



BROOMHAUGH C OF E FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER 2023

Dear Families,

On Monday, we were visited by Kema Kay to conclude our work for Black History Month. Kema is a rapper and actor who visits schools to inspire young people to achieve their dreams and fight prejudice. Kema involved the children in a forum theatre workshop where they acted out and resolved a racist bullying problem. He was absolutely blown away by the kindness and mature attitude of the children at BFS, with children able to explain segregation and name a number of prominent figures from history. Kema is currently touring the UK in the theatre production of, 'I, Daniel Blake.'

I was most confused on Wednesday because so many children were arriving in boxes – I know they are all gifts, but this was most unexpected! Reception were having a day of learning inspired by the book, 'Not a Box'. By the end of the day, they certainly weren't boxes anymore and they were so proud of everything they had made.



Class One took a trip out into the village on Wednesday to post the letters they had written to Traction Man. They loved splashing through the puddles and autumn leaves to reach the post box. Hopefully, they will receive a reply over the holidays! In the meantime, I have given them all the challenge of learning their full address and post code and also find where they live on a map. Class Two ended the week with a Forest School session to end their Stone Age topic. It is always such a treat to see our children out in the woodland and this really was a fantastic opportunity to bring their learning to life and imagine what it

was like to live so long ago.

The choir finished their current songs this week and were so keen to share them with the rest of the school. They performed, "We've Got Rights!" and "Be More Kind" in front of the whole school and Rev. Diana. There were rave reviews from the audience and the choir members can't wait to start learning their Christmas songs after the holidays.



It has been such a wonderful half term, full of learning, fun, adventures and discoveries. Everyone is ready for a good rest and some family fun.

Have a lovely break! Stay safe and enjoy any Halloween or bonfire night celebrations.

S Hart & N Burton
Executive Head Teacher
Deputy Head Teacher



Attendance this week:

We are aiming for 97% across the whole school.

1 st	2 nd	3 rd
100% Year 4	96.4% Year 2	94.2% Year 3

Weekly Reminders:

Mondays Guitar Tuition

Wednesdays Class 2 Swimming Kit
Violin Tuition

Fridays Class 1 Forest School Kit

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Forest School Update:

Reception Class have enjoyed their first half term of Forest School sessions, and have quickly settled into Forest School life! We started off exploring the forest area and becoming familiar with our Forest School Code. Our magnifying glasses and bug viewers have proved very popular with the group, and the children have sought out worms, spiders, woodlice and other creepy crawlies to study. We enjoyed making pine cone bird feeders and hanging them up in the trees and bushes for the birds to enjoy. Hunting for acorns was great fun; we pretended we were squirrels and went in search of juicy fresh green acorns! We discovered that 'past their best' blackberries are excellent for painting with. We mashed the berries with some water and painted some lovely pictures with them. The children were very keen to have a fire, and after practising approaching and kneeling correctly at an unlit fire pit, the following week we toasted marshmallows and made s'mores. They certainly went down a treat! We have enjoyed investigating conkers, and being the first people in the world to see the shiny conker inside when we stamp on the spiky shells to split them open. Conkers are such wonderful treasures and quite a few went home in little pockets! The group had their first experience of using tools, starting with vegetable peelers. We learned how to use the peeler safely, and made a cooking stick by whittling a pointy end on a willow stick. Lastly, we have played a variety of games in the woods, including a wildlife matching game, the Name Game, and the hiding games Spot and Scatter.

