Nether Green Junior School Newsletter

21 March 2024



Message from the Headteacher

Year 4 Performance - I am delighted to report the resounding success of the Year 4 performance of "Dragon Days." The children performed admirably, showcasing their talent and teamwork. They should all be extremely proud of themselves. As always, I'm blown away by their confidence and work ethic to perform with such perfection. Our commitment to performing arts is unwavering, as it provides invaluable experiences and memories for our children. We value this aspect of school life immensely and consider it an integral part of our curriculum offer.

House logos - Towards the end of last year, the children created lots of designs for our new house teams. We have been working with Ms Mayes, who has been a huge support to the school with the design of the new website, to create the final designs. We shared the final designs with all the children in today's assembly and they were all extremely excited. These will be displayed in the hall for all the children to admire and feel proud of being part of their team.

Staff update - I would like to announce the departure of three valued members of staff: Mrs Beaumont, Ms Mafazi, and Mr E Jackson. Mrs Beaumont has been an influential part of our team for many years, contributing greatly to the school community. Ms Mafazi, our TA apprentice, will have successfully completed her course at the end of term, and we wish her all the best in her future endeavours. Additionally, Mr. Jackson, who has been working within the IR, will also be leaving us. We thank them for their dedication and hard work and wish them success in their future pursuits.

I am pleased to inform you that we have appointed a teacher to fulfil our Higher-Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) to provide cover in school and support our Sport & Performing Arts provision. Mr H Allen will play a crucial role in enhancing extracurricular activities and further developing our lunch time provision. We welcome him warmly to our school community. Mr H Allen will join us after the Easter break. Mrs Galligan has also successfully completed her apprentice and will be joining us as a permanent member of staff from April as a Teaching Assistant (TA).

Assemblies

This week, we held our weekly Celebration assembly.

Our Year 3 /4 phase assembly was all about road safety, educating the children on the significance of being cautious pedestrians. Next week, year 5 and 6 will have a similar assembly. especially how to cross the road.

On Thursday we had a whole school Samba assembly. The atmosphere was truly special as all the children actively engaged with the rhythms and some even had the

opportunity to come up on stage and participate directly. Perhaps your child would like to join Samba Club in the Summer Term?

Mr Allen and Mr Hancock also unveiled our new House logos!

Key Dates

23 March	Cross Country Relays, Castle Dyke Playing Fields
26 March	Y6 Football, KES, 3.15pm - 5.45pm (participants only)
27 March	Y ₃ Egyptian Day
27 March	Life Skills Consultation Evening 6pm -7pm
28 March	Spring Bonnet parade 1.40pm, Y4 bake sale & flag football (participants only)
29th March	Good Friday - School closed, start of school holiday
18th April	PTA Quiz Night
26th April	SEND Y6 Transition Coffee Morning
9th May	KES Science Afternoon Y ₅ LN
16th May	KES Science Afternoon Y ₅ KL
23rd May	KES Science Afternoon Y ₅ JE



This Week's Awards



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.

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.

Special Mentions

Y₃BB - Whole Class

Y₃PW - Whole Class

Y₅JE - Iyaaz

Y5KL - Jack & Isla

Y6AH - Whole Class

IR - Thea

Our attendance this week was 95%



Attendance Winners

Congratulations to:

Y₃JC & Y₄JH

and

5KL & Y6GR

Every week, we will highlight the class (or classes) in each key phase with the highest attendance.



Community

School Council

School Council have been involved in charity raising this half term. To raise awareness of the importance of supporting charities, the School Council led an assembly, created Comic Relief resources for each class, sold Red Noses and made Comic Relief badges. School Council were independent in making the PowerPoint for assembly and discussing potential ideas for the day with their perspective classes.

During school council meetings, we have been discussing playtimes: How to have successful playtimes? What playground games would children like to play with the Nether Green play workers? and gathering thoughts on quiet areas within school. The School Council have organised a pupil voice group to gather the opinions of children across the Key Stages.



Music of the Half-Term Samba

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 Samba music. Dan Johnston, our drum teacher and Music Hub Samba band leader, will be inspiring the children with a Samba demonstration; our Y6s will also be sharing some Samba polyrhythm learning from their class music lessons.

Language of the Half Term - Japanese

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 having an 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.

The chosen language for this half-term is Japanese.

There are about 128 million people in the world who can speak Japanese.

Japanese is the official language of Japan.

There are no plurals in Japanese!

Community



Thursday 21st March was World Down Syndrome Day.

To raise awareness of World Down Syndrome Day we invited all students and staff to take part in the 'Lots of Socks' campaign.

