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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the summer term. I hope you all enjoyed the half term holiday and managed to enjoy the weather (in between the showers). This is always a very busy time of the year and certainly the staff calendar looks very complicated at the moment. Please double check dates and events that are taking place - I think at one point two buses will be arriving at school to take children to different events. For the size of our school we pack a lot in. I realise that we offer a lot - especially when I meet with prospective parents and tell them what we do as we walk around the school.

By the time you read this, Year 6 will be enjoying their residential in London and Year 5 will be getting ready for their residential to Dukeshouse Wood the following week. As well as these, Year 3 and Year 4 will be working at the Alnwick Playhouse to perform on the 27th June in the evening which will be very exciting. As well as all the trips that take place out of school we are equally busy in school and just last week our children participated in First Aid Training - have a look at the photographs!

For our Year 6s these are their last few weeks at primary school and it can be an emotional time for pupils and staff as we bid them farewell and wish them the best for the future. You may have seen them wearing their new Leavers Hoodies - they look great! They have a very busy term getting ready for high school but enjoying special events too such as the Leavers Dinner and Disco (more details to follow) and planning their Leavers Assembly on Wednesday 17th July.

As well as saying goodbye to our fantastic Year 6 pupils we will

also be saying goodbye to **Mrs Atkinson** who is moving to Italy later this year. Mrs Atkinson joined us as a newly qualified teacher in 2017 and over the last few years has taught most year groups and has been responsible for many of the initiatives that are now firmly embedded in school. Her hard work and passion towards the curriculum have been amazing and she has had a significant impact on what we offer as a school. From residential to London to Beach Schools and counting worms on farms Mrs Atkinson has covered just about every type of school trip a child could possibly experience!

We will also be saying goodbye to **Mrs Hutchinson**, who, after many years (over twenty), is retiring this summer. Without any doubt the whole Hipsburn community regards her as professional, kind, patient and very caring and she is thought of with great fondness. There are many children and families who over the last twenty years have experienced her dedication and understanding and I am sure you will join me in wishing her the very best in her

retirement - I know she has exciting travel plans in place for when we return to school for the autumn term.

Both Mrs Hutchinson and Mrs Atkinson will be a huge miss to our children and the staff. As a result of these announcements we have been working hard behind the scenes - and we are looking forward to welcoming a new TA, Mrs Sayer, in September - you may see her in school before then as she will be getting to know the children in school over the next few weeks.

We will also let you know when we have replaced Mrs Atkinson this term so that everything is in place for September.

So, it's a busy time for the children and the staff in the lead up to the summer holidays.

**Enjoy the next few busy weeks!**  
**Kevin Moloney, Headteacher**





Six intrepid Hipsburn runners ventured to the capital back in April to take part in the Mini London Marathon. Finley (Y6) took part in the 2.6km race, achieving one of the fastest times of the day of all runners up to year 12!

Heath (Y4), Albert (Y4), Azari (Y2), Zorba (Y1) and Flora (Y1) all took part in the one mile race.

A great day was had by all. What a fantastic experience for the children, we are very proud of their achievement.



The PTA work hard to raise money for the benefit of the school and our children. Look out for upcoming fundraising activities! All parents are very welcome to join the committee, any contribution of your time is gratefully received! If you are interested please contact the PTA secretary Anna Voyce at [annawood1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:annawood1@hotmail.co.uk)

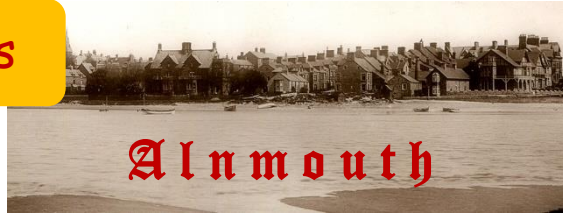


One of our TAs, Mrs McKeown, will be leaving us at the end of term as she looks forward to becoming a new mum in September! We wish her all the very best for the future.

We were delighted to welcome Alexandra, one of our parents who is a singing teacher, into school for a special singing assembly last term. Alexandra taught us some new warm up techniques and songs to use in our assemblies and choir club - which is running this half term. Singing is a big part of our school life and we are looking forward to sharing our love of singing with our local community in a performance at St Mary's church, Lesbury, in the autumn. More details to follow a bit nearer the time.

