



# Tudhoe Colliery Primary School

## School Newsletter January 2020



### Trail Reminder



A polite reminder that as the signs on the fence show, the Tagessel Activity Trail is out of bounds to children and parents before and after school. The trail is timetabled through the week so that all children have an opportunity to play on it at playtime or lunchtime when it is supervised by staff.

### A BIG Thank you to YOU!



Thank you for all of your support with our charity collections this term. We have managed to raise..



**£281 for the Poppy Appeal**  
**138.2kg of food for Durham Foodbank, which will provide 172 meals**  
**AND £365 for Children in Need**

## Well done to our amazing Y4 children!!



On Monday 14th October, our Year 4 children performed 'Much Ado About Nothing' at the Durham Gala Theatre as part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival and they were incredible!!

*'I would like to express my sincerest congratulations to Tudhoe Colliery Primary School for your tremendous production of Much Ado About Nothing as part of the 2019 Shakespeare Schools Festival. It was an excellent night of theatre, and I'd like to highlight a few aspects that really stood out.*

*From beginning to end, this company made the full stage come to life, with not just the foreground action, but with wonderfully vivid moving tableaux setting the scene behind. This made for a Much Ado that bubbled with life on all planes.*

*The cast clearly had a really solid understanding and command of the language as they gave beautiful delivery of Shakespeare's words and handled the complex emotions and intense drama with poise and power. But perhaps what was most inviting about this company was that they were not afraid to behave badly (on stage and in character of course!): pouting, shouting and panthering across the stage like pros.*



*This was a Much Ado that managed to be at once confident and completely beautifully ridiculous.*

*Performing Shakespeare's words takes bravery, resilience and creativity. You should be immensely proud of what you and your teachers have achieved.'*

**We couldn't agree more!! Well done Year 4!**

### Teatime club

Please ensure that your child is collected from Tea Time Club before 5:30pm to enable the staff to get home on time and close the school for the day. If you're having a one off problem getting there on time, please advise the staff on 0782671788. If a pattern of lateness becomes apparent, then we will have to discuss other arrangements.



### Parking Reminder

We politely remind parents to take care when parking to drop off/collect children from school, ensuring that access for local residents is not blocked, including access to the farm to the right of the school carpark.



We also remind parents for health and safety reasons, at no point are parents or children permitted to park in, or walk through, the school carpark.

Please also make sure that children are supervised if crossing the back street or the entrance to the staff carpark as several parents have reported near misses with children running over roads without adult supervision.



# THE FRIENDS

## Why not come to our Race Night?

Q: Where is it?

A: **Daleside Arms in Croxdale**

Q: When is it?

A: **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm**

Q: Who is it for?

A: **Only adults due to ticket limitations.**

Q How much are tickets?

A: **£5 each!**

Q Can I sponsor a race?

A: **We would welcome sponsors for each race from individuals or companies. Sponsorship costs £5 (for which we will advertise your company name on the race card) and a donation of a prize (eg bottle of spirits, meal voucher) for the owner of the winning horse.**

Q How does a Race Night work?

A: **Please see your Parentmail for further details of how the Race Night works....or, buy a ticket and work it out on the night!**

Q How can I get tickets or sponsor a race?

A: **Please text your name and ticket requirements to Jill on 07540077393. These will then be allocated on a first come first served basis and be available to collect from school. If you would like to buy horses, please also text the same number stating your name, how many you would like to buy and any chosen horse names.**



### Raffle and Tombola donations

Have you been having a post Christmas clear out? Do you have any unwanted Christmas presents? If so, why not donate them to our raffle and tombola that will be held at the Race Night? Please send any donations into school with your child - all donations welcomed!

## READING TOGETHER

This term in our Reading Together sessions, the first half hour will be an opportunity to read with your child (as usual), but the second half hour will be run as an informal session where you can ask staff any questions you have about reading. It could be about book recommendations for your child, your child's reading level, Reading Plus, Book Club - anything you have any queries about, or any comments you would like to share.

The date list for spring term will be coming out shortly, but the dates for Reading Together are given here...

Year 2 - Friday 24th January 9-10am

Year 5 - Friday 31st January 9-10am

Year 6 - Friday 7th February 9-10am

Reception - Friday 14th February 9-10am

Year 3 - Friday 28th February 9-10am

Year 4 - Friday 6th March 9-10am

Year 1 - Friday 13th March 9-10am

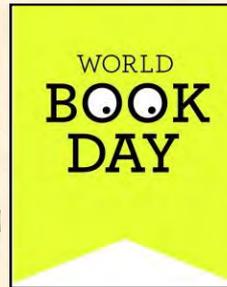


# Books, Books and more Books!

We have been really pleased with the feedback from the children on our first term of Book Club! We are aiming to give children an opportunity to experience very different genres of books over the school year to help them all find a genre that they prefer themselves.

Across the school, we are working with the children on...

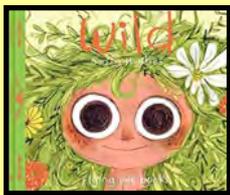
- Developing **reading stamina**. Many of our children are serial book starters - they pick up a book, read a few pages, but give up before the end, or as soon as the action might not be so exciting. We are working on encouraging them to persevere with the texts they are reading.
- Reading with **expression**. Through our Book Club sessions and through reading lessons, staff are modelling to the children how to read with appropriate tone and expression. It would be great if parents could encourage children to do this at home too!



