Nether Green Junior School Newsletter

19 January 2024



Message from the headteacher

I hope you enjoyed the new newsletter format we launched last week. We believe it provides a more comprehensive insight into the vibrant life of our school, showcasing the incredible work of our children and dedicated staff. Your feedback is invaluable, and we hope you find this new format both informative and engaging.

As we settle into the new term, our children are actively engaging in various enriching activities, and our teachers are fostering an environment that encourages both academic and personal growth – you will be able to see this from some of our highlights in different year groups from the photos below.

Our Year 6 children are embarking on a thrilling residential trip to Robinwood next week. This experience promises to be not only educational but also a chance for them to build lasting memories and friendships. We are confident that this adventure will contribute significantly to their personal development.

We hope all our families have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Mr Allen

Assemblies

During Monday's assembly, I reminded the children about the overarching theme for the current half term -**Behaviour & Attitudes** - an aspect that we believe plays a pivotal role in fostering a positive and conducive learning environment for our children. We celebrated many other achievements across the school.

I am thrilled to share with you the highlights of our recent phase assemblies, which were centred around the rich and diverse language of Somali, our chosen language of the half term. It was a truly enlightening experience for our children as they delved into the vibrant culture, language, and music of Somali land. What made these assemblies particularly special was the active involvement of six children who admirably supported Mrs Pickles in leading the discussion. These children not only demonstrated their linguistic prowess but also shared valuable insights into the cultural nuances, traditions, and the captivating music that defines Somali heritage. The enthusiasm and engagement of our children during these assemblies truly reflect the spirit of inclusivity and appreciation for diversity that we strive to foster in our school community.

Today's assembly was a significant one led by Mrs Handley, where she eloquently discussed the crucial theme of mutual respect. Drawing parallels between its manifestation in sports and its equally important role in our school and the broader community. Mrs Handley emphasised the value of understanding, tolerance, and kindness. In a thought-provoking segment, she addressed the issue of racism, providing a historical context to deepen our awareness. It is imperative for us as a school to actively combat racism and foster an environment that champions diversity, culture, faith, ethnicity, and race. By doing so, we can instil a sense of belonging and understanding among our children. We are committed to promoting an atmosphere where mutual respect prevails, and our diverse backgrounds are not only acknowledged but celebrated. Let's continue to encourage open conversations and appreciate the unique setting that makes our school community vibrant.

Key Dates				
20 January	Cross Country, Brunswick			
22 — 24 January	Y6 Robinwood Trip			
26 January	PTA Burns Night Social			
w/b 29 January	Parent Workshop			
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	Y5 SEND Reviews			



Februar

This Week's Awards

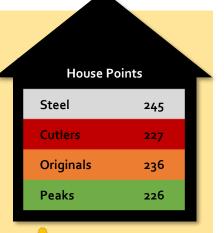


Achievements Outside School

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

Watch this space!





Special Mentions Finley – Y4NH Omar – Y4JH Martha – Y5JE Florence – Y5LN Emily – Y5KL Sarvesh – Y6MK The whole Y6AH class

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 94.7%



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

Eco Ambassadors

Meet Nether Green Juniors' Excellent Eco Ambassadors!

Here at Nether Green Junior School, we have a team of enthusiastic Eco Ambassadors, with two representatives from each class in school. We meet several times each half term to decide on projects we want to work on, to improve the environment in school and more widely. The projects are broadly based on the national 'Eco School' initiative, although we tailor everything to our school and the ideas come from the Eco Ambassadors.

Our Eco Ambassadors are:

- Year 3: Fred, Florence, Rowan, Aaminah, Emile and Rose
- Year 4: Camilla, Rafe, Rosie, Obaid, Ruan and Ethar
- Year 5: Ronnie, Isla, Jemima, Elsie
- Year 6: Keira, Jemima, Dan, Arya, Maddy and Elsa
- IR: James

Here are some of our recent projects:

Energy Saving in School

Last half term, we took part in 'Switch Off Fortnight' and the Eco Ambassadors gave an assembly to explain why it is important for everyone to save energy. We monitored energy use around school, encouraging everyone to switch off their lights when they left the room and appointed 'Energy monitors' in each class to remind everyone to do this. The Eco Ambassadors have the following tips for you to save energy at home:

- Switch off lights when you are not in the room;
- Wear a jumper and turn down the heating;
- Only boil the amount of water you need in a kettle;
- Have showers rather than baths;
- Avoid leaving computer consoles and TVs on standby.