Thank you to all the children and staff who wore bright, colourful or odd socks to school to help raise awareness of Down Syndrome.

This week is Neurodiversity Celebration week. Here at Nether Green we celebrate all differences and recognise the many talents and advantages of being neurodivergent. We encourage you to talk to your child about Neurodiversity.

I here are some great resources on the Neurodiversity Celebration webpage <u>https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/</u>

CBBC Newsround also has a child-friendly article https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/64951690



Online Safety Top Tip

Below are some top tips on how to help keep your child safe when going online.

• Use parental controls- Adding parental controls will allow you to monitor and limit what your child sees and does online. Visit www.internetmatters.org/parentalcontrols/ to access step by step guides on how to set up parental controls.

• Start a conversation about online safety- Show interest and understand what your child likes to do online and who they like to speak to. To learn more about the most popular apps and games that kids are using visit www.net-aware.org.uk

• Set time limits- During this period it is important that your child isn't spending too much time in front of a screen. Plan activities that don't include using an electronic device.

• Set device-free zones - Only allow your child to use their device where you can monitor them, don't allow them to take their devices to their bedroom.

• **Report**- Make you and your child aware of where to go to report online crime.

Safeguarding Top Tip

This week in our phase assemblies, we have talked to the children about keeping themselves safe when using roads. We have reminded them to Stop, Look and Listen.

We have told them about the importance of using designated crossings but always checking before they step out, as some road users do not always follow the rules. We reminded children to be fully alert when crossing roads and not to be looking at their phones when trying the cross a road.

Please continue to have these conversations with your child. When you are out and about, teach them how to safely cross a road and always model how to cross the road in a safe and responsible way.



ΡΤΑ

Cinema Club

Thanks to all of those children who attended cinema club over the last two weeks. We loved seeing the children enjoy a movie and some snacks. They were fabulously well behaved. We will let you know how much we raised next week.

Bake sale:

There will be a bake sale following the Easter Bonnet parade next Thursday after school. The Y4s will be hosting and are hopefully already planning their yummy spring themed treats to bring in. As always, children will need cash (the items will be either 5 op for smaller treats or £1 for bigger ones). We will look forward to seeing you all there.

Pilates and Prosecco

We will be hosting our first 'pilates and prosecco' social event on the evening of Thursday 25th April from 7pm in the school hall. Tickets will cost £15 and details on how to book will be out next week so keep an eye out for that. We cannot wait for this evening which promises to be great for the body and the soul!

Nether Green Junior Around the World Festival - Friday 14th June

We are very excited to be starting to plan the summer festival. It was such a lovely community event last year with amazing stalls run by our children, the most delicious food and drink from around the world, other activities for all ages, music and entertainment all in our school yard. This year we hope it will be all that and more. The more community input we have, the better it will be so please take a note of the date and read the information that will be coming out soon to think about how you and your children can get involved!

School disco- save the date!

In a change to the date on the calendar, the school disco will take place on the evening of Thursday 6th June. We will share details after the Easter break, but for now take note of the date.

Next committee meeting

Our next full committee meeting will take place on Thursday 18th April at 7.30pm in the Rising Sun pub on Fulwood Road. Any one is welcome to come along. If you want to get in touch, our email is <u>friendsofnethergreen@gmail.com</u>

Dragon Days Show/Bright Young Dreams

Alice, Anna, Camilla, Evelyn and Valentina in Y4 are fundraising with their drama group, Verve Academy, to raise money for Bright Young Dreams.

The charity aims to help tackle the children's mental health crisis, raising money in aid of Sheffield Children's, through The Children's Hospital Charity. Over the past 5 years there has been a global surge in patient cases, and children worldwide are facing a critical situation. Bright Young Dreams aims to generate annual funds to support a comprehensive global action plan and infrastructure investment for Sheffield Children's and The Children's Hospital Charity.



The Y4 teachers kindly allowed the donations from the collection after the Dragon Show to go to Bright Young Dreams. The total amount collected from the two shows was a fabulous £234!

The girls were delighted that the collection could go towards Bright Young Dreams. They would like to pass on huge thanks to the parents, grandparents and carers who donated.

If anyone else would like to donate they can use this link: <u>https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/verveacademy-brightyoungdreams</u>

Spotlight on the Curriculum - Music

At Nether Green, we understand that music provides a unique outlet for children to communicate and express themselves personally. It inspire, motivates and immerses its listeners; it's reflection of culture and society therefore becomes an instrument for children to explore the world and their place within it.

