



# Spittal Community Primary School

## Weekly News!

Create Achieve Respect Enjoy

### News & Events

A big thank you to all those who donated puzzles. They have been put to good use this week with the start of lunchtime puzzle club. So many children are taking advantage of the wide range of lunch clubs on offer this half term which include; choir, chess, football, art, games and music. If you are having a clear out at home, we are looking for donations of pans and baking trays for our outdoor areas.

### Stars of the Week

<u>Nursery</u>	Donnie
<u>Reception</u>	Jourdan
<u>Class 1</u>	Eleanor
<u>Class 2</u>	Corbin
<u>Class 3</u>	Emilia
<u>Class 4</u>	Brooklyn
<u>Class 5</u>	Percy

### Diary Dates

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October

Individual photo's

Week Beginning 13<sup>th</sup> October

Parents' evenings

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October

Sports Leader training

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October

Year 4 visit Berwick Town Hall

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October

3.20p.m. Parent/child craft session

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

After school film night 3.20p.m.

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Nursery visit The Hinsel

Year 1 and 2 visit Deep Sea World

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October

School closes at 3.20p.m for half term

### Nursery and Reception

Our theme this week has been "Baa Baa Black Sheep," and we've been exploring the world of farms and animals. The children have been practicing reciting the classic nursery rhyme together. We've also learned to sequence the events of the rhyme, from the sheep counting their fleece to the farmer taking it home. Our small world farm has been a popular spot for imaginative play. We've discussed the farmer, the sheep, and named various baby farm animals. We've also asked questions like "Who looks after the sheep?", "Who lives on the farm?", and "Who drives the tractor?" We've introduced new vocabulary words related to our theme, such as "sheep," "farmer," "fleece," "lamb," and "baa." We've also counted the sheep in the nursery rhyme and explored other counting activities. Our sensory tray was filled with "soft", "fluffy" "cotton" wool balls. They've been touching, feeling, and developing their fine motor skills with the cotton wool and tweezers. The children enjoyed painting black sheep using pegs and cotton wool. They had fun dipping the pegs in paint and pressing them onto the paper to create the sheep's wool. We've made adorable handprint sheep. The children painted their hands and pressed them onto paper to create the sheep's body. We then added details like ears, legs, and a tail. The children have learnt about why sheep need sheared, how the fleece is prepared and what the wool is used for.

This week Reception have been exploring the African Plain with our new Literacy book 'Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain'. This beautifully illustrated story is set in Kenya and we have been discussing the setting and characters and also retelling the story. Our tuff tray has been turned into a small world roleplay based on the story and we have been naming and describing some of the animals that are found in Kenya. In maths we have been exploring the composition of the numbers 1, 2 and 3 and your our child has brought home an activity sheet to support their learning. In art we have finished our Wild Things paintings and used metallic pens to add detail to our pictures. Everyone is also really enjoying Mrs Kiff's singing and dancing assembly which is held every Thursday. Another great week in Reception. Well done everyone!





#### Class 1 and 2

This week in Literacy Year 1 enjoyed creating a guide for travelling to space based on their book 'Astro Girl'. During Numeracy the children practised ordering numbers to 20 from the least to greatest amount and then the greatest to least. They then positioned numbers to 20 on a numberline using their knowledge of place value. During Science the children found out about different animal diets and sorted animals into groups according to their diet using a Venn diagram. In Geography the children continued to improve their map skills by creating a map of the school and labelling it correctly. They also added a key. As part of their RE work the children looked at the importance of Baptism to Christians and what happens during a Christening. To end the week the children enjoyed wearing yellow for World Mental Health Day and discussed different emotions they feel. They then created emoji masks to show different feelings they experience. This week Year 2 created some fantastic sequels to the story 'Goldilocks' thinking about what would happen when the characters grew up. On Friday, the children were introduced to their new book 'The Bear Under the Stairs' and made predictions about what was hidden under the mysterious blanket. They sorted commands, questions and exclamations about the mysterious object. In Numeracy the children focused on ordering numbers to 100 using the terms, largest, smallest, greatest and least. They then used the mathematical symbols to compare objects and numbers. In Science the children carried out an experiment to find out what happens to their body when they exercise. They then thought about why exercise is important for a healthy body. During Geography the children looked at different symbols on maps and what they represent. They used map symbols to complete a map of Berwick showing roads and buildings.



#### Classes 3, 4 and 5

This week, Year 3 began our new book, *The First Drawing*, which has already sparked fantastic discussions. We've also sharpened our spelling skills by focusing on key rules for forming plurals. Students also put on their detective hats to learn all about the Stone Age and the people who lived during that time. In Numeracy, we've continued to build a strong foundation in place value, exploring numbers up to 1000. The children are becoming more confident with concepts of more than and less than, and we applied this understanding to practice addition and subtraction within 1000. Our musical journey this week saw us reach an exciting milestone! The students performed the final section of our class song, 'Home is Where the Heart Is,' on the glockenspiel. They demonstrated excellent rhythm and teamwork. We continued our study of historical civilizations by looking closely at Viking long ships. We discussed their design, features, and how effective they were for travel and warfare. The class engaged in a detailed directed drawing exercise this week. Using a bowl of fruit as our subject, we focused on practicing key art skills like observation, shading, and line work to create realistic and vibrant pictures.

In Year 4 we started our exciting new book *The Matchbox Diary*. The children made thoughtful predictions and enjoyed discussing the first few pages. We also began learning how to use **speech marks** correctly – everyone had a go at writing their own dialogue! In **Maths**, we've been working on **rounding numbers** to the nearest 10, 100, and 1,000. The children have shown great understanding and are becoming more confident. We also continued practising **multiplication and division on TTRS** – fantastic effort all round! In **Science**, we learnt the names of the **organs involved in the digestive system** and began to understand how they work together to help our bodies break down food. The children were full of great questions and curiosity.

In Year 5 we have started reading a brand new book, *Robot Girl* — an engaging story that's already sparked some fantastic discussions about technology, emotions, and what it means to be human. The children are really enjoying getting to know the characters and exploring the themes through our reading and writing activities. During Maths, we've been tackling complex problem-solving and reasoning tasks using addition and subtraction. The children have been challenged to explain their thinking clearly and to find different strategies to solve problems. We've also introduced **Times Tables Rockstars**! This fun and interactive platform helps children practise their times tables both in school and at home. Each child has their own login details, which have been stuck into their homework books — please encourage them to log in regularly and keep practising! This week in Science, the children created colourful and detailed revision sheets to help them prepare for our upcoming end-of-topic test. These sheets have been taken home so that everyone can spend some time revising key concepts before next week. In History, we're nearing the end of our fascinating *Stone Age to Iron Age* topic. This week, we've focused on how everyday life changed for people during the Iron Age — from farming and tools to homes and communities. The children have shown great curiosity and understanding of how these changes shaped life in Britain.

