U.K Parliament Week. During this week, the children were told about our bid to become one of just a few schools within the North East to hold such a status and started with a quiz to discover what the children already knew about the U.K Parliament. Do you know how many parts there are to the U.K Parliament and what they are?



Keen to become a Parliamentary School, each year group launched into a variety of activities designed to help the children discover more about what Parliament is, what it does and how it affects them.

Each year group focused on a persuasive writing task to explore how their voice could make a difference. As well as the real life writing opportunities, children created lino and string prints of



the Houses of Parliament Portcullis symbol, clay tiles of Big Ben and even a team challenge to design a replica Parliamentary Mace.

The big event of the week was the election of the new school council and the



re-launch of the school council and house captains as the Fulwell Junior School Parliament – with Mr Speck and Mrs Hill taking on the roles of the Monarchs!

“RR Article 12 : You have the right to an opinion”

Each class had to elect a class M.P who then became part of the school council, representing their class in the meetings and discussing issues mentioned by classmates. The school council is designed to reflect the House of Commons. The House Captains will meet separately and discuss issues brought to them by the School Council/House of Commons and will take suggestions forward to Mr Speck – or send them back to the Council for re-consideration. In this respect, the House Captains are designed to work like the House of Lords.



So far, both groups of children have met and been keen to share ideas. The children have proved to be enthusiastic and dedicated so far and we hope they will help us on our journey to becoming a school which seeks to empower, engage and inspire our children to become well-informed and conscientious citizens. Four of our House Captains recently attended the annual State of the City Debate at the Civic Centre and once again, we were the only Junior School to take part. Our pupils represented FJS fantastically, participating in the debate by commenting on issues such as A Curriculum for Life and Mental Health in front of dozens of young people (aged 11-18) and the public gallery.



FULWELL JUNIOR SCHOOL STANDING STRONG AGAINST BULLYING.....



Meet our Anti-Bullying Team.....

At FJS, we take the issue of bullying very seriously and our excellent Anti-Bullying Team representatives



have been working hard this term with Miss Anderson to come up with good, practical support initiatives that all our children can turn to if they feel it's necessary. Our motto is 'At FJS, we stand STRONG and stand TOGETHER against bullying'.

What is bullying? We define it as behaviour that INTENTIONALLY hurts more than once. In other words....

Several Times On

Purpose

One of the brilliant new initiatives that the Team have introduced is our Child Friendly Anti-Bullying Leaflet. All children have been given one of these guides to keep in their school desk drawer and they are proving very positive in helping children identify unkind behaviour and where they can turn to for help.



Rights Respecting Article 19:

You have the right to be protected from physical or emotional violence.

Year 5 Making History.....

We started Year 5 with our history topic about the Victorians. We were instantly hooked with a suitcase of authentic Victorian artefacts that we were able to borrow from Beamish. It included a range of toys and games that Victorian children used and we loved getting the chance to play with them ourselves—they were very different to the toys we play with today! We



were then lucky enough to actually visit Beamish for the day. We spent some time going down the mines and were shocked to find out children as young as us had to work there to earn money for their families! We also took part in a Victorian lesson in the Schoolhouse.

The Schoolmaster was very strict, but he was very impressed with the handwriting and arithmetic skills of Fulwell Junior School children!



YEAR 5 SEA-LESS PLASTIC PROJECT

This term, the school ran a competition called, 'Sea Less Plastic'. The main aim was to raise awareness with our pupils and local community about the damage plastic was causing to our marine life and environment. It also linked to our Rights Respecting policy, Article 29, where pupils are encouraged to show respect for and learn how to protect their environment.

There were a huge number of entries to the competition. Our House Captains were amazed by them all and found it very difficult to choose the winners.

