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Some Upcoming Events

- ◆ Etal Class to Theatre Royal
27th February
- ◆ Lindisfarne Beach School
28th February
- ◆ Etal Beach School
2nd March
- ◆ World Book Day
5th March
- ◆ Parents' Consultations
9th & 11th March
- ◆ Book Fair
9th-13th March
- ◆ Etal Class Gallery Visit
9th March
- ◆ Lindisfarne Beach School
13th March
- ◆ Alnwick Class Assembly
19th March
- ◆ School Games Finals Day
26th March
- ◆ Alnwick Class to Life Centre
2nd April



This second half of the spring term is 30 days long - we break up for Easter on Friday 3rd April.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of this spring term!

A few much-needed improvements were done in and around school over the half term break. You may have noticed the new porch at the school entrance, which not only looks much better but also greatly improves security. The log cabin also has a new improved door and we have new fencing running along the path up to the top gate and around the perimeter of the school, helping to keep everyone safe. Sadly, HMS Hipsburn was beyond repair and we have removed it for safety reasons.

Thanks again to everyone who took the time to complete our recent Parent Survey. We had 48 replies and were really pleased to see many positive responses - 96% saying their child is happy at school; 100% saying their child feels safe at school and 98% saying they would recommend the school to another parent. This should make us all proud of our school and the staff and pupils who make it a great environment to learn in.

We are not completely resting on our laurels as we take on board the 18% who feel SEND support could be better and we will look at how this can be improved upon. 8% of parents did not feel the school makes them aware of what their child will be learning during the year, which did surprise us somewhat as we put so much work in to our website offering and each class has their own page highlighting their topics for a given term. Please take a look at the website as there is so much information on there and we work hard to keep it up to date and relevant to what is going on.

The news at the moment is very much dominated by the **Covid19 virus** which is spreading further around the globe. We continue to follow advice and guidance from Public Health England and the Department for Education. At the time of going to press, the Department for Education has launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows: 0800 046 8687 Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk. Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday).

We will of course keep you updated if advice to school changes. In the meantime, we continue to practice good hygiene as hand washing in particular goes a long way to stopping germs spreading.

Thank you again for your continued support - next stop is Easter which I hope will bring better weather!

Kevin Moloney



HospiceCare
NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND
25 Years of Caring for Life

The children in Dunstanburgh class have recently been fundraising for HospiceCare North Northumberland by selling handmade seed bombs to encourage wildlife, as well as cakes and biscuits. Catherine Whyte, a school governor and volunteer for the charity, shared a presentation to explain the work of the hospice. A big thankyou to all of you who bought goodies and seeds - the children raised over £320 whilst having great fun learning.



Hiking for the hospice

Continuing the fundraising theme, a group of intrepid Hipsburn staff members are lacing up their boots and taking part in a 9-mile hike around Holy Island on Sunday 5th April - all to raise money for HospiceCare North Northumberland. If you feel you would like to support us in our efforts (no pressure!), all cash donations, however small, would be gratefully received. We'll let you know how they get on in the next newsletter.



Congratulations to our new school council members who were elected by their peers at the end of last term! They have already been hard at work in the development of our playground areas to decide where our new outdoor reading bench and table should be placed. Our new council members are:

Farrah and Myles, Reception representatives;

Anna and Henry S, Year 1;

Ava and Edie, Year 2;

Isobel and Joseph, Year 3;

Adi and Andrew, Year 4;

Stella and Toby, Year 5

Lyla and Finn, Year 6

School Council

We love beach schools



Our recent Ancient Romans beach session developed the children's knowledge of Ancient Rome - we discussed the gruesome games Romans enjoyed and built our own Roman forts like the ones found along Hadrian's Wall. The children learnt all about everything soldiers would need to defend themselves from the Celts and to prepare for battle: walls, barracks, stables, baths, butchers, granary....Romans transported goods and people all over the world so the children learned about the types of ships they used and made their own in the sand. Theatre was a much loved source of entertainment - we heard some Ancient Roman stories and wrote our own plays to entertain our fellow Romans. A cold, but fabulous, day of learning was had by all!

Thank you to Katie, Katy and Anthea for your support.



Round up of events



The book fair is in school next week and you are welcome to come along and browse after school, **Monday 9th to Friday 13th March**.

The fair will be in Bamburgh classroom and parents can access the fair directly from the KS1 yard (the room is the one facing the log cabin).