## Recommended Reads...

*Looking for a book to buy your child? Try one of our recommended reads...*

### Year 1:



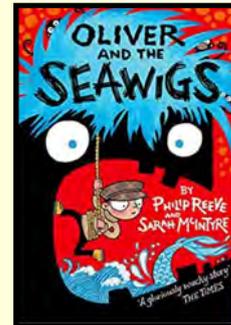
#### Reception:

This lovely picture book by Emily Hughes has the main character of a girl who has been taught to talk by birds, to eat by bears, and to play by

foxes. This is a gorgeous picture book that links well to the work children have been doing in Forest Schools this term!



An emotional book that explores themes of loss in a beautiful way. The children have read several books by Oliver Jeffers this term and this is another fantastic one.



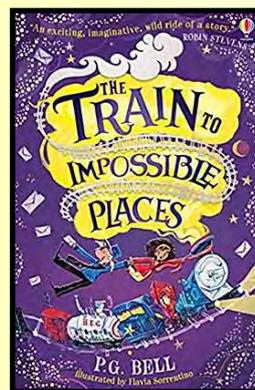
### Year 2:

A funny adventure book following Oliver and his quirky Seawig friends on his search to find his missing explorer parents!



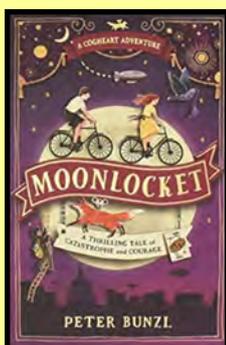
### Year 3:

Stitch Head is the first in a 6 book series by Guy Bass. It's a dark funny book about Stitch Head, a forgotten creation of mad professor Erasmus who lives in Castle Grotteskew. When a circus comes to town, Stitch Head believes it might be his time to step out of the shadows, but the reality is quite different!



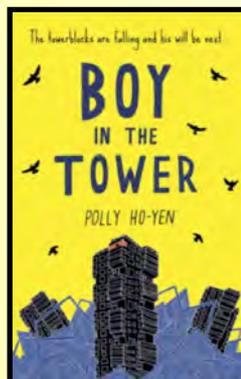
### Year 4:

When Suzy discovers a train driving through her house in the middle of the night, she is understandably confused! However, she soon finds herself hitching a ride and ends up on an adventure to deliver a mystery package to an evil sorceress in the Union of Impossible Places—what could possibly go wrong?!



### Year 5:

Moonloocket is the second book in the 'Cogheart' series from Peter Bunzl. The book rejoins Lily and Peter as they take on criminal mastermind 'The Jack of Diamonds.' The children read the first book in the series as their class novel last term, so this would be a perfect follow up!



### Year 6:

Ade lives at the top of a tower block with his mum. He's perfectly happy until something strange happens: the towers around him start crashing to the ground and strange plants start appearing. Soon Ade and his mum are trapped - how will they escape? This is an exciting story that also explores themes of loss and mental health - a great one for upper KS2.

### Judo Taster Day

Way back in September, Destination Judo came into school and ran a taster day for Year 1 to Year 6. We learnt control and movements that Judo players would use to win a match. The judo coach taught us some blocks and ways to stop an opponent. It was a fantastic experience!



### Fantastic Football

Last term, our football team competed in one league and two tournaments. Throughout the season, they played brilliantly as a team and improved within each match played. A highlight included coming fourth in the group stage of one of the tournaments. This particular tournament was played at the home ground of Spennymoor Football Club. During the second half of the Spring term, we have another league to prepare for—wish us luck!

### ALL THE SPORTS!

Year 3 took part in a multi-skills event where they learnt many skills and played many different games against other schools in the local area. They had a great time learning the new tips and tricks for playing bat and ball games, net and wall games and all-inclusive sports such as Boccia.

### Amazing Rugby

Selected Year 5 and 6 children took part in this competition and came 3rd! They played against four local schools. The team would like to give a special mention to Jack for his speed and George and Callum for their defending. Well done everyone!

### Indoor Athletics

Selected KS2 children also took part in an indoor athletics competition last term. We ran, relayed, threw and jumped our way to 4th place! Miss Stephens was so proud of everyone at this event purely for the maturity shown during the event and the huge amount of encouragement given by the whole team when we were competing. It was a fantastic morning!

### Our Netball League

Over three consecutive weeks our Netball team represented the school at a local league. Each week we played two matches, one friendly and one league. After three weeks, we had not lost or drawn a single match! This made us the league winners! We went from strength to strength each week, performing better as a team and getting the final results that we deserved.

### Twitter Page

### @TudhoeColliery

Find us at @TudhoeColliery for regular updates including photos of children's work and general day to day life in school.

### Parent Voice

This is a space for us to comment on any feedback we receive via the half termly newsletter.

As always, we encourage parents to come and speak to us in school at anytime if you have an issue or concern; Jim (Headteacher) and Allison (Deputy Headteacher) are always available. That way we can deal with any issues you may have as if we don't know about it, we can't fix it. Thank you.

In our last newsletter, we had a request to bring back waffles for Breakfast Club. We reviewed our Breakfast Club in the summer term to look at the nutritional value of the foods offered and as a result we've had to remove waffles from the menu, however, there are still lots of other healthier options available.

### What Do You Think?

In each Newsletter we ask for parents' views about our school. Do you have any suggestions? Is there anything we could do better? What are we doing well? Any general comments? Just pop your comment into the box below, cut across the line and send it into the school. (Only include your name if you would like to!)