Class 1 - Jessica Hutchinson & Lily Graham
Class 2 - Michael Holmes & Joshua Gamage
Class 3 - Lucy Vasey & Harrison Fletcher
Class 4 - Maanashi Raj & Lucy Hope
Class 5 - Kate Dixon & Sophia Shepperson
Class 6 - Jasmine Hodgson, Lola Mawson, Sebastian Catarinella & Sebastian Hartle
Class 7 - Ingram Cook, Thomas Jennings & Ava Donkin
Class 8 - Owen Emerson, Nicholas Rushworth & Lucy Hutchinson
Class 9 - Grace Johnson, Millie O'Brien & Ruby Howe
Class 10—Grace Haswell, Mattie Mercer & Lucy Stephenson
Class 11—Sam Parks & Evan Avery
Class 12—Emma Hutchinson & Matthew Capstick

The winning plastic sea creatures and posters were put on display at Fulwell Community Library. Even as the display was being put up, local people commented on how wonderful the entries were. The winners did an excellent job of raising awareness! Thank you to everyone who took part!



OUT OF THIS WORLD.....!

This half term, we are learning about Space for our Science topic. We are already so interested in our Solar System and our planets.

To help us understand what our Solar System is like, we created our own scale model using pieces of fruit to replicate the planets. We then used toilet paper to estimate the distance between the planets, and drew some really interesting conclusions! This taught us that Earth and



Venus are similar in size to each other, Jupiter is the largest planet in our Solar System, and the gas giants are much further spaced out than the rocky planets!

If you scan the QR code, it will take you to a web link of our Solar System work and hyperlinks to all of the planets!

PARLIAMENT WEEK:

We thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Parliament Week earlier this half term! We learned all about the UK Parliament and what we can do to have an impact on our country.

We also held School Council elections; congratulations to Joshua Tuckwell (Class 7), Amber Dury (Class 8) and Nathan Thirtle (Class 9), who will be representing their class in School Council meetings.



They have done an incredible job so far, and we are certain that they will continue to do so!



Author Visit:

This year, we really want to promote a genuine love of reading, and to help us with this we invited a Canadian

author called Sylvia V. Linsteadt into school to share her book, *The Wild Folk*, with us. She told us about her life in Canada as an animal tracker, which means she studies the landscape for marks different animals make, and how this gave her inspiration for her book. Some of us were even lucky enough to get a signed copy of the book from her, which was so special!



Year 5 Getting Spooky!!



Our recent Halloween non-uniform day was certainly a winner with our creative Year 5's who threw themselves right into the gruesome theme with some fantastic outfits!!



YEAR 6'S TECHNICAL CHALLENGE...

Class 10 and 11 had a fun packed day on our recent visit to the Nissan factory at Washington. After setting up our own production lines in teams, we raced against each other to see who could assemble their Lego cars the quickest. We used genuine Nissan tools to remove bolts and beat imperfections out of metal panels. On the factory floor, one of the robots introduced himself to Mattie in his own special way!

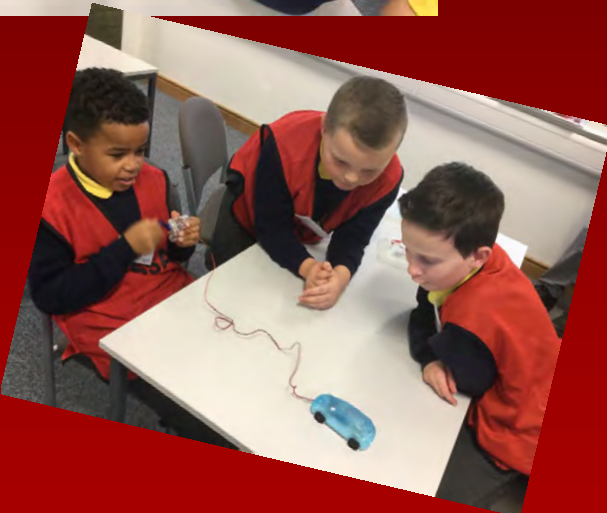
One of the challenges was to design a poster. Our class winner was Grace Calvert with Rhys Cauwood and Ryan Baillie as our two runners-up.



Here is Luke Armstrong signing our lucky 'Daruma' doll. In Japan, at the start of any project, one of the doll's eyes is coloured in and everyone involved signs the doll's head; this is to mark the beginning of the venture—and for good luck! At the end of the project, the second eye is coloured in and we brought the doll back to school with us.