We have developed a bespoke curriculum, tailored to our pupils, allowing them to develop a wide range of musical knowledge and skills. In line with the model music curriculum published in 2021, our learning is structured into the following areas:

Music Fundamentals

These are a series of lessons taught each year in all year groups, which allow the children to revisit key musical vocabulary and concepts. Using a range of interactive videos, the children use largely untuned percussion and boomwhackers to explore the fundamental building blocks on music: pulse, pitch, rhythm, tempo and dynamics.

Instrumental Learning

All pupils in Y₃ and Y₅ learn to play the glockenspiel as part of a class ensemble. The children to learn to play a range of pieces with their class and class teacher to develop their technique and fluency as a performer. There are also numerous opportunities in these blocks of learning to improvise and compose as well as further their understanding of notation.

Project-linked Musical Experiences

All year groups explore some of the musical links to relevant learning projects. For example, Y6 learn about the origins and features of Samba music when studying the South American rainforests and Y3 explore Strauss "Blue Danube" when learning about rivers.

Music of the Half Term

To further enrich the 'listening' aspect of our music cuniculum, the children are exposed to a different style of music each half term during assemblies. The style is introduced at the start of each half term where the children learn about its origins, history, keys features and common instruments. The styles chosen celebrate the diversity of our school community.

We are also passionate about ensuring that every child at Nether Green has regular opportunities to perform to families in concerts and theatre productions. Preparing and rehearsing for these events provide valuable chances for our pupils to collaborate, developing listening and speaking skills. They offer enriching learning experiences for the children and celebrate talents within our school community.

This term:

- Y3 performed a fantastic adaptation of The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse. They have started their Glockenspiel class ensemble learning and had the opportunity to see the Halle Orchestra perform at Sheffield City Hall.
- Y4 have been busy preparing for their upcoming performance of 'Dragon Days', a musical all about not judging a book by its cover. Their singing has been heard often around school in the last few weeks and it's been wonderful to see them perform with such enthusiasm!
- Y5 have been focussing on Music Fundamentals and have enjoyed using the boomwhackers to explore some of the important building blocks of music.
- Y6 have been exploring polyrhythms within Samba music, linked to their South American Rainforests project. They have also explored the music of the 1930s and 1940s, taking part in a music and dancing workshop on a visit to Crich Tramway Museum.

Learning in Action

Year 3



This week in Spanish Y₃BB have been looking at action words. We have been learning them through reading and listening and then matching the answers up.

> In Y₃JC we have been experimenting with crafts to show how the skeleton is supportive in moving the body.



Year 4









Dragon Days by Y4

In Y4, we had our performances of Dragon Days on Tuesday! All of the children worked so hard to rehearse for this using teamwork, resilience and pride. It was a great success and everyone should be very proud of themselves.







Year 5

Last week, Mrs Kirby took Tom, Benedict, Isla and Joseph from Y5 to join local schools at a science fair at Sheffield Girls' High School. First, they listened to an engineer talk about her job before carrying out investigations organised by children from other schools. Next, they ran a stall teaching other children how to use Skittle sweets to see how sugar dissolves when mixed with warm water and the effect this has on making rainbow patterns. Great job Y5!



Year 6

The children went to Crich Tramway Museum last week and have been reflecting on all the information they learnt and the experiences they had. A favourite moment was singing and dancing to war time songs.

As part of our project. 'What happened in World War II and how did it affect Sheffield?' we have been studying information about the Women of Steel and the statue that stands as a tribute to the women who worked in the steel factories during World War I and World War II. The children have been practising their drawing skills by drawing people in proportion, after they have mastered this technique they will make the statues out of pipe cleaners and clay.







Integrated Resource

Last week, we continued our 'transport' theme. In English, we identified similarities and differences between types of transport. In science, we compared air resistance with parachutes and for funky fingers, we made junk model cars. Cooking this week was making pitta pizzas. They were delicious! Finally, we all came dressed in red on Friday for Comic Relief!





Lunch Menu



Should I keep my they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19. or 48 hours at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over 24 hours after they started taking antibiotics 48 hours after they started taking antibiotic but make sure you let their school or nursery sores have crusted and healed, 4 days after the rash first appeared Glandular fever Slapped cheek they've had their first treatment 48 hours after their last episode 5 days after the swelling started Tonsilitis they started antibiotics Until.. their s Diarrhoea and Vomiting and Flu-like illness Hand, foot and mouth (including COVID-19) U. know about. Whooping Cough es UK Health Security Agency Threadworms Chickenpox Scarlet Feve Impetigo Mounder Head like Mumps Scabies Cold

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