

Message from the Headteacher

As we wrap up another enriching week, I am delighted to share some highlights and updates with you all.

First and foremost, I want to express my immense pride in our Year 6 children who recently embarked on their residential trip to Robinwood. I had the pleasure of joining them and it was an amazing experience for all involved. The children represented our school with unwavering bravery, confidence, respect, teamwork, and a sense of great responsibility. Their positive attitudes and exemplary behaviour were truly commendable, and it was evident that they made the most out of this valuable adventure. A thank you to the staff who accompanied them, for their dedication and support in ensuring the success of this experience. Our Year 6 children continue to impress.

I am also thrilled to announce that our new library area is on track to be completed partway through the Spring 2 term. This vibrant space will feature a central tree which will zone the area, along with new bookshelves and seating. This project wouldn't have been possible without the ongoing support and financial contributions from our wonderful PTA. A sincere thank you to all PTA members for their tireless efforts in organising events and their commitment to enhancing the learning environment for our children.

This week, we have witnessed exemplary behaviour from our children across the school. It is great to see their positive attitudes and respect for one another. While we continue to celebrate their achievements, we are also committed to fostering good manners and politeness. Opening doors for one and other, saying please and thank you and supporting peers when they see it is needed.

I hope this evening's PTA Burns Night proves to be a fun and memorable evening. Thank you to all the PTA members involved in organising this event; your dedication to creating enjoyable experiences for our school community is truly appreciated.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

Mr Allen

Key Dates					
2 February	Wear Red Day				
2 February	Bouldering Competition				
3 February	Cross Country, Longley Park				
w/b 5 February	Y6 SEND Reviews				
6 February	Parent/Carer Evening				
7 February	Parent/Carer Evening				
8 February	Y3 Production 2.30 & 6.30				
9 February	Half-term Closes 3.35pm				
19 February	Back to school				
w/b 19 February	Y4 SEND Review Meetings				
24 February	Cross Country, Graves Park				
w/b 26 February	Y5 SEND Reviews				

Assemblies

On Monday we had our celebration assembly where we congratulated children on their individual achievements. Our children showed great respect for each other and demonstrated our value of teamwork when the house points were gathered.

Our Y₃/₄ assembly on Tuesday and the Y₅/₆ assembly on Wednesday were about our music of the half term: Reggae music. Children learnt about the origins of Reggae, where it fits in the timeline of world music, how many beats in a bar there usually are, and listened to different examples of it.

Our whole school assembly on Friday had a focus on the British Values of Rule of Law and Individual Liberty. Mrs Thorlby encouraged the children to think deeply about the purposes of these values; how we have the right to freedom in this country and that we need to follow the law in order for us to live in safe and peaceful societies. The children were reminded that they are able to make their own age appropriate decisions and to recognise that sometimes there are consequences for our decisions. The children were told that it is our job to help them distinguish between right and wrong and that we always need to take responsibility for our actions.

Mrs Pickles, Tom and Alex talked to the children about the fund raising event happening in school on Friday 2nd February. We are asking children to wear red and bring a donation to raise money for the Children's Heart Surgery Fund. (See more on page 4.)



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	House Points						
	Steel	297					
	Cutlers	271					
	Originals	276					
	Peaks	263					

Achievements Outside School

Nether Green Junior School children are involved in a wide variety of out of school activities. We want to celebrate their achievements here.

Indie Y3JC - Came 1st in butterfly in a swimming competition and 5th in front crawl. She received a medal for participating.

Amu - Y5KL - Gained his grade 1 violin with distinction.

Molly H - Y6MK - gained her grade 2 violin.

Emily Y6GR - gained her grade 1 violin with d

Chrissy Y4NH - came first in cross county.

Well done to you all!

Attendance

Please ensure that your child is on time for school. Children can be brought into the yard from 8:40 am. Learning in school starts at 8:50 am.

