



Newsletter

Issue 06
16th October 2020



Year 6 Make the Regional News!



Year 6 have had a most exciting couple of weeks. At the start of our topic on the railways in Darlington, we never could have guessed the experiences it would give us. Everyone knows that Darlington is famous for the railways but just how famous, we had no idea! We started our project with a trip to Head of Steam where a tour guide showed us around the North Road area, where Locomotion 1 took its first trip. Locomotion 1 is still at Head of Steam and has been for over 160 years, so we were aghast when we were told that the bosses at the Science Museum were planning to move it to Shildon... Not if we can help it! We learnt of a campaign to keep the historical locomotive exactly where it is and we immediately joined in. Our children started by writing to the Science Museum, to express their concern, when Head of Steam found out about this, they visited the school to make a short film of the Year 6's protests, which can be viewed on their Facebook (and the school Facebook) page.

But it didn't stop there! Before we knew it, there was quite a buzz around Year 6's involvement in the campaign. News teams from The Northern Echo and BBC Look North came to cover the story and we featured on the lunchtime news! We were also in The Northern Echo on Saturday and you can view the article online at <https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/18784286.darlington-relaunches-campaign-keep-locomotion-no-1-town/> We are so proud of our Year 6 class for their involvement. Parents can do their bit by signing the petition to 'Keep the Loco in Darlo.' You can do this by typing 'Keep the Loco in Darlo' into Google and clicking on the top link.



Mrs Blakeburn, who started at St John's as a parent helper 31 years ago and has had a long association with the school. Starting as a pupil in the original school which was located near St John's Church and officially joining the team in 1997 and working her way up to be a higher level

teaching assistant. After a wonderful career, teaching so many children (and parents!) over the years she has decided to retire at the end of this half term. She will be greatly missed but I'm sure you will join with us in wishing her all the very best for a long and happy retirement.



Pictured here are our Head Boy and Head Girl with a fraction of the amount of the food donations we have received! Thank you to all our parents who donated

food for the King's Church Food Bank. We are overwhelmed, as usual, by your generosity and helping to make our Harvest Festival even more special.

The food will be on it's way, in the next few days, to all those who are in need at this difficult time.



BIKE CLUB

Our weekly Bike Club has started! Children from Year 4 along with staff and Kevin from Wheel Education, cycle to Eastbourne Park on a Thursday Lunchtime and learn about bike and road safety including how to improve their riding skills. The children use the school bikes which are regularly serviced and all Covid-19 precautions are in place and adhered to.



Artistic Thoughts

Year 4 were reflecting and thinking about how they could express meanings, feelings, words and phrases in an abstract way using charcoal to create different textures, effects, lines and

techniques. The children loved experimenting with a new material and were



shocked to see how different everyone's interpretations were on the same idea! Year 4 are very excited to develop their skills and build their sketchbooks this year.

healthwatch Darlington

Health Watch Darlington's current campaign **BecauseWeAllCare** is inviting members of Darlington's public to share their experiences

of local health and social care services, both good and bad, to help improve service provision. The survey will help local services in Darlington to better understand the health and social care needs of our local population, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. If you would like to take part in the **BecauseWeAllCare** survey yourself, or on behalf of someone else, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HWDCovid> or contact Health Watch on 01325 380145 or 07525237723.

Just a friendly reminder...

Could all parents/carers wishing to speak to a member of staff remember our social distance rules and to please

keep 2 meters apart.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could telephone school to speak to someone rather than trying to talk to a member of staff at drop off and pick up times when the school grounds are busy.

Thank you for your cooperation.



SUPER LEARNER

Week ending: 16th October 2020



| | |
|--------|---|
| Rec | Danikah Bowles—for working super well during phonics. |
| | Jack Applewhite—for fantastic home reading. |
| Year 1 | John Robinson-, for being helpful, showing initiative and working like a super trooper |
| | Myah Bailey, for being a super reader and getting lots of green Rising Stars. |
| Year 2 | Daisy Pitchers—making a super effort with her reading at home. |
| | Lillie-May Patterson—showing perseverance when learning to partition 2 digit numbers. |
| Year 3 | Harvey Brady—for super knowledge of his 4 times tables and |
| | Vincent Wilson—enthusiasm, participation and good listening skills. |
| Year 4 | Hughie Riley—for being self-motivated and always wanting to challenge himself. |
| | Iyla-Mae Mustafa—for showing determination and enthusiasm with her brilliant text-mapping skills. |
| Year 5 | Jacob Groves –being a motivated learner keen to improve |
| | Lillie Allen—always giving 100% - an excellent attitude to learning. |
| Year 6 | Holly Hayward—for always having a positive attitude to work and a smile on her face.. |
| | Theo Linsley—Better participation in lessons. |

ATTENDANCE

Our overall attendance is 96.5%. Leave of Absence will only be granted in **exceptional** circumstances and definitely not to travel abroad as children can miss even more education if they need to self-isolate when they return. Please consider the effect on your child's education before requesting Leave of Absence - thank you.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

| | Rec | Y1 | Y2 | Y3 | Y4 | Y5 | Y6 |
|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Week 6 | 98% | 95% | 94% | 99% | 97% | 99% | 95% |

DATES FOR DIARIES

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Friday 23.10.20 | Half term holiday |
| Monday 2.11.20 | Return to school |
| Friday 18.12.20 | Break up for Christmas Celebrations |
| Tuesday 5.1.21 | Return to school |
| Friday 12.2.21 | Half term holiday |
| Monday 22.2.21 | Return to school |