Barton, East Cowton, Kirkby Fleetham and Ravensworth CE Schools

Cornerstone Schools

Building Futures with Love

Our Christian value this half term: Perseverance

January 2024

Dear Parents and carers

Welcome back to a rather wet and windy January. In school we have launched our KS1 topic of 'On our doorstep - Big Cities' and our KS2 topic of 'The Romans' - it has been rather exciting! I've seen rocks being identified, wonderful artwork using muted colours and some super writing based on high quality texts. Keep up the good work children!

All four schools have been out and about already with Barton and Ravensworth KS1 children taking part in multi-skills at Richmond School. It can be rather daunting going to the big school with so many other children in the room, but they thoroughly enjoyed themselves and made new friends. East Cowton and Kirkby Fleetham schools took KS2 children to Northallerton for the annual cross-country competition this week. Although it was rather wet and very muddy, the children had a wonderful time and persevered to achieve personal goals.

SIAMS inspection

East Cowton had a SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection in December. Whilst the inspection was for East Cowton only, many of the strengths picked out by the inspector are strengths across our collaboration. Our shared vision of 'Building Futures with Love' is embedded in our curriculum which is shared across the four schools; this drives every decision that we make. The report states *"The inclusive curriculum is designed so that all pupils can access learning. Pupils with additional needs, or those who are vulnerable, receive bespoke support which enables them to flourish. Leaders prioritise wellbeing and this is reflected in the care offered to pupils and adults."* We feel that this reflects all our schools and is something we are especially proud of.

Online safety

February 6th is Safer Internet Day. Keeping children safe online is always high on our agenda but we will be doing additional work with the children during this week. As parents it is hard to keep abreast of the many ways children access the outside world online. If you need any help, there are websites available to you for advice and support in setting parental locks or educating children into the dangers of the online world.

CEOP Education (thinkuknow.co.uk)
Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre

New Caterers
We have a new company taking over our catering contract after half term - Aspens. Our wonderful cooks will not be changing but the menu could. More information will follow.

Kind regards,

Mrs K Petch

Barton CE School

National attendance figure: 94.7% Target attendance: 97% Barton attendance this month: 94.3%

Year 1 attended a fantastic Muti Skills event held and run by Richmond School. The children thoroughly enjoyed the different events and tried their hardest with each different skill required. They practised skills such as throwing, kicking, jumping and teamwork. They behaved wonderfully, used good listening skills and followed instructions well. They were a credit to our school!

We have introduced Drawing Club this term into the Early Years Curriculum for Preschool and Reception children. The progress children can make through Drawing Club across all areas of child development is exceptional with the added bonus of increasing confidence and joy in drawing, writing, vocabulary and imagination. Based around the Golden Blend of picture books, tales and animations, it involves a short period of Time Together as a group followed by time with children exploring their ideas and creativity. The children's drawing is amazing, and they are feeling more confident to use their developing phonics knowledge to write grapheme, words, captions or sentences.

This year we want to prioritise the development of spirituality across school. As a church school, it is a key part of our role to help children and staff develop their spirituality and there are many scientific studies that have found links between increased spirituality and increased wellbeing. Therefore, we have started to make small changes that we hope will have a big impact. We are learning to pause and reflect more frequently, to take time to truly embrace moments of awe and wonder and are seizing every opportunity to help one another. The sight of snow last week sparked a real joy in children young and adults old; it was a super opportunity to marvel at the beauty found in the natural world. Our new secret spy initiative has also allowed us to shine a spotlight on those who go above and beyond to help their friends without being asked. We are excited to see all the wonderful effects of our spirituality focus unfold.

Class 3

In Class 3, the children are really benefitting from the new seating arrangements. In a morning, each child has their own desk so that they can really focus on their maths and English learning. Miss Noble is trying to create a calm atmosphere in the room so that every child is ready to learn. This is working well so far!

The new topic for this term is the Romans and in history, the children are beginning to become submerged in Italian antiquity. We have learned about Mark Antony and Octavian, who had the most powerful army and the role Boudicca played in trying to defeat the Romans. The children are learning a lot and are very interested in what the Romans did for Britain.

Our book for this term in English is Skellig. We are working slowly and meticulously through the book, but the children are keen to know what is happening within this dark, mysterious novel! There has been some gorgeous writing produced so far and I can't wait to read more!