Our attendance this week was 95%



Special Mentions Eleanor - Y3PW Whole class - Y4TH Jacob - Y5LN Arun - Y6AH

Focus Value

Behaviour and Attitudes:

Positive behaviour and attitudes are essential components of a thriving learning environment.

We encourage our children to demonstrate behaviour that reflects integrity, responsibility, and a positive mind-set.

By fostering a culture of good behaviour and positive attitudes, we create a conducive atmosphere for effective teaching and learning.

PLEASE BE ON TIME!

Morning learning begins at 8:50am.

Please be on time.

Our gates open at 8.40am to enable pupils to settle and be ready to start

Community News

Arts Council

Formed in October 2023, our enthusiastic Arts Council have already made a positive contribution to the Arts in our school. The purpose of the Arts Council is to give our children a greater opportunity to steer the direction of our Arts provision, engaging them and empowering them to help make decisions that will influence the activities on offer in our setting. They also play an important role in organising and maintaining art equipment and music resources.

Similarly to the School Council, two members from each class from Y₃ to Y6, make up our Arts Council and help to represent and share the views of their classmates at meetings which take place 2-3 times each half term.

Autumn Term Achievements - written by Anna Y6AH

Last term, we organised a winter decoration competition with prizes for the best crafts. Pupils designed a decoration and they were hung on the school Christmas tree; they were then judged by the Arts Council. Third place went to Audrey in Y6AH! Second place went to Jemima in Y5LN! First place went to Keira in Y6MK!

Last term, the Arts Council also designed the crafts for the Winter Festival. We decided to have one craft for each year group and made video instructions for our classes to follow. We hung them up on strings together in the hall. Everyone worked very hard to ensure there was a festive ceiling above our brilliant performers.

On the very first meeting of our Arts Council, we carried out an inventory of our classes art cupboards tidied and helped to organise resources. Ensuring we have all the necessary supplies, such as glue spreaders, watercolours, paintbrushes etc. means our arts lesson activities run smoothly.

Current Projects

This half term, the Arts Council will soon be introducing art and music suggestion boxes in the school hall. This will allow the Arts Council to hear our pupils' voices more effectively and bring more ideas for developing the arts to our meeting discussions.

As our Y₃ and Y₄ children are busy preparing for their upcoming musical theatre performances, our Arts Council are keen to support them. Over the next few weeks, our Arts Council will take on the role of filmmakers, developing video resources to be used by classes. These will include vocal warm ups, tip tips for projecting voices and essential theatre vocabulary.

Finally, the Arts Council have been given the task of contributing to a new and



improved theatre back drop for our stage area in the main hall. Working with a graphic designer, the children will share and develop their ideas for a suitable back drop that can be permanently displayed in our 'Nether Green Theatre.'

Music of the Half-Term

Reggae

Listening to music is fundamental to musical understanding. By learning to listen critically, our children will not only expand their musical horizons but also gain a deeper understanding of how music is constructed and the impact it can have on the listener. Listening to a broad range of music also helps develop other areas of musical activity, including composing and performing.

Therefore, each half term we focus on a 'music of the half term' which is explored through assemblies and further listening opportunities. This half term, we will be focussing on Reggae music, in particular the piece *Three Little Birds* by Bob Marley.



Community News

Safeguarding Top Tip

Safeguarding and online tip

This week, we thought we would remind you of our school safeguarding team. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We ensure that consistent effective safeguarding procedures are in place to support families, children and staff at this school.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Mrs Thorlby.

We have three Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs): Mr Allen (Head teacher), Ms Giblin (Learning Mentor) and Ms Musgrove (Senco and Assistant Head).

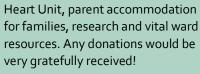
Our designated governor with responsibility for safeguarding is Mr Ian Owen.

If you have concerns about the wellbeing or safety of a child, please contact the office to speak with one of us.

Children's Heart Surgery Fund

On Friday 2nd February, it is Wear Red Day, an event to raise money for the Children's Heart Surgery Fund. This charity has recently supported two families within our school community.