'The Right to a safe, clean environment'



Class 12's trip to Nissan was all about renewable energy. We learned how electric cars are much better for the environment than petrol cars. Did you know that... in Britain by 2040 all cars will be required to be electric powered!

We talked about wind turbines and how cars can be powered using the energy that they produce. We built our own wind powered cars and raced them



against the clock. We also used an electronic system called 'Batak' The aim of the game was to see how quick your reaction time was against timed lights.

The best part of the day was riding the actual Nissan Leaf - it was so quiet and smooth.



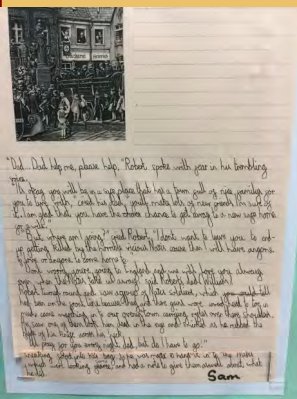
By Charlie, Emma, Mia and Evie Class 12

As part of their studies into World War 2, Year 6 visited Beamish. Prior to the visit, staff from Beamish attended the school and the children participated in a suitcase rummage, having to identify characters from the bag's contents. At Beamish, the children looked at rations, evacuations and how to safeguard houses against potential bombing attacks. This valuable resources allows children to practically put their feet into the shoes of the Greatest Generation and focus on childhood during the war. The marvellous Goodnight Mr Tom and the novel Once widened this learning.



Writing (and Reading!) Is Exciting!.....

To enhance the writing curriculum, at great expense (funded from our hugely successful Deckathlon Sponsored Event in the summer term), several fabulous, new novels were purchased for 2018-19. Allowing children to immerse themselves into a text to develop literacy skills is still the best way to progress as a writer/reader.



This academic year, we are looking at making writing real. To do this we are creatively searching for opportunities around publication, presentation and practical use. In Year 3, the children have built kites, using their own written instructions as a guide and have written to our MP. In Year 6, writing has been sent to The Indianapolis Foundation (biographies of the tragic events in the South Pacific and Michael Morpurgo's website); if we are successfully published, you'll be the first to know. We have also launched a real life petition to parliament (we will be seeking support) and children have performed courtroom speeches, written themselves based on Macbeth. We have also forwarded writing to The Shakespeare Schools Foundation, to build on the outstanding production of The Tempest.

Maths Gang in Brainbuster Challenge!

On Wednesday 7th November, a team of four of our Year 6 mathematicians took part in the Young National Mathematician's Award at the Explore Learning Centre, based in Sainsbury's Supermarket on Riverside Road. The team were given a maths problem that was challenging and required a lot of problem solving and collaborative learning. Our children got to meet and engage with the members of the other teams over the lunch period, and after lunch they got to work on their maths challenge for an hour. The top schools get selected to come back to the



Centre for the regional final, and then the best participants from that stage go on to the National Finals at the University of Cambridge! Sunderland had managed to reach the finals in Cambridge four years ago, and we would love to get to that stage again! This year's final will be better than ever as huge prize bundles, from the likes of Meccano, Letts Revision, iTop and Sum Fun, will be up for grabs! Best of luck guys!!



COMMUNITY NEWS.....

Our fabulous school choir have, once again, been sprinkling their Christmas stardust around the community. On Tuesday 11th December, we hosted a small party of old people from our local residential homes, Glenholm House and Falstone Court where they enjoyed a fabulous selection of carols and were treated to mince pies and hot tea.

There was even time to pull a cracker or two!



And how fantastic were the choir at our Christmas Carol Concert at St. Peter's Church on Thursday 13th December?

Thank you to everyone who attended. It was the perfect way to end the term!



Don't forget.....

We return to school on **Tuesday 8th January 2019**. May you all have a peaceful and joyful Christmas. Thank you for your continued support!



SCHOOL TERM DATES 2018-19

In-service dates:

Monday 7th January 2019

Monday 3rd June 2019

Bank Holidays:

Monday 22nd April Easter Monday

Monday 6th May May Day

Half Term Holidays:

February Half Term 18th-22nd February

Easter 8th-22nd April

June Half Term 27th-31st May

Summer Term Ends Friday 19th July

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