

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we enter the final month of this academic year, we have a busy few weeks ahead of us. Sports day will be on the 16th July. Y6 are busy rehearsing their end of year performance and children around the school are planning their performances for the talent show. Please look out for news about up and coming events. The end of year reports will be sent home with your child on Friday 12th July.

We will be sharing the term dates for 2024/25 with you, please organise family holidays for school holiday times. We are unable to authorise absence for family holidays. If you require time out of school for your child/ren, please collect a form from the school office and return to inform us and the Educational Welfare team, why your child will be absent.

Best Wishes,
Mrs Jerrom

Dates for your Diary

Wed 3rd July - Yr6 Transition to High School Day
Thurs 4th July - Rocksteady Assembly
W/B Mon 8th - Yr6 Residential Week
Wed 10th July - Yr6 Non Residential Children trip to Pizza Express
Tues 16th July - Sports Day & School Picnic

Thurs 18th July - Yr6 Production to parents
Mon 22nd July - Yr6 Trip to Chessington
Tues 23rd July - Children break up for Summer

Headteacher Awards

Billie-Rose Y2 - for writing about the adventures of the snail and the whale
Chloe Y4 - for great work about the river Nile and Cairo
Henry Y3 - for scoring 10/10 in his spellings for 6 weeks in a row
Harleigh-Mai Y5 - for helping another child on the trip
Jesse Y2 - for great maths work on time
Lola-Jayne Y4 - for collecting all the ASPIRE cards
Sofia Y3 - for writing a Roman myth 'Jupiter and the bee'



Science Trip

Last Friday, a group of Year 5 children visited Sutton Grammar School, who kindly invited us to their science fair. This included lying down to experience a tour of the solar system inside a spectacular planetarium, the chance to explore further with virtual reality headsets, and a hair-raising demonstration of a Van de Graaff generator in the physics lab. The children particularly enjoyed seeing their classmates' hair standing on end and giving each other (small!!) electric shocks after touching the machine. We hope they come back inspired to engage with science even more in future.



Miss Thirtle

UKS2 News (Years 5 and 6)

In Year 5 we have had a very busy couple of weeks. Although we worked incredibly hard in our assessments recently, we have also enjoyed some unusual changes to the curriculum, the highlights being Culture Day and the visit from Courtney Orange. We were lucky enough to have two visits from Year 5 parents on Culture Day and learned a plethora of interesting facts about India and Turkey! We had a lively session with gymnast Courtney and he gave us a thoroughly motivating talk - as well as a breathtaking demonstration of some of his skills. Mr Onyskiw and Mr Harknett did consider joining in but unfortunately were both carrying injuries! In class, we have begun to look at writing a newspaper report and we have been having discussions about puberty and change generally.

In Year 6, children have been getting creative with our D.T. topic 'Make Do and Mend' where children have begun making their own cushions and covers. Production rehearsals are well underway - thank you to those of you who have already begun to send costumes in. The deadline for these is next Friday! From Monday, children are also expected to know their lines off by heart - many have already achieved this. Year 6 children have also been enjoying cricket and the transition activities they have been completing in preparation for high school - we wish all the children good luck when they go on their transition day next Wednesday.

Mrs McLean

KS1 News (Years 1 & 2)

Continuing their topic 'Magnificent Monarchs' Year 2 have been looking at portraits of kings and queens, identifying their pose and trying to recreate them. The children have been learning how to sketch to create their own images of a monarch, which they will be painting. During English they have been looking at leaflets, identifying language used to attract attention. They are using this to make their own leaflets to attract visitors to Hampton Court or Buckingham Palace. In maths throughout the year, they have been learning methods to solve addition, subtraction, multiplication and division calculation. This week they have been focusing on 'problem solving' using a combination of these different methods.