Class 1 dived straight back into their Forest School sessions with enormous enthusiasm. Our hammock continues to be a much used favourite spot in the woods and there's usually a queue to have a turn in it. The den building area is popular with a group of Year 1 boys who delight in hauling heavy logs and branches about to construct dens, tractors, base camps, or whatever they decide it will be that week! Peeling sticks and whittling with vegetable peelers also appears to be a favourite activity for this group. We have enjoyed toasting marshmallows and making s'mores and cooking toffee apple slices over the fire. We have played quite a few games of Spot, and also Scatter, Foxy, Foxy, Can We Cross Your Field and Bat and Moth. Bat and Moth was new to Year 1, but Year 2 were excited to play it again. The blindfolded bat has to use echolocation to catch the moths for dinner! We enjoyed an acorn hunt and learned that bright green acorns are much easier to find on the forest floor than slightly older brown ones. The woodland birds were provided with a feast of pine cone feeders (lard and bird seed) and cheerio feeders. After Reception discovered the joys of blackberry painting, Class 1 had a go - it was especially popular with our Year 2 girls who always appreciate getting creative in the woods. To celebrate World Animal Day we made some animal pictures and sculptures out of charcoal and natural materials. Although plenty of paper was provided for charcoal drawings, the children had other ideas. Someone asked for charcoal cat markings on their face, and before long we had a large contingent of animals roaming the woods! A bucket of conkers and some palm drills meant we enjoyed a creative afternoon making conker necklaces and lots of other conker creations. Although I often give the children a starting idea, they never cease to amaze me with all the different ideas and creations they come up with. This is one of the many joys of the child-led Forest School approach and the freedom of choice that the children get in their sessions.

As always, if you'd like to see photos of everything I've detailed here, go to the Forest School page on the school website. Have a super half term everyone,
Sarah Curtis (Forest School Leader)

Staff News:

Marrie has been in touch to say that her operation was a success. We all miss her terribly and wish her the best for a smooth recovery. Mrs. Tulip and Ellen have been doing a great job in her absence, with Mrs. Tulip commenting how friendly and polite the children at BFS are.

PTA News:

Events: In addition to our rearranged school disco, which is now on the 1st December (more info to follow), we have secured Mr Disco Man for our annual Bingo Disco on 10th February 2024 - everyone put this date in your diaries now for our best event ever!

AGM: Don't forget we will be hosting our AGM after school on 9th November. This is a great opportunity to hear about the things we fundraised for last year and events we hope to organise this year. It would be great to see you there and hear your ideas! Please inform the school office if you can join us.



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New dates:

- 1st December- no uniform/party clothes day and evening school Christmas disco (previously postponed pumpkin party)
- 10th Feb - Bingo Disco
- 15th Feb - School Film Night
- 7th July - Summer Fete

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Notes
November		
Monday 6 th	School Re-opens	
Wednesday 8 th	Year 4 Family Lunch	Postponed will let you know when date has been rescheduled
Thursday 9	Reception 2024 Open Day PTA Annual General Meeting	9:30-10am / 5:00-5:30pm In school 3:30pm More info to follow
Tuesday 14 th	Cinema Visit Yrs 1, 2, 3 & 4	Parentmail sent out
Friday 17 th	Children in Need Lunch	
Tuesday 28 th	Christmas Pudding Stir up	
December		
Wednesday 6	Hey Diddle Diddle Queens Hall Visit	Reception, Year 1 & 2 Information sent out
Thursday 21 st	Christmas Lunch	
Friday 22 nd	School closes for Christmas 1:30	
January 2024		
Monday 8 th	School re-opens	
February		
Thursday 8 th	KS1 Basketball Festival	More Information to follow
Wednesday 14 th	Valentines Lunch	
Thursday 15 th	School closes for half term 3:15	
Monday 26 th	School Re-opens	
March		
Thursday 7 th	World Book Day	More Information to follow
Friday 15 th	Red Nose Day Lunch	More Information to follow
Tuesday 19 th	KS2 Football Festival @ CFS	More Information to follow
Thursday 28	Easter Lunch School closed for Easter 3:15	
April		
Monday 15	School re-opens	
May		
Monday 6 May	Bank Holiday	
Tuesday 7 May	Year 4 Residential Dukeshouse Wood	More Information to follow
Thursday 16	KS1 Tennis Festival @ BFS	More Information to follow
Friday 24	School Closes for half term 3:15	
June		
Monday 3	School re-opens	
Tuesday 18	KS1 & KS2 Cricket Festival @ Corbridge Cricket Club	More Information to follow
Thursday 20	Textile Art Exhibition 9:30 – 9pm	St Andrews Church, Corbridge

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	Year 4 Leavers Service	Newcastle Cathedral
Friday 21	Textile Art Exhibition 9:30 – 4pm	St Andrews Church, Corbridge
July		
Wednesday 17 th	Leavers Lunch	
Friday 19 th	School Closes for Summer holidays	
September		
Tuesday 3	School Re-opens 2024	



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