

FINCHALE FLYER

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

Key Dates:

APRIL

- 2nd Easter Egg Competition and PTA Egg Hunt
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)
- 30th Adam Bushnell (Author) in Y1 and Y2

MAY

- 4th School closed for Bank Holiday
- 5th Class Photos
- WB. 11th Y6 SATs Week
- 15th Y6 'Hoodie' Presentation Assembly (9:30am)
- 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)
- WB. 15th D&T Week
- 19th PTA Summer Fair - TBC
- 24th Sports Day - TBC
- WB. 29th Transition Week - TBC

JULY

- 9th Summer Fun Run
- WB. 13th End-of-Year Reports to Parents/Carers
- 17th School closes for summer holidays (3.25pm)

All dates are subject to change.



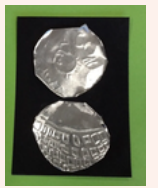
Cross Country Finals

This month, after two postponements, our Y3 and 4 children were given the opportunity to demonstrate their fantastic running skills in the **county cross country finals**. We had a very talented individual girl and Y3/4 boys' team go through to the finals at East Durham College in Peterlee. All of the children who competed were a credit to our school, placing high up the running order, and our boys' team came in **second place**, an outstanding result when competing against so many larger schools! We were incredibly proud of their positive attitude and teamwork.



Y4 Cathedral Visit and Roman Day

Y4 had a fantastic day at Durham Cathedral creating a '**pilgrimage passport**', learning about St Cuthbert, Aidan and Bede and enjoying a walk down to the river to find out about the Durham peninsula and **features of the River Wear**. They also had a great day learning all about the Romans from our visitor, Michael, from Durham University. They explored Roman **artefacts**, translated **Latin** into English and made their very own **Roman coins**.



Shakespeare Schools Festival & Durham University Visit

A group of very talented Y5s and Y6s took part in the Coram Shakespeare Schools Festival, this year, putting on a spectacular performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Mount Oswald Hub, Durham University. We are so proud of how the production has encouraged the cast (and backstage team) to develop their confidence and acting skills and we have received so many complements on a performance that was so polished it sparkled! Well done, dream team! As part of the project, the cast were invited to visit **Durham University**, taking part in a quiz and some art at St. Hild & Bede's College as well as enjoying a tour of the castle, lunch in the Great Hall and a visit to see **Shakespeare's First Folio**.



Celebrating Diversity

We celebrated **Neurodiversity Week**, **World Down Syndrome Day** and **Comic Relief** all in the same week, this month. Thank you to everyone who sent in donations for Down Syndrome International and Comic Relief and wore their bright clothes and odd socks - we raised **£42.76** to share between the charities!



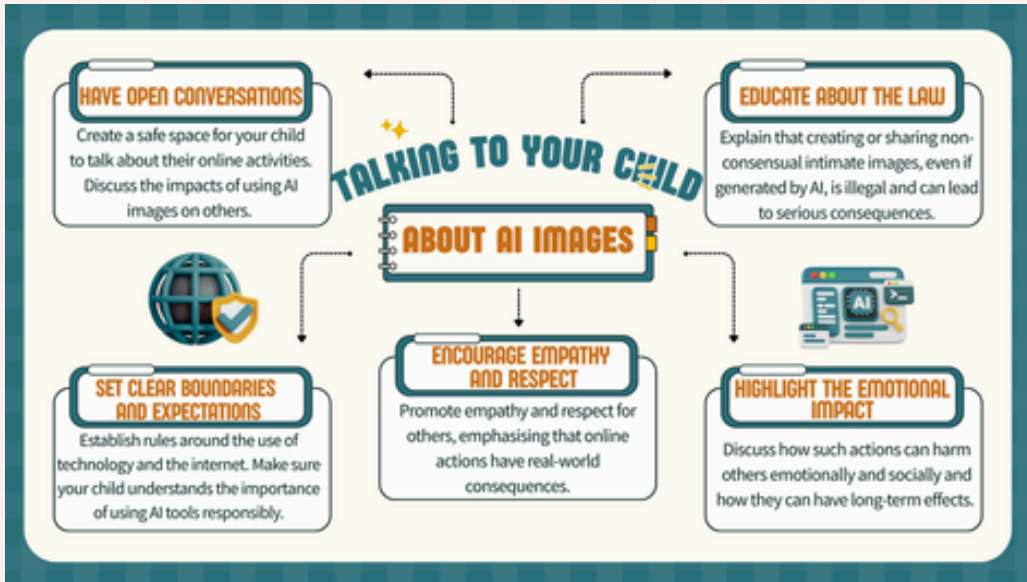
PTA Spring Disco



A huge **THANK YOU** goes out to our wonderful Parent-Teacher Association for organising and running another fantastic spring disco - this time complete with lights!

Spotlight on Safeguarding - AI Images

Recommended Reads



Age 4-7

Luna and the Sky Dragon
Author: Bethan Woolvin

Age 7+

Our Earth is a Poem
Author: (Various)



Adam Bushnell Author Visit

We welcomed local author, Adam Bushnell, into school on 27th March. Y3 took on the role of Indiana Jones as they focused on **Egyptian pyramids, gods and goddesses**. Y4 explored the rainforest, using their senses to write descriptions and create their own **mythical rainforest creatures**. Y4 also explored 'transmogrification' (turning from one thing into another - in our case, an animal from the rainforest) and wrote a description of the process.



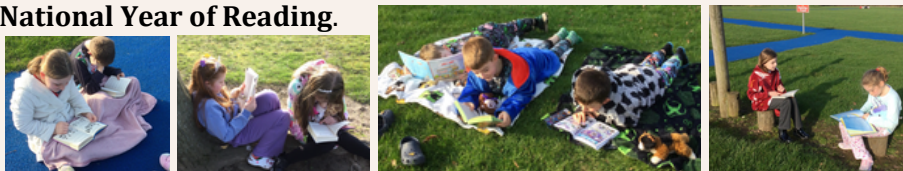
High Borrans Residential

After a rainy start, our Y5 and 6 children who went to High Borrans in the Lake District had an amazing week. They took part in canoeing and orienteering, kayaking, abseiling, gyhll scrambling, map reading and rock scrambling. They also explored underground tunnels as well as the caves of the Yorkshire dales and the hills overlooking Windermere. As the evenings drew in, they still found the energy for a quiz night, camp fire activities, star gazing and a movie night. A wonderful time was had by all and we are incredibly proud of the children for stepping out of their comfort zones and building their **resilience**.



World Book Day 2026

We celebrated World Book Day by snuggling up with a book! Children enjoyed a day of cuddling their teddies and blankets whilst enjoying reading sessions in a range of locations. It was wonderful to see everyone embracing the theme of **reading for pleasure** in the UK's **National Year of Reading**.



Musician of the Month

Throughout March, we have been listening to the music of **Annie Lennox**. Annie Lennox is a Scottish singer-songwriter and political activist. As a solo artist and a member of the **Eurythmics**, she has achieved global success and recognition for her powerful vocals and socially conscious music.



March Attendance

Reception	94.23%
Year 1	96.72%
Year 2	95.91%
Year 3	94.81%
Year 4	95.35%
Year 5	95.73%
Year 6	91.55%
Whole School	94.89%

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