We are asking children to wear red next Friday and bring in a donation. The CHSF provide life-saving medical equipment for the Leeds Congenital







Online Safety Top Tip

We take the online safety of our children seriously at Nether Green Junior School.

Our curriculum supports our children to make sense of the online world whilst teaching them how to stay safe and empowering them to be confident living in a digital world.

We ask children to report anything they see, hear or experience that they do not understand or makes them feel uncomfortable, and we encourage parents to do the same if they feel we can help in any way.

Many of our children are online whilst they are at home. We encourage you to talk to your children about their online experiences so they can share their positive experiences and their knowledge with you and in turn, feel confident to report to you any experiences they are not so comfortable with.

NSPCC have published detailed safety advice for families. This includes safety guidance for over 80 apps.

https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-childrensafe/online-safety/

Language of the Half Term

Each term we select a different language for the pupils to learn greetings and basic phrases. We choose languages which represent our school community. At Nether Green, we feel it is important to give bilingual children the chance to demonstrate their language skills as well as have opportunity to share details of their family's country and culture. Language of the Halfterm also allows monolingual English speakers to encounter and learn to speak a variety of languages.

All teachers embrace the selected language of the half-term and actively encourage the children to say good morning, good afternoon and respond to simple yes/no questions in the given language.

Spring 1 - Language of the Term -

Somali

The chosen language for this half-term is Somali. There are about 25 million people in the world who can speak Somali.

Somali is one of the languages spoken by some of our children at Nether Green Junior School.



SEND

Focus of the half term

This half term, our staff are learning about the different types of attachment in our whole school SEND training. Following this, some of our staff are having some play therapy training. Understanding about attachment needs is part of our wider understanding of how to be a 'Trauma Informed' school.

Ms Musgrove will be talking more about this at the next SEND coffee morning on Monday $\mathbf{4}^{\text{th}}$ March.

SEND Reviews

Just a reminder that SEND reviews are coming up. Invites to Y4 SEND reviews will be e-mailed out this week, and Y4 reviews will take place on 19^{th} and 21^{st} February. Y5 reviews will take place on 26^{th} and 28^{th} February. Where possible, please try to attend your allocated time. Online appointments can be made if it is difficult to get into school.

Many Thanks,

Ms Musgrove



PTA

Burns Night Ceilidh - Friday 26th January from 7pm

Thank you so much to everyone who has brought a ticket for this evening's event. It promises to be a fabulous evening.

Elfridges 2024!

This is the final week we will have boxes out in reception for donations of new unwanted, unused gifts for re gifting at next year's Elfridges. Thank you for the donations so far. This will really help next winter!

Y₅ Bake Sale

There will be a bake sale after school on Thursday 8th February. We are asking the Year 5 children to bring in the contributions for this sale, so this is a reminder for Y5s to start thinking about what they would like to bake!

PTA walk

There will be a PTA walk after drop off on the final Friday of half term (9th February). We will meet outside school after drop off and plan to have a gentle walk through the woods. All are welcome. It's a lovely way to meet other members of our community and have a chat to start the day.



Spotlight on the Curriculum

The children have been busy developing their science knowledge and understanding, as well as consolidating and learning new scientific skills through practical investigations and hands on experience.

A wide range of topics have been covered so far this year.

The Y6 children have been finding out about electrical circuits and symbols; they put their knowledge to good use by making a burglar alarm and pulley system that could prevent the Mona Lisa from being stolen!



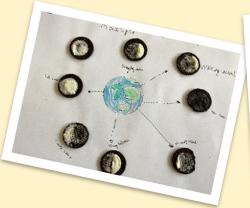


As part of their topic on the rainforest, Y6 are finding out about Carl Linnaeus and his system for classifying animals, as well as investigating how animals are adapted to their environment. We were very pleased to welcome Zoolab into school who brought in a number of rainforest animals for the children to discuss and hold.

