

## **Headteacher's Blog June 2018**

We are having such a busy, but fun term!

### **Green Flag Award**



On Wednesday, we welcomed visitors from both Friends of the Earth and Ellingham Trust to our flag raising ceremony. Members of the Planet Protectors committee gave our guests a tour of the school, before the whole school joined in counting down and cheering as the flag made it up the pole. I am pleased to see it is still there, despite the horrendous winds yesterday!

We first achieved the highest eco-school award in 2008; we have now held the award for over 10 years. Stewardship is one of our core Christian values and this award recognises the daily efforts our school community undertake in order to take care of our environment. We are 'making the difference we want to see in the world.'

Particular thanks to Mrs Swinbank and her team of 'protectors' who lead this work in school; Louis Fell, Ellingham Trust and St. Maurice's Church who support our Forest School work; to Friends of the Earth for raising the flag and presenting us with a beautiful orchid, as well as a bee and butterfly guide.

Key Stage 2 pupils will be having specialist, geological workshops on the morning of 2<sup>nd</sup> July, to further deepen their understanding of our amazing planet.

### **Organisation**

On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 3pm, I would like to invite parents and carers of next year's Key Stage 2 pupils to come to a meeting about my organisational plans for Years 3/4/5/and 6 next year.

### **Behaviour**

I am very proud that our pupils have represented our school so positively during recent activities. I thoroughly enjoyed my day at The Children's Countryside Day, spending time

with superbly polite, enthusiastic and well-behaved year 3 and 4 pupils. We learned a great deal and had fun.



Our Year 6 pupils enjoyed having staff from The Duchess' High School visit Ellingham for a morning of workshops and pupil interviews.

They also, along with our Year 5 Digital Leaders, took part in a Robot design technology challenge at the high school. Our pupils were confident in using their prior coding knowledge and applying this to the challenges set to them in controlling the features of the Crumble robots. This was an excellent session, superbly supported by some very talented and encouraging high school pupil mentors.



## Sports

Well done to all of our pupils who have represented us at several sports competitions recently, including our Year 4 tennis players who were brilliant; winning through as far as they could go in their matches.

All pupils really enjoyed the Judo taster sessions we had in school this week. Information has been sent out (as well as being on the PTA Facebook page) about up-coming sessions at Willowburn.



A reminder that Sports Day this year will include a range of track and field events for pupils from Year 1 to 6. Pupils will compete both individually and to collect House Points. Reception and Early Years pupils will join the events later on in the afternoon.

Thanks to Paul Yeadon (one of our PE coaches) for taking this fantastic drone photograph for our Geography work (we like to track changes over time). He is available to take photos and can be contacted on:

yeadaz@googlemail.com



### Summer Fair

A huge **Thank You** to our incredible PTA for holding a brilliant Summer Fair. It looked incredible driving down in to Bamburgh- it was great to attract so many visitors too and a huge amount of money was raised on the day. Thank you to everyone who contributed in making this such a success!

Kind regards,

Diane Lakey