



Spring 1 2024

Newsletter

Pupil Voice (written by pupils)



Since the start of the new year, everyone has been very busy with clubs, sports and also our new talent show, Harlow Green's Got Talent!

The talent show has got the whole school excited. There have been many different talents performed during auditions so far, some include: singing, dancing, playing an instrument, solving a rubix cube and much more!

Those who qualify will make it through to the semi finals and ultimately the finals in March. Everyone will shortly find out if they made it through. Either way, everyone has tried their best and we wish them the best of luck.

Article 12: We all have the right to say what we think. Adults should listen and take us seriously.

Attendance



We would like to thank parents/carers for sharing our expectations of children's attendance and supporting them to be in school daily. Currently, the attendance is 95% but it is important for us to improve this even further in the spring term as we should be aiming for above 96%.

We are very proud that we were able to present 182 pupils with attendance certificates last term, all of whom achieved above 96% attendance. This is a great achievement for what was the longest term in the year. We will be looking to do the same again for children who achieve above 96% attendance during the spring term. A special recognition goes to Year 3 who continue to have the highest attendance in school.

Article 28: We have the right to a good quality education.

Examination Dates



Please ensure your child is in school on time on the below dates:

Year 6 SATS – Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May

Year 2 SATS – May 2023- further information to follow.

Year 4 Multiplication Check – w/c 3rd June

Year 1 & 2 Phonics Screening – w/c 10th June

Diary Dates

February

Half term Monday 19th – Friday 23rd
Return to school Monday 26th

March

World Book Day Friday 8th March
End of term Thursday 28th

Safer Internet Day



Safer Internet Day gives us a chance to think about all of the wonderful things technology can help us with, but it is also an opportunity to think about ways we can keep safe online and what to do if we see something we are worried about.

We celebrated Safer Internet Day across school on Tuesday 6th February. This year's theme was '*Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online.*'

The children engaged in a range of activities, recognising all of the amazing things we can do online, as well as thinking about what we could do if something upsets us. Children explored how technology is ever changing from phone to educations to music and many more.

Article 19: We all have the right to be protected and kept safe by those who look after us.

Gateshead Family Hubs



Gateshead Family Hubs provide a warm and welcoming space for families in the community. They offer support around a wide range of issues providing a 'front door service' for families with children aged 0-19 years old and up to age 25 with additional needs. The closest hub is Chowdene Family Hub which, helpfully, is located directly opposite school.

Family Hubs are a great place to meet professionals who can support your family, such as parent outreach workers, health visitors and maternity services. The staff can provide advice and support on a wide range of topics, such as support around your child's mental health, accessing a sensory area, advice on getting into work, Autism support groups, adult wellbeing groups, accessing parenting programmes, help with relationships and support to stop smoking. For more information on what the Family Hubs can offer please visit:

www.gateshead.gov.uk/article/22551/Gateshead-Family-Hubs

Parent Teacher Association



The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) plays a crucial role in organising engaging and fun fundraising events that directly benefit our pupils. We would like to welcome new members to be a part of our PTA. By signing up, you'll not only contribute to creating memorable moments for your children but also become an essential part of our school community.

Together, we can foster a supportive environment that enhances the educational journey for every pupil. **If you would like to be involved in supporting the PTA, please speak to Mrs Taylor at the main office.**

Nursery – Kung Hei Fat Choi!



Last week, Nursery went on a 'journey' to China to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Children have learnt all about the celebration of 'Chinese New Year' and explored the Chinese culture, looking at how it is different and similar to our own New Years celebration. Nursery found that this year is the year of the Dragon! In the classroom children have taken part in lots of different activities like making red lanterns using their super scissor skills, painting dragons, making playdough dragons, dancing with scarves and ribbons to Chinese music, building a nursery dragon and making their own dragon dance, and role playing in the Chinese restaurant.

Nursery's favourite part of this topic has been the food tasting session! Children tried: noodles, spring rolls, egg fried rice, prawn crackers, and sweet and sour sauce. They all tried hard to have a taste of all the different foods but some of the children really found them very unpleasant!

Article 31 – We all have the right to take part in cultural and creative activities.