You can find more tips here: <u>https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/hub/quick-tips-to-save-energy/</u>

Litter

Our bigger project last half term was a focus on litter. The Eco Ambassadors conducted a litter survey and found a great deal of litter hidden around the school site. They found that a lot of the litter was sweet wrappers and snack bars. The Eco Ambassadors led an assembly to tell the school about our findings and our action plan. For the rest of last half term, and ongoing this year, each class will have a turn at litter picking. The Eco Ambassadors will also be putting up signs around school, reminding children to put their litter in the bin. We are hopeful that litter will reduced around school by the summer term.

The Eco Ambassadors would like to explain how you can also help at home:

- Send your children with a healthy snack, such as fruit, without wrappers, to reduce the amount of waste which goes in the bin.
- Talk to your children at home about the importance of putting litter in the bin, both in school and when you are out and about.

The Eco Ambassadors are looking forward to some new projects this half term.

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.



Image by Guilherme Gomes from Pixabay

Safeguarding Top Tip

This week our safeguarding focus is positive parenting and techniques to help support with managing challenging behaviour at home. A child's needs and behaviours can change as they grow and it is how we respond to those changes that can make a difference.

Every child needs love, guidance, rules and boundaries. It is important to have set routines and be consistent with these. Rewards and sanctions can be used effectively to manage challenging behaviour. It is important to clearly define the rewards and sanctions that you are setting and then ensure that you are seeing these through.

Always remain calm and try not to get into a confrontation with your child. Talk to them about the behaviours being displayed and try to find the underlying cause of these behaviours.



Online Safety Top Tip

What is livestreaming?

Livestreaming is broadcasting to an audience in 'real time'. The audience can leave comments, give likes to the person who is streaming and, in some cases, 'gift' the streamer. Some platforms let several people livestream at the same time.

Children and teenagers are likely to have spent more time on livestreaming and video apps in the last few years. While many children will be using these apps to talk to friends or family, some children may be talking to people they don't know, or sharing personal information without realising.

We've got advice to help you understand the risks and keep them safe. Please click on the <u>NSPCC</u> <u>link</u> to find out more information and the risks around livestreaming.



Sleep Routine

Like everyone, children need sleep and it's really important, they get it (both for them and for you). Sometimes getting them to sleep is tricky, but a predictable routine can help. It's pretty obvious that a child who is getting in the sleep, is more likely to be happy and alert than a child who isn't. Getting your child into a good sleeping pattern isn't just about avoiding tantrums, though, lack of sleep has been linked to future problems, such as anxiety, depression, obesity and high blood pressure.

Top tip:

Turn off screens an hour before bedtime. Audiobooks, a good old-fashioned paper books are a good alternative to e-books. Light from screens stops the production of the sleep hormone melatonin.

How much sleep?

As a rough guide, children need: 3 - 5 year olds = 11 to 14 hours of sleep 6 -12-year-olds = 11 to 13 hours of sleep



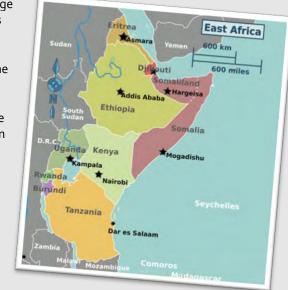
Language of the Term

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 Half-term 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 official languages in Somalia.
- Somali is one of our top 3 languages spoken by children at Nether Green Junior School.



SEND Reviews

Ms Musgrove will be sending out Spring SEND Review appointments over the next few weeks. These will arrive by e-mail. Please reply to confirm your attendance. We are happy to offer telephone or online appointments if it is easier for parents.

Y3 SEND Review Dates Monday 29 January and Thursday 1 February

Year 6 SEND Review Dates Monday 5 and Tuesday 6 February

Year 4 SEND Review Dates Monday 19 February and Wednesday 21 February

Year 5 SEND Review Dates Monday 26 February and Wednesday 28 February

Family Action ADHD Project

The Family Action ADHD Project are offering some new drop-in sessions for parents and carers in January, February and March. Please see the attached leaflets at the end of the school newsletter for more information. There will be drop-in coffee mornings and some information sessions providing an introduction to ADHD.



