



## End of Year Newsletter

As ever, the summer term has been a busy one with lots going on in and around school, and the end of the school year has come around quickly. Whilst we were unable to hold our annual summer fayre this year, pupils still had great fun during our summer fun day. Our summer raffle raised £400 for school funds and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support with this. As you will be aware, we have had some staffing changes this year and look forward to welcoming three new teaching assistants in September: Miss McCulloch, Mrs Vaughan and Miss Jordison. We would also like to congratulate Mrs Neal on her forthcoming wedding and look forward to welcoming her back to school as Mrs Morton. A round up of news around school follows, and this just leaves me to wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday filled with some quality family time. We look forward to seeing you when the children return to school on **Wednesday 4th September**.

T. Devine

### VEX Robotics

Our VEX IQ team, South Bank Tyners, enjoyed a second visit to the World Championships in Dallas again this year! Once again, they performed brilliantly and were excellent ambassadors for our school. Our Year 4 class has been enjoying VEX Go and a group of children from the class were selected to represent our school at Nissan. Our younger pupils have been exploring VEX 123 and a group of pupils from Year 2 showcased their coding skills at a recent event.



### OPAL

Pupils experienced their first 'OPAL playtime' when they came back after the Easter break, and it has been a huge success. There have been lots of changes to the KS1 and KS2 yards to make way for a variety of exciting zones such as Lego, a sand cabin and skate and bike park, and lots more new zones to come. A huge thank you to those parent helpers who have given their time generously to support us with this.



# Music



We've had lots of fun making music across the school this term! Reception class linked their music to the topic of 'Space', and gave a wonderful performance of some of their songs to grown-ups in June. Year 1 explored the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and improvised melodies climbing and descending musical ladders, while Year 2 created some amazing rhythms playing djembe drums from West Africa. Year 3 continued to play the penny whistle and composed some music inspired by a piece written by a Brazilian composer about a little train, and Year 4 made lots of fabulous sounds as they learned about Samba drumming. Year 5 have continued to play the ukulele, and Year 6 explored some patterns used in rap before focusing on their end-of-year show, which they performed this week. All of KS2 had fun with STEM music technology when we had two days of workshops, while Year 4 visited The Glasshouse for a Musical Youth Revolution Day. They took part in workshops about rap and performance, and enjoyed some live performances there too. Our KS2 Choir has been learning songs for 'Joseph' to support the Year 6 show, and many of our piano players have successfully passed exams this term. It's been a full term once again!

# Sport



Well done to our Year 3/4 team who finished the season in third place in the 3/4 competition amongst local schools. Our Year 5/6 team competed in the Autumn Cup and did themselves proud. Well done, everyone!

The whole school enjoyed a fabulous week of sport and sunshine in mid-June. Each class had the opportunity to try a range of different sporting activities such as parkour, hula hooping, taekwondo and even some quidditch! It was great to return to Monkton Stadium for sports day and everyone had a great time.



## Athletics Festival

This year we took a team of 17 athletes to the Gateshead Athletics Festival. The children were all amazing and a number of them made it through to the finals of their particular discipline. We even brought home some medals! Well done, everyone.



## Year 6 Show

Year 6 pupils have been amazing in their end-of-year show, 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat'. Their singing and acting were superb, and the KS2 choir members were a fantastic chorus supporting them. A brilliant way to end their time at Bill Quay 🎵 We were extremely proud of them all!



## Goodbye and Good Luck

Today we have said a fond farewell to our Year 6 pupils as they move onto the next exciting phase of their education. Their fantastic SATs results are a testament to their hard work and dedication.

80% of pupils achieved the expected standard in maths and SPaG, 83% in reading and 70% in writing. Pupils are off to a variety of secondary schools: 24 to St. Joseph's, three to Hebburn and three to Emmanuel. On behalf of us all, we would like to wish them good luck and every success as they continue on their educational journey.

## Reception



Reception class has had a busy term with lots of trips out and about. We really enjoyed our visit to the Urban Factory during Sports Week, had a great first sports day at Monkton Stadium and got comfy with a good book at Pelaw Library.

## Year 1



Year 1 had great fun during the summer term. As part of our Design Technology lessons, we constructed some paper windmills. We had great fun making them and they look fabulous!

## Year 2



Year 2 had a super time visiting Washington Wetlands, where we explored different habitats, went on a minibeast hunt and did some pond dipping. As part of our seaside topic, we ended the year with a trip to South Shields beach. We played on the sand

and even took a dip in the sea. It was freezing! Finally, we got an ice-cream before setting off back to school.



## Year 3



Year 3 enjoyed a visit to the Laing Art Gallery in Newcastle recently, where they studied 'The Fighting Temeraire' by William Turner. Inspired by the painting, which is on loan from the National Gallery in London, pupils created their own sea scapes using a variety of different materials.

## Year 4



Year 4 recently enjoyed a fantastic day out at the 'Musical Youth Revolution' at The Glasshouse Gateshead. We started the day working alongside rap artist Kema Kay to create our own rap! We used our everyday activities as inspiration for our rap, worked hard to create rhymes and then rapped them over a beat. We also enjoyed a silent disco during which we explored a range of sensory equipment. We finished the day watching a selection of fantastic artists and bands perform live and had a good boogie along.

## Year 5



This term, Year 5 enjoyed a day by the River Derwent. Working on our Geography field skills, we were able to discover if life in the river was abundant and healthy. Some of us got wet (including Mrs Devine!) but we had great fun throughout the day, especially when we got rid of some invasive plant species on the side of the river.

## Year 6



Year 6 visited Pelaw Community Bowling Green recently to compete in the annual bowling competition against St. Alban's Primary School. We are delighted to say that the Bill Quay team was victorious for the third year running!



Our PTA Facebook page has now become our official school page. Please 'like' [Bill Quay Primary School](#) and keep up to date with things happening around school.