As part of the 'School Days' topic, Year 1 have been learning about the history of Tweeddale Primary School and the local area. They showed an interest in looking at old photographs. The children have also been finding out about what life was like in a Victorian school. They were fascinated to learn that the teachers wrote on a chalkboard rather than a computer board, something that made some of the staff feel rather old. The children all agreed that they are pleased to attend school now and not during Victorian times. They have been writing their own factual information about life in modern schools. During art the children have been handling and making observational drawings of Victorian artefacts.

Miss Thirtle

Foundation Stage

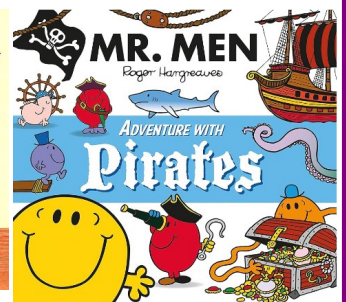
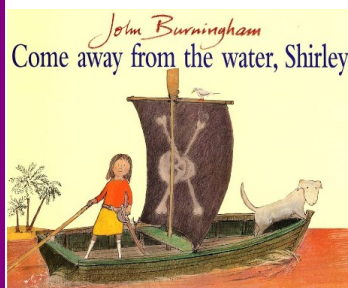
In Reception, we are continuing with our topic 'On the beach.' We have enjoyed reading and talking about the book called 'Come away from the water, Shirley' by John Burningham. In Literacy, the children have been learning phrases and words related to pirates and sailing, such as walk the plank, captain, Jolly Roger, flag, rigging, anchor, cannon, deck, sword fight, map, island and treasure chest. After reading the story, the children then had to retell the story by using pictures. The children enjoyed looking at pictures of old ships learning new vocabulary such as rigging, crows nest, deck, port, starboard, stern, sails and helm to talk about them.

In the children's Phonics lessons this week, they have been recapping words that we have already learnt. We have also been looking at root words with -ing and -ed. In Maths, the children each had bowls of gold coins. They had to roll one dice with numbers to 6 and the other dice had either addition or subtraction symbols. They had to use their knowledge of number bonds to 10 to help them calculate how many coins they had after each dice roll.

The children have been very busy outside this week. The children have played a game called 'Captain's Orders'. One person had to be the captain and be in charge of the ship. They had to then give the sailors their orders and jobs to do. The children were then given instructions to follow, such as hit the deck the children would then need to lay down or climb the rigging the children would need to pretend to climb a rope. The children really enjoyed this game and had lots of fun!

We went on a treasure hunt reading trail. The children had to find cards hidden outside in the playground, each with a clue with what picture they had to find next. The children had to use their phonics knowledge to read the clues and find the treasure at the end.

The children have loved playing outside on the pirate ship this week and they have made their own treasure maps to take them to Captain Jack Cook's treasure. Once they found Captain Jack's treasure, they wrote him letters telling him that he won't get his treasure back. The children enjoyed having his treasure and loved counting the amount they had- they were even practising counting in 2s. Can you keep practising this at home? The children enjoyed reading 'Mr. Men Adventure with Pirates' and used the ideas in the story in their play.



Miss Digman

Sports News

Well done to all the children from Year 5 and 6 who competed in this year's Borough Athletics last Friday. They all showcased excellent behaviour, team work and athletic ability in the sun.

Special congratulations to:

Limota for winning the Year 6 girl's sprint heat and narrowly missing out on first prize in the final - coming in second in a too close to call, debatable photo finish!

Hazel for a second place sprint finish for the Year 5 girls and a great performance in a very strong final.

Advika, Precious, Yasmin and Limota for winning the Year 6 girl's relay.

Lexie, Amelia, Charlie and Yehor for coming an admirable second in the Year 6, 4 x 400 metre mixed relay.

All the remaining boys and girls for their strong showings and spirit. You have all done yourselves and us proud.

Mr Onyskiw



LKS2 News

In Year 3, children have worked very hard to write an alternative ending to the Roman myth 'Jupiter and the bee'. They had such creative ideas and loved acting them out too, thinking carefully about the message being portrayed in their own version. In Maths, the children have been looking at 2D and 3D shapes and are now trying to learn the correct mathematical vocabulary to use when describing their properties. Both classes also wowed us with how much they remembered about rocks and fossils when we revisited this learning in Science this week! They loved creating a storyboard to show how fossils are formed. Well done Year 3!

