

## Dunstall Hill Primary School



# SPRING (2) TERM 2022 NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents /Carers,

Another amazing half term, filled with wonderful achievements as we finally see some normality returning to school life.

Please enjoy the magical moments the children have experienced this half term.

As always, thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Please enjoy the Easter break and we look forward to welcoming you and the children back for an exciting Summer term.

Take care and stay safe.

*Mr Fellows*

We are delighted to share the news, on 28<sup>th</sup> February, Mrs Varand welcomed a beautiful baby boy into the world! Reuben weighed 4lb 2oz and Mum and baby are doing well. I'm sure you will join us in wishing Mrs Varand and her family many congratulations.



Miss Foster is also excited to share the news she is expecting a baby boy and will begin her maternity leave during the summer term.



On 3<sup>rd</sup> March Dunstall Hill celebrated the 25th anniversary of World Book Day – with the message for all children 'You Are a Reader'!

Before celebrating World Book Day, all children in KS1 and KS2 were given a 'get reading challenge', where they had to read a book in many unusual places!



The day was filled with fun packed activities and both the children and teachers shared their favourite books.

Every child was given a free book to take home to share with their families.

World Book Day is a reminder to all that books play an essential role in every child's life, by introducing them to a world of imagination, providing knowledge of the outside world, improving their reading, writing and speaking skills as well as boosting memory and intelligence.

Thank you to all that donated, together we raised £192.11.



## GROWTH

The week beginning Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March, we celebrated British Science Week across Dunstall Hill.

Each class worked to create a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) project based on the subject of 'Growth', this year's theme.

During Science Week, children took part in a variety of activities and investigations, ranging from designing and creating their very own space mobiles, observing the life cycle of a chicken / caterpillar, as well as building their own rollercoasters!

Throughout our Newsletter, you will see what exciting science-based activities all children took part in during this week.

The children also got the chance to enter a competition, which demonstrated their own understanding of 'Growth.' We cannot wait to announce the winners very soon.

Thank you to all of the families who supported their child to dress up as a Scientist on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March!



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## Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal



Between 14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> March, Dunstall Hill collected donations for the Ukraine Appeal. Please click the pictures above to enlarge. As you can see, we received an incredible amount of donations and have once again been overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community. Alongside your donations we also raised £155.

At the start of the week, Alland from Year 6, asked us how he could donate all of his savings to the people of Ukraine. This is just one example of the goodwill and generosity we have experienced across school. **Thank you so much for your kindness.**

If you would like to make a donation or read more into how your donations have helped families in Ukraine, please click the image below.



## Autism Acceptance Week

The week beginning 28<sup>th</sup> March, the pupils took part in Autism Acceptance Week. As an autism friendly school this is very important to us. It was fantastic to see all pupils taking part in activities, learning about the history of autism, helping to raise awareness and discussing our roles in school. As always, the children have shown their outstanding knowledge and kindness and reminded us how inclusive the children at Dunstall Hill are. Well done, you make us so proud!



As part of celebrating International Women's Day, the girls at Dunstall Hill participated in a #LetGirlsPlay activity involving football. It was inspiring to see our incredible girls from Nursery to Year 6 embracing this opportunity. They displayed fantastic teamwork throughout, working on their ball skills and playing a game of football.



On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March, Dunstall Hill Football Team played their first home match of the season against St. Stephens. Dunstall Hill shot out the blocks with two early first half goals from Ashveer and Godbles, before conceding just before half time.



The second half was difficult for the boys who then went behind before coming back with goals from Joel and Ilyas. The final score being a 4-4 draw. A truly entertaining match was made even better by the support of our parents and children on the side-line. Your presence was felt by the boys on the pitch. As always, the children represented Dunstall fantastically and we are very proud of their efforts.



## Ramadan



With Ramadan approaching, the children of Dunstall Hill learnt all about Ramadan and the importance for the people who celebrate it. Throughout the school, all year groups took part in different activities in acknowledgement of the event.

In EYFS, the children made window lanterns using different materials to add colour and brightness.



Year 1 held discussions around fasting and food that people eat when they break their fasts during the month of Ramadan. They created their own dinner plates with items of food that they would eat.



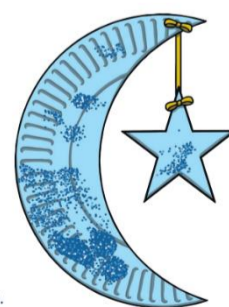
In Years 2 and 5, the children created their own kindness calendars. The children reflected on doing good deeds and devoting themselves to God.

The acts of kindness that the children came up with for their calendars were ideas that the children intended to carry out.



Similar to this, Year 3 thought about which bad habits they would give up during the month of Ramadan and the good deeds that they would carry out.

Year 4 created decorations for the month of Ramadan, including the crescent moon and a star, which represents the five pillars of Islam.



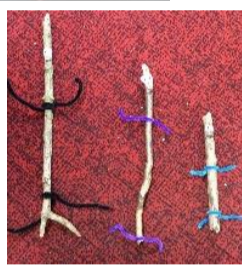
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## Nursery

Nursery had the amazing opportunity of watching chicken eggs hatch this half term. We welcomed our baby chick and named him Doughnut. The children enjoyed watching him hatch, helped to clean out the cage, feed and water him. We also experienced holding Doughnut to feel how soft he was.



Nursery continued to explore the forest during our weekly sessions. This half term the children have participated in making magic wands, stick people linked to our book



'Stick Man' and worked together to make our own scarecrows. We named our class



scarecrow 'Billy.'