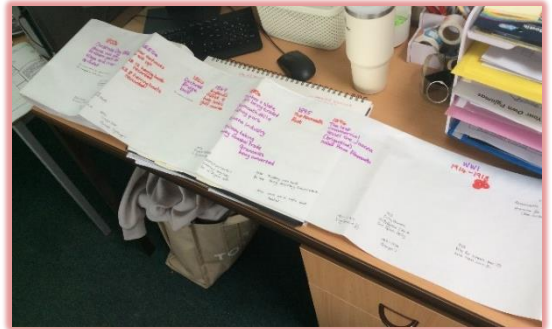


KS1 news



# Alnmouth

Last half term the children in Dunstanburgh Class had a fabulous day wearing their pyjamas. As well as this, we had an amazing visit from Mrs Waugh who taught us some more about the history of Alnmouth. We looked at some informative images from the past, maps and a timeline.



The children loved being able to ask Mrs Waugh questions and enjoyed gaining a deeper understanding of our topic. And, of course, learning about history was much more fun when wearing pyjamas!



Bamburgh pupils have been learning about plants and finding out why bees are important to plants and us. In our assembly the children were pleased to share information, facts and work about World Bee Day and how bees are very important to life on our planet. Bees give us honey but they have another important job. They are very important pollinators.



### Top tips to help Bees



We must look after our bees! To help bees you could grow lots of plants and flowers to attract bees and help feed the bees.

You can build bee lodges and hotels for the bees to live in.

Don't cut down hedgerows and plants!





## At the beach

Last half term, Dunstanburgh and Bamburgh Classes shared two super beach days!

On the first trip we visited the Friary gardens and allotments to look at plants. After this, we classified different leaves in the woodland area. Before lunch, we made our own gardens in the sand- there were lots of creative ideas! In the afternoon, we made the life-cycle of a butterfly in the sand. As well as this, we visited the park and played a bee game. A super day had by all!

On the second outing our focus was the history of Alnmouth. We started the day off by discussing the Duchess Bridge on the way, then visiting the Old School

Gallery and sketching it in our beach books. We looked at the different features of the school such as the different entrances for boys and girls and the school bell. After this, we climbed to the top of Bracken Hill, visiting the Battery and sketching the view. We then recreated the features we had seen in the sand.

After lunch, we discussed different types of bird nests and made these in the sand. We looked over to Church Hill and shared our knowledge about the great storm that changed the course of the river and destroyed the church. On our way back to the park, we stopped to watch a river survey that was taking place. We ended the day with a play in the park- we had a lovely time!





## EYFS news



**Alnwick Class** were treated to another brilliant beach school day and this time it was all about our topic, 'The Great Outdoors' with the focus of Bees, Bugs and Butterflies!

We hadn't set off far before we were identifying all our plants, flowers and bugs on route. We talked about their features and how to spot them and the names of different species. Once down at the beach, we created different bugs in our Crews to talk about and show the rest of the class. We then went off into the woods for a bug hunt and learnt how to identify different species of bugs and insects whilst hunting. We explored the woodland and considered how creatures have adapted to where they live.

We also thought about the life cycle of a butterfly and bee and were lucky enough to spot so many different types of bees.

We finished the day thinking about birds and thought about all the different types around the world. There was so much imagination and creativity as we made images of them on the beach.

**It was yet another wonderful day full of so much wildlife and wonder - lucky us!**



**Preschool children have definitely been busy as bees....**

So much teamwork in the forest...balancing on the trim trail, bug hunting, minibeast hotel making, storytelling, mud kitchen creating, water exploring and just lots of fun and learning with our friends.

We were particularly impressed with everyone's honey sandwich making...yum yum, thank you bees!

There has been so much creativity for our butterfly week all aided by the classic story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.

It has helped us think about the life cycle of the butterfly, learn some facts and then we have been busy making some fabulous caterpillars and beautiful butterflies. Well done everyone!





KS2 news

**Ford Beach Day - Topic, Science, English and D.T.**

Despite the weather looking dubious we had another wonderful treat taking our learning down to the beach. We packed so much in - reflecting and thinking about our recent Ancient Civilisation Topic, Science, English and even our Design Technology!

We began the day thinking about the Ancient Civilisations - Sumer, Indus Valley and Shang Dynasty. We thought about how they lived and had a go recreating our favourite of these ancient people.

Then we thought about our science with plants and photosynthesis by looking closely at leaves and their shapes to help us think why they are like this. There was some great species identification too.

We then turned our attention to castles (we were on a beach after all!) We discussed castle construction, what makes a castle a castle and then we built our own castle using as many different parts of a castle as possible in our crew teams.

We finished the day with some beach poetry and sketching in our beach books.



