



COMMUNITY, SUPPORT & CARE

NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

Dear Parents, Carers and the Community,

I sincerely hope you enjoy reading about all of the wonderful engagements that our children and academies have shared with a variety of organisations and you, our families.

I know that the academy staff and children have really valued being able to welcome you all back in for a range of events, and are busy planning lots more for next half term. Please make sure you keep up to date with all of the notifications.

Meanwhile, I'm particularly proud of the Easter Club offer taken up by so many of our children. The range of arts & crafts, sports, games and general fun is super. If your child hasn't tried a club yet – there's still time to book in for Summer!

As always, it's a pleasure to work with you in offering all of our children the very best. We look forward to ensuring we continue to do so across the rest of the summer term. In the meanwhile, enjoy the half term break and community celebrations of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.



Miss K Morley
CEO
Tees Valley Education

Donation from NEPIC and PD Ports

As part of winning the Corporate Environmental Award at the NEPIC awards, PD Ports were able to donate £2000 to Tees Valley Education for the continued development of the enterprise charter for young people across the region. Children at Pennyman Primary Academy proudly accepted the donation on behalf of the Trust.

We would like to say a big Thank you to PD Ports and NEPIC for this fantastic donation.





BRAMBLES PRIMARY ACADEMY

The Easter Fayre

Previously, Brambles Primary Academy has always enjoyed a fayre whether it be Christmas, Easter or Summer but this years Easter Fayre took the biscuit (or maybe that should be the Easter Egg). The academy welcomed parents back for the first time to enjoy our academy fayre at the end of the spring term. There were many stalls which included

games, face painting, tombola, sweets, bric-a-brac, cakes and food. We even used our brand new kitchen for the first time to provide scrumptious hot dogs which proved very popular. However, these were not as in demand as the candyfloss from the cotton candy stall which was busy from start to finish. We also had a raffle for chocolate hampers.

There was a fantastic turn out from parents and visitors to the Easter fayre and it was brilliant to see children and their families enjoying this afternoon.

The academy raised over £1000 for school. This is superb and we would like to thank everyone who came and bought something.



Reading with the community

In April, Brambles Primary Academy held a meeting for Year 2 parents to discuss the importance of Early Reading and Phonics along with providing information about the upcoming Phonics Screening Check. The meeting explained to parents about the implementation of Read Write Inc (RWI) in the academy and how to support with this at home. Reading books were also shared to promote home reading and its impact on the children's development with their early reading. We have invested heavily in Read Write Inc reading books to support with this which will have a huge impact on the children's implementation of sounds and fluency when reading, including reading faster with pace and punctuation as well developing a child's understanding of the stories they are reading.





BRAMBLES PRIMARY ACADEMY



Reception reading meeting

On Friday 4th March, the Reception team and children invited parents into school for a Teddy Bear's Picnic. We had an overwhelming response, with 26 parents joining us to share a story and snacks. During the week, the children became authors, writing their own stories, which they then shared with their parents at the picnic. Staff were able to speak with parents about the importance of reading, how parents could support their child at home and the weekly reading chart that we complete on a Friday in school.

The morning was a fantastic opportunity to show parents how much we love reading and to open our amazing new library to everyone. We had some wonderful comments from parents who thoroughly enjoyed the reading morning – and the teddy bear biscuits we made! We are excited to say that from this meeting we have seen an increase in the number of children reading at home.



Breakfast club

The Greggs Foundation Trust continues to sponsor our Breakfast Club which has recently increased in numbers. Brambles now welcomes 88 children each morning. Providing breakfast gives our children the nutrition to fuel them for the day ahead.

The children are able to mix with peers and staff and set themselves up both physically and mentally for their time in class.

The Foundation also allows us at Brambles to support families through the hardship grant programme providing white goods, household items, uniform, and supermarket vouchers as well as giving us the opportunity to make up and distribute food hampers for a number of our families.



The Nest

The Nest is a newly developed space within school that is used to support the mental health and well-being of our children. The Nest was developed through a grant awarded by HeadStart to support our children with daily school life. We use this as a safe space for children to go when they are feeling overwhelmed and for emotional well-being interventions to take place. During dinner time, it is used by siblings who play games that support their social and emotional development, and throughout the day, our ELSA teacher delivers interventions to children across the school. It is important for us to support our children's mental health and well-being to ensure we are allowing meaningful learning to take place.





DISCOVERY SPECIAL ACADEMY

Living eggs

All the pupils from nursery to year 6 thoroughly enjoyed watching the life cycle of a chick from egg to being born, and watching them grow. The children held the chicks and talked about how to be gentle and care for them. They have now been homed at a local allotment and the children love seeing photos of them and hearing about how they are getting bigger.



Inclusion Quality Mark Award

We have recently had our annual assessment visit for the Inclusion Quality Mark Centre of Excellence Award. Our assessor met groups of pupils and spent time in the playground and in assembly. Pupils impressed our assessor with their enthusiasm and she commented on how 'pupils were deeply engaged in their learning and wider experiences'.