In Year 4, the children have continued to work on their instructional text about Egyptian mummification, putting their learning from the British Museum to good use and not sparing the gruesome details! In maths, we have been learning about decimal numbers and word problems, while in science, the children have been exploring changing pitch by making musical instruments as a recap of our 'Sound' topic. We had some excellent harps, guitars and panpipes so next step, a school band! In French we have been learning about the weather and will be presenting a weather forecast next week.

Miss Endersby and Mr Rudd

Courtney Taylor and Lefko Charalambous

I'm sad to inform you that Courtney and Lefko will be leaving Tweeddale on Friday 12th July.

Courtney has worked in Foundation Stage since November 2021. She has been a very popular member of our team who will be hugely missed.

Lefko joined our office team in April 2022, a relatively short time, but her support and impact has been tremendous.

Both Courtney and Lefko will be leaving teams who will miss them very much. But we wish them both every success in their new schools. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for their hard work and support for the Tweeddale community.

School Term and Holiday Dates for the 2023/24 Academic Year

SUMMER TERM

School Holiday

Monday 15th April - Friday 24th May

Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May

Monday 3rd June - Wednesday 24th July

INSET DAYS

Monday 3rd June

Wednesday 24th July

School Term and Holiday Dates for the 2024/25 Academic Year

AUTUMN TERM

School Holiday

Thursday 5th September - Friday 25th October

Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November

Monday 4th November - Friday 20th December

School Holiday

Monday 23rd December - Friday 3rd January

Changes to Penalty Notices for Non School Attendance

The Department for Education (DfE) will introduce a new National Framework for Penalty Notices on 19 August 2024, this is explained in more detail in [Working Together to Improve School Attendance 2024](#).

Who is Liable for a Penalty Notice/Prosecution

Penalty notices/prosecution are now issued/sought for each parent for each child (**per parent, per child**). Parent refers to anyone with parental responsibility and may include carers, step parents, grandparents or any other adult with parental responsibility.

For Example: If a family with three children take term time leave of absence, each parent would receive three penalty notices of £160 for each child. This would amount to £960 if paid within 28 days, reduced to £480 if paid within 21 days.

First Offence

The first time a penalty notice is issued for term time leave of absence or unauthorised absences the amount has increased to:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days of being issued, this amount is reduced to £80 if paid within the first 21 days of being issued

Second Offence

If a second penalty notice is issued for term time leave of absence or unauthorised absence within a three year period, there **will not** be a discount for early payment.

The penalty notice is payable at the full amount of £160 within 28 days of the date of being issued

Third Offence/Any Further Offences Within a Three Year Period

If there is a third instance of term time leave of absence or unauthorised absence, a penalty notice **will not** be issued.

Any further cases will be referred directly to Magistrates' Court for prosecution. Magistrates can impose a fine of up to £2500 per parent, per child.

If a parent is found guilty of an offence, this is recorded as a criminal offence and will show on any DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks as "Failure to Safeguard a Child's Education"

Reasons for Penalty Notices/Prosecution

Term Time Leave of Absence

A school can apply to their local authority for a penalty notice if there are 5 or more days of consecutive absence due to term time leave.

Unauthorised Absence

A school may apply to their local authority for a penalty notice if there are 10 or more sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period. These absences can be a combination of the following codes:

G - Term Time Leave of Absence

O - Unauthorised Absence - Failure to contact the school (unexplained absence) may result in an absence being recorded as unauthorised

U - Late After the Close of Registers

Transition, In year Admissions and Cross Border Checks

All schools will have the ability to check for previous penalty notices/prosecutions issued within a three year period in their own local authority or any other local authority that the family has lived in at year 6 to 7 and 11 to 12 transition or for in year admissions.