Reception – Brush Up



Reception had a visit from the 'Brush Up' team from Northumbria University this half term. The team of trainee dentists talked to the children about taking care of teeth. Children had great fun listening to a story, brushing giant teeth, playing a game about sugary and more healthy foods and learnt about what happens when they visit the dentist. The children even had the opportunity to dress up as dentists!

Year 1 – Plastic Pollution



This half term science lessons, Year 1 have been learning all about sea pollution and the growing global problem our marine life is faced with.

The children have watched several different video clips which have explained how much rubbish is in the sea, the dangers it poses for wildlife and what we can all do to help. Year 1 enjoyed making their own plastic pollution awareness poster, recognising, and colouring in the recycling symbol and they have also discussed how to sort recycling into the correct bins. The children have enjoyed learning all about how they can keep our marine life safe and are excited to share with everyone the importance of recycling!

Article 24 – We all have the right to live in a clean and safe environment.

Year 2 – Amazing Acrobatics



In PE, Year 2 have been developing their gymnastic skills. They have explored lots of different ways to move their bodies, including jumps and rolls, as well as practising a range of balances.

First, the children explored travelling using different stepping movements. They tried stepping with high knees and with straight legs. It was challenging to keep their balance when taking big steps, but the children persevered. After that, the children learnt some key positions and balances including star, tuck, dish and arch. Year 2 also explored ways of balancing on different parts of their body such as their hands, knees and feet. The children have thoroughly enjoyed their PE lessons this half term. We may even have some future gymnasts in the making!

Article 29: We all have the right to develop our personalities, talents and abilities.

Year 3 –Short Multiplication



Year 3 have been learning how to multiply a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number. At first, they used counters and a place value chart to support their understanding. The children then looked at how we can use the counters to multiply a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number with exchange. Everyone were introduced to the short multiplication method, and they enjoyed practising setting out the method and working out the problems they were given.

Year 4 – Magnificent mountains



Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed their Geography topic this half term, all about mountains. They have learnt about how the structure of the Earth affects its features. Using pieces of paper, they demonstrated how the Earth's tectonic plates can move in different ways to create mountains and volcanoes, and cause earthquakes. Before learning about the four different types of mountains, the children took part in a practical demonstration of how each type is formed. They used large sheets of paper to demonstrate the formation of fold mountains, which result from tectonic plates moving towards each other. They broke up KitKat fingers to show how fault-block mountains are formed by the cracking of the Earth's crust. A balloon was inflated under a piece of fabric to show how dome mountains are formed by the Earth's liquid mantle pushing up the Earth's crust. Finally, the most anticipated demonstration was an erupting volcano! The children have then described the formation and features of these mountains, researched the Haiti earthquake, and studied the structure and stages in the life of a volcano. The children have been particularly engaged in learning about this topic, and already had lots of knowledge of their own.

Article 13 – We all have the right to share what we learn, think and feel with others.

Year 5 – Wonderful Winter Gardens



As part of their Geography unit, Year 5 went on a trip to the Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens. The children took part in a workshop where they got to explore the different features of the rainforest and investigate different rainforest objects. The children thoroughly enjoyed being able to hold and investigate different ways the products could be used. Year 5 then went onto to explore the Winter Gardens. They were amazed by the different tropical plants and loved seeing the fish in the pond. Fear of heights did not bother the children, as they climbed to the top of the Winter Gardens for a bird's eye view on the towering trees.

Year 6 – Cubism or Realism?



Year 6 have been exploring different styles of portraits in the last couple of weeks. The children have learnt about how Picasso used a Cubist style that was abstract and produced as if from different angles and using geometric shapes. They have contrasted this with Realism and the concept of whether art can look like a photograph. To support the children, on-line drawing workshops were used to guide them to draw realistic eyes and mouths; it was brilliant to see so many children producing extremely realistic drawings. For their final piece, they had to combine the skills they had been taught. This involved creating some distortion; including colourful collage work; and incorporating realistic eyes (possibly in a different position.) The final results were wonderful to see. Who knows, the next Picasso could be from Harlow Green School!