ΡΤΑ

Burns Night Ceilidh - Friday 26th January from 7pm

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

Silent auction

During the ceilidh next Friday there will be a silent auction giving everyone the opportunity to buy some amazing prizes from local businesses such as Hallamshire Tennis and Squash Club, Lovely Pear, Katie Bell Physio, Plain Bear, Sam Reece hairdressing, RedBull and more. We are going to open this auction up to the whole school community so everyone has the chance to bag one of these great offers. Details of the prizes and how you can enter will come out early next week so watch this space!

Elfridges 2024!

As we mentioned last week, we are planning to run Elfridges again this year. To get ahead of the game, we would be really grateful if families could drop to school any unwanted or replicated gifts that they received this year. We will then keep them stored for next year to be sold and regifted again! We will leave a box in reception and would be grateful for any donations while they are still lying around!



Y5 bake sale

There will be a bake sale in the final week of half term that will be organised by the Y5s. More details to follow.

Spotlight on the Curriculum

Spotlight on Maths

Since September the children have been delving into 'flashback maths', this is where they solidify their grasp of previous areas of maths covered. All children complete a range of sheets each week on a wide range of

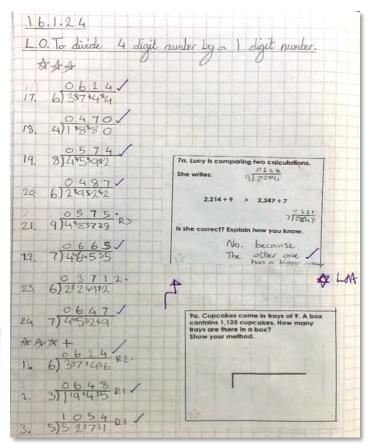
mathematical concepts. This ensures children can showcase the impressive strides they've made since the beginning of the academic year.





Formal methods and presentation

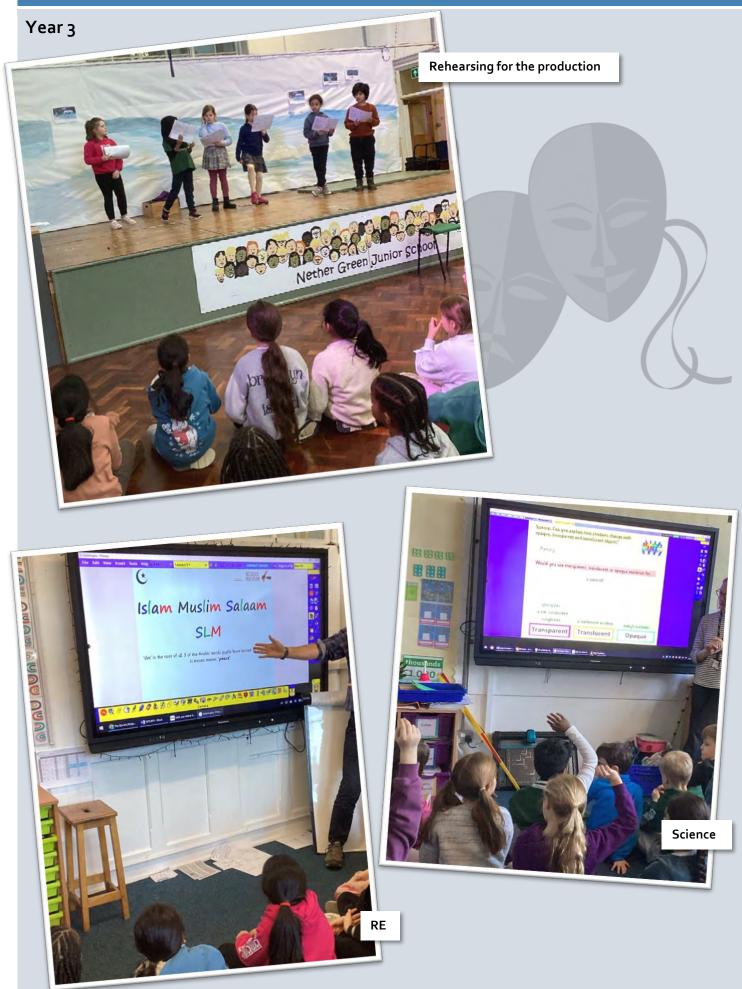
In maths the emphasis has not only been on mastering the intricacies of mathematical operations but also on refining their presentation skills. The importance of presentation is really helping the children especially this term when solving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division problems using formal; methods.