Barton – Dates for your diary	
PE Sessions PM	Monday and Thursday for **ALL**- Children must make sure their **SCHOOL PE** kits are in school
Monday's PM	KS1 Afterschool Multi-sports club 3:30-4:00pm

Thursday's	KS2 Swimming –KS2 children can come to school in their SCHOOL PE kits. Please remember goggles
Thursday lunchtime	Freestyle Football Club 12:30-1pm
Friday's	Collective Worship 3pm – All Welcome!
Friday 9th February	NCMP for Reception & Year 6 **Break up for Half-Term**
Monday 19th February	Return to school
Thursday 22nd February	NO SWIMMING LESSON
Wednesday 6th March	Yr 5 & 6 Archery, Kurling, Boccia – Letter to follow

Kirkby Fleetham CE School

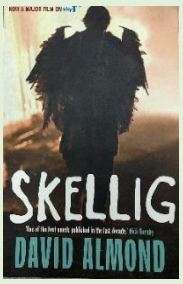
Kirkby Fleetham - Children celebrating achievements this week

Stars of the Month	Dojo Points	Bolton	Middleham	Richmond
Rollo, Luke x 2, Ollie, Freya, Esme, Isaac, Ellie, Christopher, Beau and Niven.	Total for month	85	40	84
	Total for year	588	566	643

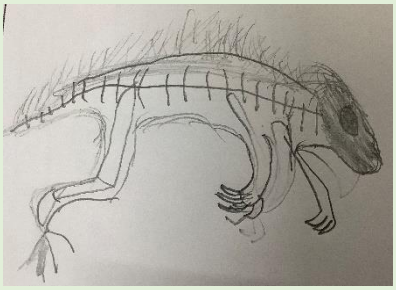
National attendance figure: 94.7% Target attendance figure 97% Kirkby Fleetham attendance this month: 91.6%

Class news

Children in both classes have been thoroughly immersed in their whole class texts this term and the books have been inspiring some fabulous writing. In Class 2 we have been delving into the mysterious world of Skellig by David Almond, and exploring some big philosophical themes such as birth and death, illness and health, flight and angels. A highlight so far was writing a medical diagnosis for Skellig, based on the strange symptoms he's exhibiting, such as calcification of his bones and a taste for Chinese takeaway.

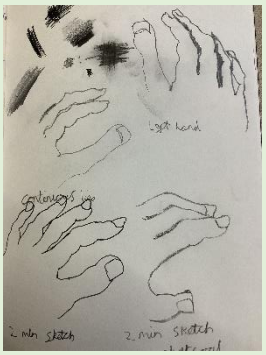


In Year 2 and 3, children have been loving the story of the Jolly Postman, and have been writing some fabulous letters to post in the enormous post box that arrived in school.



In science, children in Class 2 have been investigating rocks and fossils. The younger children have been conducting experiments on which type of rock would prove to be the best to use for things like roofing a building or using as a worktop. The older children have been learning all about Mary Anning and her initially unrecognised knowledge of fossils and additionally how fossils were created.

In art, we've been using the Italian Masters such as Michael Angelo and Leonardo Davinci to help us develop our observational drawing skills. We've done lots of fascinating drawing experiments such as drawing with our non-dominant hands, making quick timed sketches and drawing in a continuous line without the pencil leaving the page. Every child has made incredible progress and their sketchbooks are starting to look fantastic.



Luckily for us, the weather picked up in time for the cross-country competition this week. Our children from years 3-6 joined East Cowton and a large number of other children from the Primary schools in Northallerton to compete in this annual event. Despite the butterflies and mud, everyone gave it their all and showed immense perseverance and determination. We are extremely proud of them all, but a special mention must be made for Esme who came 3rd and to Fin and Tilly who came 5th. Well done everyone!

In Class 1 we have been exploring Transport in our history lessons, observing changes brought about by winter and loving reading The Jolly Postman! We looked at the amazing sculpture Darlington Brick Train and built our own trains out of Lego.

Last week we were very excited about the wintery temperatures—the coldest we recorded was -5°! Every morning we looked at the ice in our water tray and measured how thick it was, and the children experimented with pouring water over the ice to make more. We are hoping for a bit of snow before winter is out!