In Y5, the children have been carrying out a variety of investigations to find out more about forces as well as finding out about space and how we get day and night. To consolidate their knowledge, they enjoyed a visit by Wonderdome Planetarium an interactive show which focuses on the solar system.



The Y₃s have been busy investigating this year. As well as finding out about fossils and different types of rocks, they have carried out investigations to develop their understanding of forces and magnets. They consolidated their knowledge with an exciting visit to Magna Science Adventure Centre.





Y4 have been learning about the digestive system, teeth, nutrition and healthy diets. They have carried out various investigations to find out what impact different foods and drinks have on our teeth. To show off all their learning, the children made their own SciTube videos and presented them to the class.

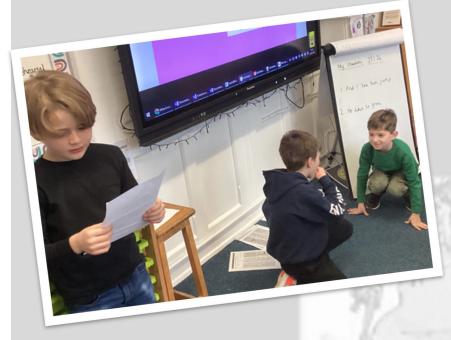


In life skills, the children have been deciding what makes a happy school.



Some of our children have been using different equipment to develop their maths learning.





This week in Y₃ we have been developing our understanding of playscripts in English by acting out the Twits.

Year 4 start their new writing topic on Adventure Stories!

In Y4, we have started our new writing topic on adventure stories. In our first lesson, we analysed a variety of adventure stories and discussed with a partner what we liked/disliked about the text. We then recommended our favourite adventure stories and placed them in a jar for ideas on what to read next. Harry Potter was a clear favourite amongst the class in Y4TH!



Practising column multiplication.



Pupils designing posters as part of a PSHE





Year 6 pupils working out the volume of cuboids.



Pupils producing fact files on Abel Rodriguez.





Year 6 pupils producing multi layered maps as part of a lesson on Biomes.

Some of our Y6s went to see 'Oliver' at the Leeds Playhouse

Last week, some Year 6's joined the children from Westbourne School to visit the Leeds Playhouse to see Oliver! We had a fantastic time!



Sahar said," I thought that the Leeds trip was amazing because I really loved the acting and all of the musical songs."



Refaa added, "I loved the Leeds trip because of the acting and the cool lights, you could see how much they had practised it."

Lunch Menu

NETHER GREEN JUNIOR AUTUMN WINTER 23/24 WEEK TWO



PRIMARY MENU WEEK 2	'GREEN EARTH MONDAY'	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main Course	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Garlic Bread	Beef Pasta Bolognaise	Pork Sausage Toad in the Hole with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Chicken & Bean Burrito	Fish & Chips
Vegetarian Main Gourse	Cheesy Bean Pitta	Veggie Pasta Bolognaise	Vegetable Sausage Toad in the Hole with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	Macaroni Cheese	Cheese & Onion Pastry Roll with Chips
Pirot Food		BEANY VEGGIE BURRITO	•	TURKISH LAHMACUN	
Jacket Poteto and Pilling	Jacket Potato with Cheese or Baked Beans	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Baked Beans or Tuna Mayo
Vogetables	Sweetcorn Garden Peas	Green Beans Carrots	Cauliflower Seasonal Greens	Mixed Vegetables Sweetcorn	Baked Beans Garden Peas
Percent	Apple Crumble Bar	Lemon Cake with Custard	Banana Cake with Fruit	Chocolate Cookie	Strawberry Jelly

Available Daily: Salad Selection, Fresh Bread, Fresh Fruit and Yoghurts

















Measles

As you may know there have been recent localised outbreaks of measles centred around the West Midlands.

Please be aware that Measles spreads very easily among those who are unvaccinated,

especially in nurseries and schools.

The best protection against measles for children and adults is to get both doses of the MMR vaccine.

The NHS has published the following guidance:

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/