Timetables

Times tables is key to supporting children in so many areas of maths. To encourage the children, we will be presenting weekly 'Times table Rock Stars' certificates - keep an eye out for the winners in the newsletter.





Year 4 prepare for their Roman Letters in English!

8

In English, we discussed the different qualities of a Roman soldier and what kind of questions an interviewer might ask to check that a person has these qualities. Then, we worked in pairs to create an interview script and performed our interviews between an emperor and a person who wanted to be a soldier.



In History, we discussed how Julius Caesar tried to invade Britain twice but was not successful. Also, we talked about the reasons for him wanting to invade such as the resources (gold, silver and iron). Then we discussed how, nearly a hundred years later, Emperor Claudius also wanted to invade Britain. We acted as advisors to help him decide whether he should invade or not.



Year 5 pupils presenting their research on the Golden Age of Islam



Pupils taking part in Active Maths – measuring the quadrilaterals taped to the desks.

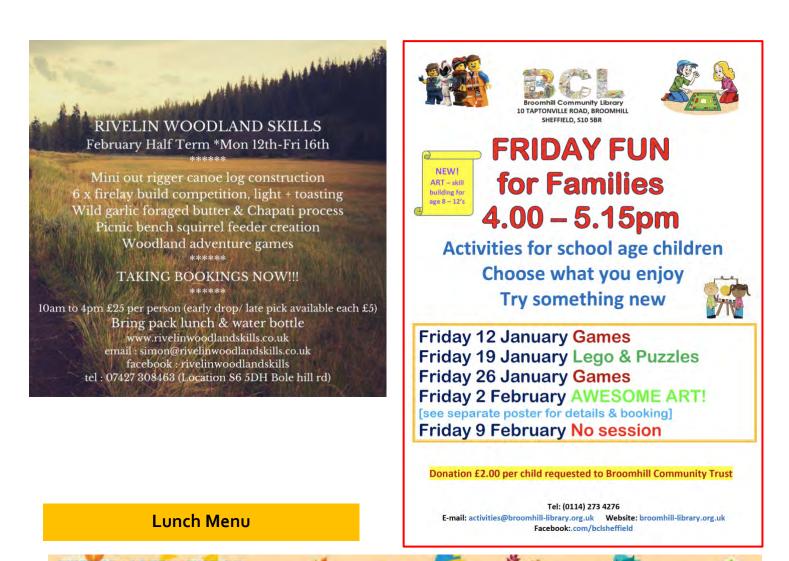


Year 6



Year 6 pupils enjoying the Zoolab animal handling experience.

Biomes



					LA .
PRIMARY MENU WEEK I	'GREEN EARTH MONDAY'	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mide Course	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Garlic Bread	Chicken Tikka Curry with Mixed Rice	Yorkshire Pudding with Beef Mince & Roast Potatoes	Pork Sausage Roll with Baked Potato Wedges	Fish Fingers with Chips
Ingeliarias Mide Course	Beany Veggie Burrito	Tomato Pasta	Yorkshire Pudding with Vegetarian Mince & Roast Potatoes	Cheese & Onion Roll with Baked Potato Wedges	Veggie Pasta Bake
Revet Read		BBQ CHICKEN SUB ROLL	1	CHICKEN QUESADILLAS WITH BAKED POTATO WEDGES	
Andrea Protono and Filling	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, Salmon Mayo Tuna Mayo
Topolation	Mixed Vegetables Sweetcorn	Garden Peas Cauliflower	Carrots Seasonal Greens	Green Beans Baked Beans Sweetcorn	Baked Beans Garden Peas
-	Apple Sponge	Flapjack Finger	Vanilla Sponge with Custard	Tootle Fruity Jelly with Mandarins	Chocolate Shortbread

Oily fish

Contains

plant-based

proteins

50%

fruit

Source of

wholegrain

888

Portion(s) of

fruit or veg

Our desserts meet Public Health

England's target for 'free sugar' intake for your child.