



DATES

NOVEMBER

29th PTA Christmas Fair

DECEMBER

10th Brass Concerts
1.45: Y4; 2.30: Y5/Y6
11th Captain Chemistry Y4
12th Christmas Lunch
16th 2pm & 6pm **KS1 Concert**
17th 2pm & 6pm **KS2 Concert**
18th pm: KS1 Party
19th am: Y3/Y4 Party
19th pm: Y5/Y6 Party
20th 9.10 Family Sing-a-long
20th END OF TERM

JANUARY

7th School Resumes (Tues)
21st Parents can view books in class with children

FEBRUARY

3-7th Children's Mental Health week
7th Finchale Maths. Day
11th Safer Internet Day
20th PTA Spring Disco
21st 2.30: Reception Class Assembly
21st END OF TERM

MARCH

3rd School Resumes

PTA

29th 3.30pm Christmas Fair
Please collect your children from the yard and enter by the front door

Finchale Library Re-Launch



We were delighted to have local author and Finchale friend, Adam Bushnell, open our library last week. We have been working hard to refresh and re-launch our library recently and we are so proud of the results. Mrs. Lennox has led on this and together with Mrs. Rice and other staff they have really created a vibrant and attractive area which really promotes reading for all ages. We have

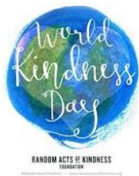
grouped books together and highlighted some popular authors, including Adam Bushnell himself, who kindly donated some more of his books to us.

We have also highlighted our very own Finchale author, Jessica, who has published her first book. Her book sits beside a book of poems which contains over 70 poems written by our pupils. We hope this inspires other children to publish their own work too. We now have Library Monitors who are responsible for helping children to select books. They also keep



our library tidy, as well as both the outside reading rooms. We hope we can

engender a real love for reading throughout our school community. Don't forget that we have a book swap bookcase for adults within our entrance – so why not drop by and find your next good read?



World Kindness Day

We celebrated World Kindness Day with a challenge set by Mrs. Rice, our Wellbeing Co-ordinator. Every class was given a Bucket Full of Kindness containing kindness challenges. KS1 children had to try their

best to complete their kindness challenge throughout the day. KS2 children were asked to think about different ways they could demonstrate kindness. At the end of the day they were asked to write down the one they were most proud of and put it into the bucket full of kindness. Some examples of the work the children have produced can be seen on the new kindness display in our hall. As you know, Kindness is also one of our school values.



World Diabetes Day

We dressed in blue and held an assembly to celebrate World Diabetes Day on 14th November. We learned that the 14th November was chosen to commemorate the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting, co-discoverer of Insulin along with Charles Best in 1922. Diabetes can affect every part of a person's life, and can often have an impact



on their wellbeing so the aim of World Diabetes Day is to raise awareness and take action on Diabetes. Ned in Year 2 and Nico in Year 3 were very brave and stood up in assembly to tell everyone about diabetes. Well done Ned and Nico!



Y3 History Day...

Year 3 spent the day being archaeologists with Michael from Durham University's Museum & Archaeology Department. The children used the artefacts he had brought to find out what life was like in the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. Then they had to use the artefacts and skeletons to decide what job the person did and when they lived. Finally, the class had a go at making their own pinch pots. They had a great day and learned so much!



..and a Y5 History Day

Year 5 also had an exciting visit from Durham University. Their visitors brought in a variety of artefacts for the children to look at and they had to use their inference skills and skills of deduction to decide what each artefact was. The children also learned lots of interesting facts about the life of a monk and how it was governed by many rules and routines. They then used a quill to create art work in the style of the beautiful Lindisfarne Gospels. They also had a great day learning interesting facts.



Year 4 Netball Morning



Year 4 enjoyed a morning of Netball to conclude their PE topic. They recapped the footwork and throwing skills they had been learning and then looked at defending and dodging too. They even had time for six short games of Superhero Netball won by the Batman team with 9 points. Well Done Year 4!



Year 6 Maths Challenge

Year 6 took part in the Primary Maths Challenge which was open to all schools, and although it was quite challenging, which our Y6s did expect, they did enjoy it as it was an opportunity to try something different. The class are hopeful that some of them will have the opportunity to take part in the bonus round in February.



Y5 Decider Skills

This term, Y5 have been learning the 12 Decider Skills. These skills use Cognitive Behaviour strategies to teach young people and adults the skills to recognise their own thoughts, feelings and behaviours, enabling them to monitor and manage their own emotions and mental health. The children have found these skills very helpful and are starting to use them regularly.



Remembrance Day

For Remembrance Day, each Key Stage held a special assembly led by either Year 2 or Year 6. Pupils in Y2 learned about the significance of the day and why the poppy is so special. They then made their own poppy wreaths and laid them at our own cenotaph in our Memorial Garden. Pupils in Y6 read the poem, 'In Flanders Fields', then talked about the imagery in the poem and the impact it had on them. Pupils in school also wore the uniforms for the groups they belong to such as Beavers and Brownies to mark the day. Everyone was very respectful especially when they observed the two minutes silence. We believe that it is really important to mark these special occasions and for the whole school community to remember and show respect for all those who give so much for our country.



Please show consideration when parking around the neighbourhood.