We have been loving our class text, The Jolly Postman. We have remembered so many Nursery Rhymes and Fairy Tales and even made a map of the Jolly Postman's route. One of our most exciting accomplishments from this text was that we wrote our first sentences in our writing books! The children drew their version of the giant in Jack and the Beanstalk and then wrote a sentence describing him. We were all very proud

Kirkby Fleetham – Dates for your diary	
Mondays	Please bring PE kits and water bottles to school
Fridays	Collective worship 3.05pm – all are welcome
Tuesday 30th January	Whole school swimming
Tuesday 6th February	Final whole school swimming session
Friday 9th February	Break up for half term
Monday 19th February	Return to school

East Cowton Primary School

National attendance figure: 94.7% Target attendance figure 97% East Cowton attendance this month: 96.1%

News from the classes

Class One have had a busy return to school, embarking on a new topic and exploring how we travel from one place to another. Our exciting topic launch involved learning more about different landmarks and discussing what a landmark is. We then looked closely at the Brick train in Darlington and had a go at building our own.

In English, we have enjoyed the delightful text 'Coming home,' by Michael Morpurgo. We know that some robins migrate from Scandinavia, which is a perilous journey! To help them, we made bird feeders to hang in the trees at school, so when they arrive, they are greeted with some easy to find food. The children have written some instructions on how to make them, so maybe you could make them at home for your own garden!

We've been proud of the children's resilience and perseverance whilst swimming. In the words of the lead instructor this week, "From the youngest, to the oldest, the progress they have made over the past three weeks is superb!" We look forward to the next couple of sessions where we will be improving our strokes and continuing to build our water confidence. We may have some future Olympians in the making!

Class 2 have made a start on some interesting topics in our wider curriculum. In science, we've been learning about, and investigating rocks! We've looked at properties of rocks; identified some and thought about their uses. We even managed to dodge the raindrops to go on a rock hunt around our school!

In English, we've been reading 'Fortunately The Milk,' by Neil Gaiman. We've had some fantastic writing; all the children are trying hard to include exciting and new vocabulary within their work. Charlie and Ellen have done particularly well with impressing me over the last couple of weeks!

In between storms, we managed to attend the KS2 Cross Country event on Wednesday afternoon. Whilst there were no medal winners this year, Mrs Bartley was really impressed with the determination of every member of Class Two. Everyone tried their best throughout the competition and completed the course with a smile. Well done Team EC!

East Cowton – Dates for your diary	
Tuesdays	After school club – Arts & Crafts with Glitter Magic 3.30pm to 4.30pm Swimming Lessons – whole school, 23/01, 30/01 and 06/02
Wednesdays	After school club – Sports with ML Sports 3.30pm to 4.30pm
Thursdays	After school club – Computing & Coding with Mrs Godfrey 3.30pm to 4.30pm
Fridays	Parent Worship at 3.00pm - everyone is welcome
Thursday 25th January	FOS event – School disco – please see FOS notice board for more information.
Friday 9th February	Break up for half term.
Monday 19th February	Return to school
Tuesday 20th February	Class 1 visit to Baydale Farm – more information to follow
Monday 26th February	Messy Church at School, 3.30pm to 4.30pm - more information to follow

Ravensworth CE School

National attendance figure: 94.7% Target attendance figure: 97% Ravensworth attendance this month: 93.7%

Class News

Multi Skills Event

Class One attended a fantastic Multi Skills event held and run by Richmond School. The children thoroughly enjoyed the different events and tried their hardest with each different skill required. They practised skills such as throwing, kicking, jumping and teamwork. They behaved wonderfully, with the older children looking after the Reception children. They were a credit to our school!

Geography

Class 1 have been learning how to recognise the shape of the United Kingdom as well as learning what an island is. We used Google maps to explore what parts of the coast look like, where the land meets the sea.

Spiritual Walk

At the beginning of the term the whole school enjoyed a spiritual walk in our local area, we walked through the village and out towards Mainsgill farm, stopping at the river to connect with nature and absorb the sights and sounds around us. We held Collective worship by the water and discussed new beginnings and the flow of life connecting our thoughts to the flow of the water. There was lots of deep thoughts and wonders expressed, and we all enjoyed the experience, this will become a termly event and we look forward to seeing the changes through the seasons.

Drumming

In music KS2 children have been given the opportunity to develop drumming skills using the djembe drums they are learning all about rhythm and repeating patterns to be able to compose a motif of their own and exploring the technical vocabulary to discuss the purpose of a piece of music; the children are having great fun so far.

Friends of School

The Friends AGM will be held in school on Monday 5th February at 6.30pm, new members are always welcome so please do come along!

