# **Newsletter**



# Spring 2023

#### WORLD BOOK DAY 2023!

On Thursday 2nd March, GMS took an active delight in celebrating World Book Day. Whether it was dressing up in their favourite book character, attending one of the live streaming author events, or indeed, entering one of the many competitions on offer during lessons. Some of the children also showed a fair amount of determination when they entered our Readathon, which took place during lessons raising funds for Read for Good's hospital programme, providing the best brand-new books and resident storyteller visits for children in the 30 major children's hospitals across the UK, from Belfast to Bangor, Truro to Aberdeen, Norwich to Newcastle. The final total raised is £486.47. It was a super day and enjoyed by staff and pupils alike.













#### Year 8 Persuasive Speeches

In English this term, Year 8 have been studying persuasive speech writing. During the course of the unit, they analysed famous speeches from such people as Barack Obama, Donald Trump and Winston Churchill to name a few. One of the outcomes of their learning was to write their own persuasive speech based around a topic on which they felt passionate and to deliver that speech to their peers as part of their termly writing and speaking assessments.







Subjects ranged from Racism, Littering, Anti-hunt Protesters to Homework, Child Abuse and the Cost of Living Crisis. The depth of research and the quality of these Year 8 speeches were staggering and showed great maturity. Speaking formally in front of an audience is always a challenge, but prepares them well for the demands of KS4 (along with future employment!) As always, the Year 8 audience were respectful and encouraging to each and everyone of the speakers. They should be proud of what they have achieved.

#### Berwick Sports Hall KS3 Area Athletics Qualifier

#### We entered 4 teams:

Year 7 girls

Year 7 boys

Year 8 girls

Year 8 boys

Each team competed in the following athletics field events:

Shot put

Vertical Jump

Standing long jump

Triple jump

Speed bounce

#### and track events:

2,4 & 6 lap individual races

8 Lap Paarlauf Relay Race (includes 2 athletes racing as a team)

2 Lap Relay Race x 4 athletes

1 Lap Relay Race x 4 athletes

There were two teams, ourselves and Tweedmouth.

After some great races and excellent individual and team performances, in both track and field events, both boy teams came runners up. The results were very close!

Both girl teams, Year 7 and Year 8, were outright winners and showed some real grit and







determination to overcome strong opposition. A fantastic achievement and they were now through to compete in the Northumberland Schools Sports Hall Finals.

All pupils performed exceptionally and represented the school well.



Year 5, 6, 7 & 8 Area Football Tournaments were held this week against Berwick,

Longridge and Tweedmouth Middle schools. There were some great performances from our boys with matches won, drawn and lost, with all



games played in a great team spirit. Year 5's won 1, drew 1 and lost one with goals from Zach (2), Ewan and Luke. Year 6 games were all competitive but they lost out to some strong opposition on the day despite some excellent team performances and a goal from Oscar. Year 7 won 2-1 against Berwick Middle with goals from Peter and Oscar (yr 6) but could not break down other defences losing out despite some great goal keeping displays. Year 8 came joint 3rd overall with some great performances

including a 4-0 win against Berwick with goals from Jay (3) and Henry. After dominating the third place playoff it took a great strike from Ryan to level the game with the final



kick of the match. All boys represented the school well and enjoyed the tournaments!







#### **Rugby With Dougie**

This term all of our pupils were fortunate to receive expert coaching from Dougie Hall. Dougie taught the pupils during lessons over a 6 week block as well as facilitating lunchtime clubs. The sessions were enjoyable and aided the pupils to develop their rugby knowledge, understanding and skills.















#### Netball KS2

In PE lessons the girls have been working hard at improving their netball skills. Two teams were selected from Year 5 and Year 6 and each competed brilliantly at the inter area competition at Tweedmouth Middle School. Year 5 girls amazingly placed 3rd!

Jessica said, 'My netball experience was amazing, we all tried our best and we came third!'



Izzy said, 'Netball was great, I was so nervous at first but then I just loved it!'



#### KS<sub>2</sub> Cross Country @ Longridge Towers

A team of very competitive runners were selected to represent Glendale at the annual Cross Country Competition at Longridge Towers. Many of these children have been practising their running outside of school which made a huge difference to their confidence on the day. Amazingly, Year 6 girls placed 3rd in the event which is notoriously competitive. Everyone put their maximum effort into running on the day. An amazing effort from everyone!



#### KS 3 Netball @ Tweedmouth

KS3 girls (all of them!) took part in an afternoon of competition at Tweedmouth Middle School, unfortunately the weather was not in our favour but the girls did not let that dampen their spirits. They played wonderfully as a team and made huge progress at working together as the afternoon went on.

Emily said, 'Even though it rained all afternoon, we tried our hardest and it was a great experience,'

Layla said, 'When I scored I felt great and it meant that the team ere boosted.'

Tilly said, 'Even though we didn't win, it was a great experience.'



#### Dodgeball

Year 5 were able to take part in a Dodgeball workshop with Mr Marklew who is our School Games Organiser (SGO) for North Northumberland. The children loved the opportunity to grow in confidence as they played.



Max said, 'I loved playing

dodgeball with Mr Marklew, he knew absolutely everything, most of the games were new to me and I've started going to dodgeball club because of it!'

James said, 'The dodgeball workshop was great fun because I learnt lots of new dodgeball games.'





Mr Marklew also spent an afternoon working with our Sports Leaders on improving coaching skills, the sports leaders found it and invaluable experience and became much more confident in their roles because of it.