DISCOVERY SPECIAL ACADEMY

Horse riding

To further support the development of communication, social, emotional and mental health, class 5 have been visiting the Unicorn Centre to take part in horse riding sessions. They started by getting their helmets fitted and thinking about being safe, before meeting 4 horses called Spider, Spike, Duke and Billy. They practiced sitting on the horse safely and rode around the arena. They have been thoroughly enjoying the visits and look forward to more.



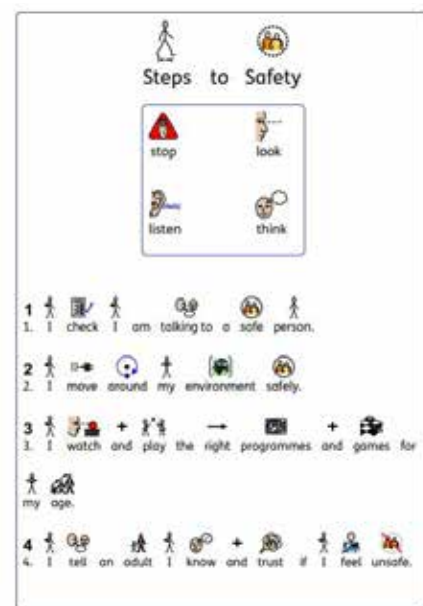
HeadStart

Following our Silver HeadStart award, we were pleased to welcome a representative into the academy to work with some of our pupils. He talked about how we can improve our well-being, resilience and how to recognise our feelings. The children recognised some of the things that were discussed and impressed our visitor with their contributions and honesty. This is the start of our HeadStart journey as the academy plans to recruit a team of pupils as 'HeadStarters' to help develop confidence and self-esteem amongst their peers.



Steps to Safety

We have been thinking about keeping ourselves safe this term and have developed our Steps to Safety. Children use the steps to safety to remember how to keep themselves safe on and off line.





DORMANSTOWN PRIMARY ACADEMY

Easter Club

During the Easter break the children who attended the Holiday Club had so much fun with a wide range of engaging activities led by Mr Campbell, Mrs Berry and Miss Atkins:

Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter bunny hid LOTS of Easter eggs for KS1 to find all over the playground, and the children had lots of fun hunting for all the eggs.



Football

Children enjoyed playing small team games along with learning football skills such as dribbling, passing and shooting.



Easter Crafts

Both key stages made Easter cards to share with their families, and we had some very creative outcomes.



Pizza Making

The KS2 children thoroughly enjoyed making pizzas to take home for their lunch on the final day of the Easter holiday club.



Cricket

KS1 children loved playing cricket! They worked on their bowling and batting skills.



Badminton

This was competitive with games played against each other and finishing with King and Queen of the court.



Street Dance

This was a brand-new experience of performing various moves in street dance which was thoroughly enjoyed by all children.



Beat the Street

This was a game to see how far children and parents could walk, cycle or roll around the local area to engage children and their families in healthy living. Children had to visit two Beat Boxes in one hour and they collected ten points for each Beat Box. It was a super way of exercising in a fun way. The year 5 children went on a walk with Leah, the engagement co-ordinator, to find as many Beat Boxes as they could around Redcar. Leah also came in to present an assembly so the children could continue this healthy initiative.





DORMANTOWN PRIMARY ACADEMY

HeadStart

As an academy, we work with HeadStart to build academic resilience. Twelve, Year 4 and 5 children have recently completed their bronze award as HeadStarters in which they have explored feelings, learnt coping strategies, looked at stigma, discussed ways to build connections and the effects loneliness can have on people. The children thoroughly enjoyed each session and are now equipped to support their peers.



Litter Picking

Our Year 6 Junior Leadership Team took part in a litter pick supported by the local Councillor and the Community Development Officer to help make the local area a cleaner place for all. The children were keen to participate and proud to support the community they live in.



Mellors Menus

Mellors, our catering company, produced specific menus and food linked to Chinese New Year, World Book Day, School Meals Day and Easter. This allowed the children the opportunity to try some new dishes and made the links to these special events in school.



Lunchtime Activities

Our lunchtime supervisors took part enthusiastically in a training session with Mr Long to practice different 5-a-side games to play on the MUGA and activities for the playground (sweatbands were optional!) This training really enhanced our lunchtime offer and allowed for a wider range of activities available for the children to engage in. Members of our Y6 Junior Leadership Team also lead dance sessions over lunchtimes in the sports hall.





PENNYMAN PRIMARY ACADEMY

A 'Cracking' Easter Club

During the Easter holidays, Pennyman opened its doors to children providing a range of exciting activities. The holiday club was funded by a grant of over £1,000 from the Holiday Activities Fund. Over 30 children took part in golf, dance, crafts, tennis and art during the course of the week. The children also enjoyed making their own pizzas. The week was topped off with an inflatable hoopla game and bowling alley being set up around school for the children to enjoy! A huge thank you must go out to the staff who dedicated their time to making sure our children had the best holiday ever.