**Ford Class** gave a wonderful performance in their assembly last half term. They really enjoyed learning about the Ancient Egyptians in the Spring Term and this was reflected in their enthusiasm on the day. Star performances all round and it was lovely to see confidence coming from all of the children. The children were able to add a little humour to the performance and carried their lines brilliantly.

A super entertaining assembly. Well done Ford class!

**Ford Class** have been investigating castles in their D and T project. They researched the different parts of a castle and what part they played in its defences. They combined this with maths and learnt how to construct a 3D shape using a net. They used these shapes to create different parts of their castles. From their initial designs to their final creation they learnt a lot about castles and why they were important.



**Celebrating sport...**

**PE Enrich Showcase Event with NUF and St James Tour**

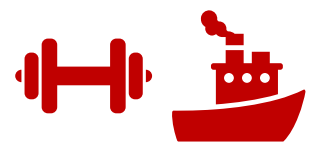
We have so many super sports at Hipsburn with some great achievements throughout the year and today was another one of those great opportunities that we got to embrace. We have been working closely with NUF and were lucky to be invited to come to their base 'Nucastle' and take part in a special event hosted by Enrich Learning.

We had a morning filled with activities to develop our team work, communication and problem solving skills. We got to learn all about orienteering and had lots of fun working on our team work skills as we did so.

Then we got the absolute privilege to have a guided tour around St James'. It was amazing and we thoroughly enjoyed celebrating sport.



As part of our career related learning, some of our parents have been coming in to school to talk about what they do for a living. Collette Pryer, one of the partners from Real Fitness in Alnwick, came in to give the older children a 'strength and empowerment in sport' talk. As you can see, they had great fun working on their core strength and learning how to do push ups!



Ford class were invited to join a virtual careers talk about jobs in the maritime industry. It was a really informative live session and the children were able to learn about different career options regarding the sea and waterways. They learned about being a boat builder, Port manager and a deck officer.

We hope that this will inspire some of the children to think about their future careers.



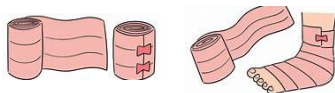
## A helping hand...



We had a special visitor in school recently, Ash, who delivered first aid training across the whole school. The children learnt about how to put peers in the recovery position and in what ways they can provide first aid. The children thought about the importance of knowing where they live and when to ring 999. We talked about times when we might need to call for the emergency services and how to do it. We knew that 999 called for the ambulance, fire and police services as well as the coast guard and mountain rescue teams.

Our final challenge was to learn how to apply a bandage if someone has had an accident and is bleeding - this was lots of fun! We applied a pad to stop the bleeding and carefully wound a bandage around before tucking in the end.

Everyone was fantastic, they listened well and answered questions very thoughtfully.



### Some Upcoming Events

#### Clubs this half term:

- Mondays, Trident Soccer, All Mondays, Simple STEM Club, Yrs 3-6
- Breakfast Club, Every Day, All Tues/Weds Homework, All Tuesdays, Netball, Yrs 3-6
- Weds, Guitar, Years 3-6
- Thursdays, NUF Tennis, Yrs 1-3
- Fridays, Choir (lunchtime)
- Swimming Ford Class Every Wednesday
- Year 6 London Trip 12th - 14th June
- EYFS Beach Day Tuesday 18th June
- Year 5 Dukeshouse Wood Trip 19th - 21st June
- Dunstanburgh Beach Day Monday 24th June

- Ford Class Rehearsals at Alnwick Playhouse Thurs 20th & Thurs 27th June
- KS1 Library Visit at Alnwick Playhouse, Thursday 27th June
- Ford Class Playhouse Performance Thursday 27th June, 7-8pm
- Ford Class & Parents Alnwick Gardens, Sunday 30th June, 2-4pm
- Sports Day, Tuesday 2nd July, 1.30pm
- Year 6 Transition Day at DCHS & Meet The Teacher Wednesday 3rd July
- Bamburgh Beach Day Friday 5th July
- Year 6 Leavers Disco Tuesday 9th July tbc

- Year 6 Transition Beach Day Thursday 11th July
  - Ford Beach Day Friday 12th July
  - Etal Beach Day Monday 15th July
  - Year 6 Leavers' Assembly Wednesday 17th July, 2.15-3.15pm
  - Reserve Sports Day Thursday 18th July, 1.30pm
  - Break up for summer Friday 19th July
  - Teacher Training Days Monday & Tuesday, 2nd & 3rd September
  - Back to school for pupils Wednesday 4th September
- Please keep checking the calendar on the school website