#### Sports Leaders Success

This term the sports leaders have run many successful clubs; netball, football, cross country, rugby and dodgeball. Their determination and commitment has been incredible to see. They have put on extra sessions to help the younger children feel more confident when attending competitions and have shown a huge improvement in their confidence and coaching abilities over the course of the term. The PE department would like to say a massive thank you to the sports leaders for all that they do.



Year 7 and 8 Girls Athletics @ Blyth

After a very competitive inter area event, the Year 7 and 8 girls qualified for the County Finals at Blyth Sports Hall. Teams from across Northumberland competed to get through to the regional finals. The girls put one hundred percent effort into every aspect of the day, worked as a team, cheered each other on and we were immensely proud with some incredible shows of sportsmanship. We weren't successful in qualifying, however, what an amazing experience all of the girls got to have.







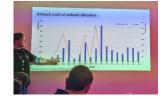
### Year 8 Dynamic Earth Trip @ Edingburgh

To support their work in Geography, Year 8 took a trip (slightly later than planned) to Dynamic Earth at Edinburgh to learn more about Natural Hazards and the Geography of earth.

Year 8 were able to visit the planetarium for a quick trip around the planets, then took part in a Natural Hazards workshop. During the workshop, we were tasked with choosing the best location to build a hospital in San Francisco based on Earthquake data. Finally, Year 8 took a walk around each area of Earth and they were fascinated to get hands on with so many aspects of the world around them.



















#### Shang Dynasty

On Friday 24th March, teachers from The Oriental Museum at Durham University visited us to teach us about the Shang Dynasty. The Shang Dynasty was a kingdom in ancient China from about 3500 years ago, during the Bronze Age.

'In the object handling we looked at objects, drew them and then came up with our ideas about them. The last item I looked at was a wine jug to heat up wine, it showed us that they worshipped their ancestors' - Bella









'Our first activity was an object handling session. I looked at a tripod that was used for boiling wine so that the ancestors could smell the delicious scent. After that, we looked at an oracle bone that was sued to tell the future. After lunch we told a story by acting it out in the hall. Holly was the king and JJ was the beautiful wife! Keira was the general. My favourite part of the day was making the grave goods with clay. I made an axe with three blades and a necklace . Grave goods were buried with important people as they believed they needed them in the afterlife' - Jenson

#### Friday Reward—Hot Chocolate

Each Friday, all children in a chosen year group, who have had no behaviour incidents, get to enjoy a special Hot Chocolate treat from the kitchen team. Here is a picture of <u>all of Year 5</u> enjoying their first chance to get the delicious treat. At the end of each term, all children who have had no behaviour log incidents get a special treat for the whole final afternoon of term.



Theme days



The children have been enjoying the lunchtime theme days. We have celebrated Chinese New Year with Chow Mein and Valentines Day with hearty dumplings.

### Food Hygiene

A food hygiene inspection was carried out in the kitchen on 7th February. The kitchen was awarded a Food Hygiene Rating of 5 which is the top score!

### Easter Egg Competition

The children's eggs were fantastic this year, lots of hard work and creativity made it very difficult to pick the winners!



1st prize - Zak, Kaitlynn, Sophie, Sophie, Matthew & Connor.

2nd Prize - Madelyn, Zach, Hannah, Lucy & Lucas.

### **Comic Relief**

We had a non school uniform day with a 'wear something red' theme to raise money for Comic Relief and the children did not disappoint. Well done everyone. We raised £198.20.

### Ceilidh Band

Glendale Ceilidh Band performed for us all at the Wooler First School Easter assembly along with penny whistlers from Wooler First School. It was a wonderful afternoon of music and entertainment.





Swimming lessons birth - competent swimmers Private Lessons 1 : 1 available



# **Quiz Night**

Friday 21st April at Wooler First School & Glendale Middle School

> 7pm Teams of 4 @ £20 per team

Bring your own refreshments - alcohol allowed!

Contact Richard on 07765341220 to book your team

Raffle on the night. Everyone welcome!

All proceeds to Northumberland National Park Mountain Rescue Team









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#### Parent Governor Recruitment

We are looking for a parent governor to join our governing body, further information to follow after half term. If you would like to know more about the role of a governor please contact the school office for more information on 01668281470

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## Safeguarding

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We are committed to safeguarding and have a culture of 'it could happen here' in all aspects of safeguarding and child protection. Any of our staff can listen and act appropriately on your concerns. We have specially trained safeguarding leads in our schools - these are our safeguarding team.



Mike Deane-Hall Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)



Victoria Symons Deputy Headteacher and Deputy DSL

Sarah Milburn

Teacher for LAC

and Deputy DSL

Designated

Our safeguarding team



Geoff Tong Deputy Headteacher and Deputy DSL



Vicki Grey Nursery Leader and Deputy DSL



Jennie Dunn SENDCo and Deputy DSL



Rachel Bullen SENDCo and Deputy DSL

If you are worried about a child you can: . Contact our safeouarding team vi

- Contact our safeguarding team via the usual school contact channels including our main phone number 01668 281 470
- Talk to the local safeguarding team 01670 622 720 or One Call, the Local Authority's single point of access on 01670 536400
- If you believe a child is in immediate danger you should call 999 and report your concern immediately to the police.

More information and our policy on safeguarding and child protection can be found on our website.

The following organisations websites can also provide information and their helplines can listen if you have concerns:

- NSPCC 0808 800 500
- · CEOP
- Childline 0800 1111