Ravensworth – Dates for your diary	
Mondays	After School Sports Club from 3.10pm to 4.15pm
Wednesdays	**Class 3 – Woodland School**, please bring school uniform into school in a separate bag on the following dates: **31st Jan, 7th Feb, 21st Feb, 28th Feb & 13th March** Art/Craft Club with Mrs Dobinson from 3.10pm
Thursdays	KS2 Drumming lesson (please note, week commencing 29th Jan, lesson is on the Tues)
Fridays	Collective Worship from 2.40pm - all welcome!
Monday 5th February	Friends AGM – in school at 6:30pm, all welcome!
Friday 9th February	Library session for parents, 2.00pm to 2.40pm Break up for half term
Monday 19th February	Return to school
Wednesday 6th March	Year 5/6 Archery, Curling & Boccia at Richmond School – details to follow
Thursday 14th March	Messy Church – **Thursday 14th March 2024** from **3.15pm to 5.00pm**

Quick Links for Each School

BARTON
School Lunch Menu: School Lunch information

School Holidays/Term Dates: Term dates 2023-2024

The Friends of Barton School easy fundraising link: Easy Fundraising

The Friends of Barton School amazonsmile link: Amazonsmile

Wraparound care: Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Parentpay: ParentPay Login

Uniform: Uniform School Shop

Cool Milk: Cool Milk

Newsletter: 4 school newsletters link

KIRKBY FLEETHAM
School Admin email: kfadmin@eckf.dalesmat.org

School Lunch Menu: School Lunch Information

School Holidays/Term Dates: Term dates 2023-2024

The Friends of Kirkby Fleetham School easy fundraising at no cost to you: Kirkby Fleetham easy fundraising link

Wraparound care: Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Friends of the School Facebook link: Friends

ParentPay: ParentPay login

Uniform: Uniform Link

Newsletter: 4 School newsletters link

EAST COWTON
Admin email address:
ecadmin@eckf.dalesmat.org

School Lunch Menu: School Lunch Information

School Holidays/Term Dates: Term dates 2023-2024

Friends of the school link: Friends

Wraparound care: Afterschool Club

ParentPay: ParentPay Login
Please ensure that your ParentPay accounts are in credit each week – Thankyou

Uniform Order: Order direct from School trends via this link: School Trends

Newsletter: 4 school newsletters link

RAVENSWORTH
Admin email address: admin

School Lunch Menu: School Lunch Information

School Holidays/Term Dates: Term dates 2023-2024

Wraparound care: Afterschool Club

Ravensworth School Friends quick fundraising: - smile.amazon.co.uk

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rsfarichmond/

Uniform: school/uniform/

Parent pay: click

Newsletter: 4 school newsletters link

School Facebook pages
Please help us to promote our schools by liking and sharing out Facebook pages:
https://www.facebook.com/Barton-CE-Primary-School-107161734680028
https://www.facebook.com/East-Cowton-CE-School-101930341769707
https://www.facebook.com/Kirkby-Fleetham-CE-School-102216125067240
https://www.facebook.com/Ravensworth-CE-Primary-school-100240412148195

Useful Contacts and Links for Parents

SENCO: If your child is struggling and you would like some advice, please contact their class teacher in the first instance, or you can contact Miss Crisp our SENCO on amycrispsenco@dalesmat.org

Keeping Children Safe Online
Whilst children are spending so much time online, we need to make sure we keep them as safe as possible. If you would like some advice on this, please see guidance for parents below:
https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/ https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

If you are worried about the safety of a child or want to know more about how to keep your own child safe:
NYSCP (North Yorkshire safeguarding children partnership)
NSPCC
Parents Protect
Parent Zone

Free School meals
If your circumstances have changed and you think you may be eligible for free school meals, please contact the school office or follow this link: Apply for Free School Meals

North Yorkshire local assistance fund
The fund has been established from 1 April 2013 to help families under exceptional pressure to stay together. Awards will be goods in kind, not cash, and will not have to be repaid. warmandwell.org.uk/ For assistance with fuel and heating bills

County Music service
Is your child interested in playing a musical instrument? North Yorkshire County Music Service offer a wide variety of lessons for pupils. For more information on the type of lessons available and costs, please visit www.northyorkshiremusichub.co.uk to register your interest.

Sports links:
North Yorkshire Club Finder
A great way for schools to 'signpost' their pupils (parents/guardians) to their local clubs. The link can be found here - North Yorkshire Sport - Activity Finder