Science Week - Our Diverse Planet

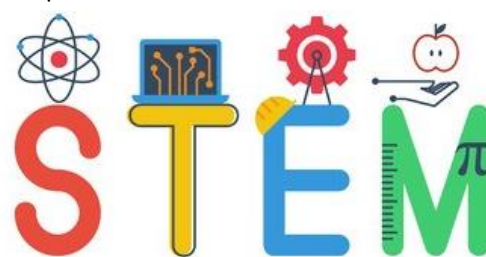
Our Science Week will be taking place between **16th-20th March** and our theme this year is *Our Diverse Planet*.

As part of the week, we would like to invite any volunteers who work within science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) to talk to or work with our children to demonstrate the value of these subjects in life and in potential careers.

If you are interested, please contact us for more information!

Thank you,

Miss Gleghorn



On **Thursday 6th February** the NSPCC visited our school and delivered their *Speak out. Stay safe* assembly to share information with the children about how they can keep themselves safe from harm and get help if they have any worries.

It was a very worthwhile and empowering session for both pupils and teachers. They spoke to the children and staff about the valuable work they do across the country, and talked about how important it is for everyone in our school community to join them in their 'fight for every childhood'.

As a charity, they can only provide these vital resources thanks to the financial support and generosity of their supporters. I am delighted to say that our school has chosen to support the valuable work of the NSPCC this term by taking part in a fundraising event, and I would really value your support and encouragement.

How your children can have fun - and make a massive difference

Children will be doing a **keep fit work out and dance session** - which will not only be exciting for our pupils but will also mean they're raising money for the NSPCC's vital work and helping keep even more children safe.

Participation is purely voluntary and if you would like to support the NSPCC's work, it would be fantastic if you could sign the sponsor form to give your child permission to take part and to confirm you are happy to have overall responsibility for counting and handling the money raised. Please return the signed sponsor form and money raised to school by **Friday 6th March**. If you have more than one child in school simply put all your children's names at the top of one form. To say thank you, every child that attended the assembly received a *Speak out. Stay safe* Buddy sticker. And every child who takes part in the activity later will receive a special Buddy badge. But more than that, they can also be proud that every penny raised will make a significant difference for children. By supporting the NSPCC we can work together to end child abuse.

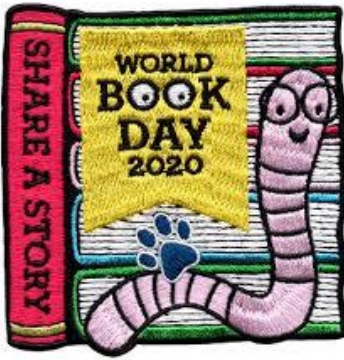
Talking PANTS with your children

The NSPCC's work in schools will help encourage conversations about staying safe - and they have a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation afterwards. That includes 'Talk PANTS', a simple way for parents to help keep children safe.

Miss Haswell



Thank you to everyone who came to our half term Allsorts Fun Day. We had another fabulous day of crafts and games. We will be holding another fun day in the Easter holidays - dates to be confirmed soon!



Just wanted to say I'm really supportive of the change of focus on world book day away from the dressing up and more towards the enjoyment of books in an eco-friendly way.

Hipsburn Parent

On Thursday 5th March we will be taking part in World Book Day and we have some fun activities planned to celebrate the joy and value of books and reading. Please bring a book to school that you would like to swap and get creative for our Book in a Box Competition - create a story setting in a shoe box. Perhaps you could recreate the Gruffalo's forest, Willy Wonka's chocolate factory or even the Hogwarts great hall; the possibilities are endless! Prizes will be awarded to winners from each key stage. We're really looking forward to seeing your imaginations at work!



Athletics

In February pupils from years 5 and 6 represented Hipsburn Primary at an inter-school athletics tournament in Alnwick. The pupils had to compete in a range of track and field events, including relay races, obstacle races, triple jump, javelin, speed bounce and many more. Our team performed brilliantly, with the girls' team coming first and the boys' team coming second. Overall, we came a fantastic second place out of five schools and we are so proud of this achievement! Well done, years 5 and 6!



Getting a few pointers on javelin technique!



**A school dinner costs £2.30
30 days @£2.30 = £69.00**

New menus are on the school website. Children in Reception, year 1 and year 2 all receive universal free school meals. Lunches are payable for children in Preschool and years 3-6. We ask that you keep on top of lunch payments - in advance or on the day - thank you.



Please pay promptly - we accept cash and cheques payable to NCC. Thank you.

No swimming this half term, however Year 4 pupils will be in the pool next term every Wednesday, starting on the 22nd April