'Walkies..!'

During the last term, the SEND classes have had two special visitors, Kayleigh and Molly. The visitors have really brought a sense of calm to the classrooms and the children have loved 'taking them for a walk', stroking them and showing them their classroom. The dogs have loved it too. We look forward to Kayleigh and Molly visiting other classes across the academy in the coming weeks.



'Eggcellent' Raffle

Once again the families of Pennyman got behind the annual Easter egg raffle. Over £360 was raised through this with many of our families enjoying a chocolate treat. Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket.





PENNYMAN PRIMARY ACADEMY



Bringing the Community together

During the spring term, Mrs Conroy and Mr Hunter have been working on re-establishing Pennyman at the heart of the community. We have hosted a number of coffee mornings for parents to come and see us and discuss what it is they would like from school. The sessions were well attended and have provided us with a direction of where to go next. In the summer term, Adult Learning classes will begin to support our community learn new skills and potentially open up new opportunities for them. Look out for information linked to the next course!



Wheelie important lessons

At Pennyman we aim to ensure all our children have a range of skills to prepare them for life beyond the school gates. In February our Y6s took part in 'Bikeability' training. The children established some important skills on the safety of the playground before heading out onto the local roads to put their learning into action. Yet again, the children were an asset to the academy and showed how much they had learned. Well done everyone!



Trailblazers

During April, our KS2 children took part in online workshops to learn about the causes and consequences of racism. Year 5 and 6 joined Show Racism the Red Card – the UK's leading anti-racism educational charity. Year 3 and 4 joined Teesside Trailblazers – the under 18 players from Middlesbrough FC who launched the initiative to act against racial justice in classrooms, playgrounds and on football pitches. The children were inspired by the events to recognise and tackle racism.





WILTON PRIMARY ACADEMY

Coffee afternoon

As part of our ongoing commitment to support others in need, we held a coffee afternoon and Easter tombola to raise money to support families in Ukraine. The event was very well attended and we are so grateful for all of the donations of cakes and prizes for the tombola. There was lots of competition on the tombola to win some Easter eggs! The total amount raised was an amazing £245 which is incredible based on the size of our academy. Thank you so much for your generosity.



Beat the Street

Leah, from Beat the Street, came in to take some of the children on a walk around the village to show them how to take part in gathering points in the Beat the Street competition. All of the schools in Redcar and Cleveland could take part and by walking between different lampposts and tapping the card, not only did they gain points for the academy, more importantly the children were being more active and hopefully walking will become more a part of everyday life.





WILTON PRIMARY ACADEMY

Fire Brigade

All of the children in the academy had a fun, but informative session with the Cleveland Fire Bridge. The focus for children in EYFS and KS1 was how to cross the road safely. The firemen were very pleased to hear that some of the children had sensible answers to share and had a good understanding about keeping themselves safe. The children in KS2 focussed more on the safety of being in a car and the importance of wearing your seat belt.



Puffin Books

There was another exciting day in the academy when the children helped unpack a donation of 400 new books we received from Puffin Books. The books include new series' for the children to read, as well as some interesting information texts. To challenge the more able readers there are some biographies of famous people, including Michelle Obama, that have been made suitable for children to read.



NSPCC Number day

In February, we held a fun filled number day to raise money for the NSPCC charity. The children were very inventive in the ways they dressed using numbers and all classes had an additional focus on maths and numbers that day. We managed to raise £50 to send to the NSPCC.



TEES VALLEY EDUCATION

All the children and staff in the academies enjoyed undertaking activities on the 18th March to celebrate this important fund-raising event and remembering why we give to charity.

**RED
NOSE
DAY**

**FUNNY
IS POWER**

18 March 2022



Brambles learned about those people who benefit from such a wonderful cause, how humour can raise the spirits of all as well as the all-important funds. All the children had the opportunity to dress up, and they all looked fantastic. As well as cake making, there was a space hopper challenge and all together, they raised £434.58.



Children at Discovery remembered the importance of kindness and how this can make others feel, including themselves! They made hands of kindness and the display is a constant reminder that we can make people's lives better with kind words and actions.



Dormanstown celebrated and raised funds by wearing fantastic outfits and holding a wonderful talent show as well as class relay runs, all harnessing the theme 'Funny is Power'.



At Pennyman, staff and pupils came to school in red clothes, making donations in return, and children were invited to bring in any unwanted copper coins to create a trail around school. Children who chose to do so, placed their coins along all the walls around the academy and a total of £132.40 was raised with an overall amount of £525.69 raised for the cause!



At Wilton, the children had a choice of how they wanted to represent Comic Relief; they could either come as a superhero, create their own superhero or wear red. They had a fantastic day and raised a brilliant amount for the charity.



TEES VALLEY EDUCATION

WWW.TEESVALLEYEDUCATION.CO.UK