

FINCHALE FLYER

We see the magic in every child... and help make them sparkle.

Key Dates:

MARCH

- 2nd School re-opens for pupils (8:55am)
National Careers Week
- 5th World Book Day
- 9th British Science / STEM Week
- 16th-20th High Borrans Residential
- 20th Comic Relief / Red Nose Day
- 24th Y4 Brass Concert (2.00pm)
- 25th PTA Spring Disco (Rec/KS1 - 4.14-5.15pm;
KS2 - 5.30-6.30pm)
- WB. 30th Parent/Carer Appointments (TBC)

APRIL

- 2nd Y3 Ukulele Concert (9.10am)
Y1 Class Assembly (2.30pm)
School closes for Easter holiday (3.25pm)
- 20th School re-opens for pupils (8:55am)
- 22nd Earth Day / Big Spring Clean Workshops
- 24th Y5 Class assembly (2.30pm)

MAY

- 4th School closed for Bank Holiday
- 5th Class Photos
- WB. 11th Y6 SATs Week
- 20th Evening for Parents/Carers of New Starters (5pm)
- 22nd School closes for half term holiday (3.25pm)

JUNE

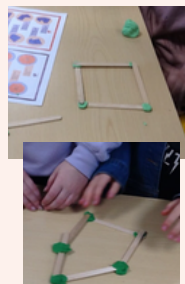
- 1st School re-opens for pupils (8.55am)
- WB. 1st Y4 Multiplication Check
- WB. 8th Y1 Phonics Screening
- 12th Finchale Music Festival (9.30am - TBC)
M&M 'Peter Pan' Production (whole-school)
- 19th PTA Summer Fair - TBC
- 24th Sports Day - TBC

All dates are subject to change.



Finchale Maths Day

On Friday, 6th February, we took part in NSPCC Number Day and celebrated all things related to mathematics across the school. There were number blocks and TT Rock Stars to be found in every corner of the school, and we took part in a range of online and off-line maths games and number activities. We had lots of fun learning our number bonds and times tables and experimenting with shape!



Reception Chinese New Year

The lunar new year fell on February 17th and marked the start of the year of the horse as Chinese New Year was celebrated across the world and within our Reception Class! Children enjoyed learning about Chinese culture, the zodiac and dragon dances, one of which they performed for families at their very first Finchale class assembly. We were so proud to see them share what they had learned with the wider school community. Well done, Reception!



Children's Mental Health Week

In the week beginning 9th February, we celebrated Children's Mental Health week. This year, the focus was on 'belonging'. Children across the school thought about the phrase 'This is my Place' and where and how we feel we belong. Year 4 created their own pictures/ lands full of the things that help them to belong, including family, sports, friends and things they enjoy doing:



Cross Country

Our Y5/6 boys' cross country team braved the cold winds and slippery conditions, this January and February, to compete in the School Sports Partnership competition against lots of other local schools. They raced at different schools across three different weekends and - despite the weather and an especially difficult start to the final race - won the small schools competition, as well as coming (a very close with only 2 points in it) second in the overall competition! Well done to everyone who took part - your **resilience** was fantastic!



Spotlight on Safeguarding - Internet Safety

February 11th was Safer Internet Day and children explored the theme of, "Smart tech, safe choices - Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI" as well as considering how the use of technology can have an impact on our mental health and wellbeing. Thank you to parents and carers who came along to our Online Safety Information Sessions led by Mrs Nower this month, in which a range of issues (including AI and evolving technology) were discussed. Mrs Nower's presentation can be found attached to this month's email, which includes a number of links for parents and carers to help us understand how children are using technology and how to keep them safe online, including advice about parental controls. Thank you to Mrs Nower for putting these together to share with our school community.



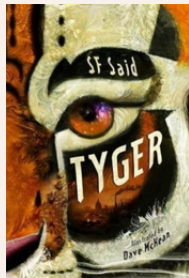
Recommended Reads



Age 4-7

Polly and the Screentime Overload

Author: Betsy Childs Howard



Age 7+

Tyger

Author: S.F. Said

Year 1 Little Fingers

This term, Year 1 have been working with a specialist music teacher, Mr. Laverick, to learn all about rhythm, combining sounds and using their voices expressively. I was very impressed to see them reading simple musical notation and clapping rhythms and beats accurately - an excellent foundation for future learning in music lessons!



Parliament & Recycling Assemblies

This month we have welcomed visitors into assemblies to teach us about being a Member of Parliament and all about recycling, as part of our focus on being a **community**. We learned what democracy is and what skills/qualities



a person needs to become an MP. We also learned facts about types of waste and which items can and cannot be recycled.



Musician of the Month

This month, we have been listening to The Supremes! The Supremes were an American female singing group that achieved enormous success in the 1960s. Led by Diana Ross, they became one of Motown's most successful acts with chart-topping hits and exquisite harmonies.



Year 2 Dance Festival / Great Fire of London Workshop

On 19th February, Year 2 visited the Gala Theatre to perform their fantastic dance - to "The Greatest Show" - in front of an audience at the dance festival. They have worked incredibly hard to perfect their timing and have worked very well together as a group. We are so proud of them all! Y2 also had a visit, this month, from the Durham University outreach team, who brought a range of artefacts for children to explore.



Year 3 Games Festival

On Tuesday, 10th February, Year 3 visited Maiden Castle for a multi-school games festival. They played basketball, end-ball and other team games that developed their skills in working as a team, using space and moving with purpose.

February Attendance

Reception	92.27%
Year 1	91.08%
Year 2	94.29%
Year 3	97.24%
Year 4	91.56%
Year 5	97.41%
Year 6	94.02%
Whole School	94.02%



Many thanks, as always, for your support.
Miss Ward.