The children have been engaging in activities linked to food. We have begun to explore healthy and unhealthy foods and discussed which of these we like or dislike. To celebrate pancake



day, we made our



own pancakes with lemon and sugar. We also joined Reception in making our own jam sandwiches. We had to follow the instructions carefully to get the bread, add butter, jam and fold it. We then enjoyed eating them on our EYFS picnic.



## Reception

Children took part in World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March. Children were invited to dress up as their favourite book characters. All children enjoyed taking part in some lovely activities during the day.

Amongst the many characters were Harry Potter and multiple princesses across the year group. We also had Marry Poppins,

Little Red Riding Hood, Matilda, Snow White, Horrid Henry, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Pirates and the Cat in the Hat. Staff also enjoyed dressing up as much as the children. We hope you enjoy browsing the photographs below.



In Reception for STEM week, we focused on growing and patterns. We used different resources in the classroom to recognise, create and describe patterns.

We took advantage of the National Outdoor Classroom day on Wednesday, to vary our experiences, using fresh and creative approaches to create a repeating pattern using natural materials.

Children were encouraged to look for patterns in the natural environment and re-create these through the use of print. The children had a go at starting with a basic pattern, repeating the same pattern and extending it each time.



For growth, we enjoyed measuring ourselves – we found out that physical growth is measured in height/weight/age. Children measured their heights using a piece of wool. Children were encouraged to use their piece of wool to compare their height to other objects within the environment. The children then recorded their results on a chart.

We are very excited that some caterpillars have arrived in Reception. We will be able to observe the caterpillars closely over the next few weeks as they grow, develop into cocoons and then emerge as beautiful butterflies.



The children in our Reception Class go to Forest School each week and are encouraged to investigate, explore and respect the woodland.

It has been another busy term for all Reception explorers this month, where children have been focusing on the wildlife that lives and grows in our nature areas. The children have been creating lovely art work with the natural resources they find in the forest and in the gardens, they used leaves, flowers and many more items.

We have been looking at the seasons and the changes they make to the trees and leaves by going on a scavenger hunt to collect leaves and twigs to represent the different seasons for our seasonal collage. Also we went on a walk to look for signs of spring. We found leaf buds, new flowers growing and bugs starting to wake up. Children have shown a great interest in building fairy houses and bug hotels using natural materials.



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## Year 1

### World Book Day

For World Book Day the children in Year 1 had the opportunity to listen to a range of books and carry out numerous activities linked to the stories.



They read the story of 'The Bear Hunt' and explored a range of textures within this. They also read 'Handa's Surprise' and 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and created some collages linked to the story. The children also explored the story of Rainbow Fish and created their own unique shiny scale.

The children dressed up as many story characters that they are familiar with and enjoyed sharing their favourite stories.



### Victorian Day

For the children's stunning start to their topic this term they experienced an insight to what Victorian life was like. The children experienced life in a Victorian school as well as carrying out tasks such as weaving, washing clothes using a dolly maid and making toast.

Chicks lifecycle this term the children also had the opportunity to see some eggs hatch and enjoyed seeing the chicks. They observed the chicks over a period of ten days and discussed the lifecycle of a chick and compared this to their learning in class with a lifecycle of a bean plant.



## Year 2

### Julia Donaldson visits Wolverhampton!



Some very lucky children were extremely fortunate to go and meet author Julia Donaldson and illustrator Lydia Monks on 15<sup>th</sup> March. Julia Donaldson is a famous author who has written books such as 'The Gruffalo', 'Stickman' and many more, which the children have been studying in their English lessons.



The children had an amazing time visiting Grand Station in Wolverhampton for an interactive morning of story telling, singing and surprises. This special event also made the Express and Star News. Please click the below image for more information.



For British Science Week, the children in Year 2 explored the theme 'growth'. As one of the activities, they considered what we need to survive and grow. The children were then presented with some facts about Mars and had to consider what basic needs were required for a martian to live and grow there. They then designed and created a martian who would survive on planet Mars using plasticine.



For our Stunning Start to this term's topic 'Rumble in the Jungle', the children in Year 2 created their own jungle themed display. They used different materials to create the animals and the backgrounds. This was presented in the classroom for all to see and admire.



## Year 3

### Adventurers and Explorers

This half term Year 3 children were given the opportunity to study the topic Adventurers and Explorers. To start off the topic, children had the opportunity to spend the whole day engaging in fun activities such as researching famous explorers, fun art activities such as using oil pastels to create a sunset and then creating black silhouettes of bikes.

We studied the text Treasure Island, learning about pirates and treasure maps. We explored compass and navigated their way around a map. The children then learnt about Christopher Columbus and the voyages he took around the world. After this learning,

the children were able to use their knowledge of compasses and maps to create their own treasure maps.



In Science, the children have been learning about animals including



humans. Children had the opportunity, to research, plan, design, create and evaluate an animal's habitat. The children painted their habitats and used lots of different materials to create their amazing habitats, from jungles, rainforests and polar regions.



The children celebrated World Book Day. The children all dressed up as their favourite characters. Children designed a front cover from a blurb that they have read and then moved on to drawing their favourite character. The children completed a book review and shared their reviews to the rest of the class! The children designed and created character puppets and worked in groups to act out a story!



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## Year 4

### Terrific Tennis!

This term, in PE, the children in Year 4 have developed their knowledge of tennis. The children have worked on using the correct grip when holding a tennis racket. Through practice, they have built their competency with using both forehand and backhand. The children have been super stars and worked well individually, in pairs and groups, competing in both singles and doubles competitions.



### Constructing Shaduf's!

In DT this half term, the children thought about the best way that the Ancient Egyptians could have used the water from the River Nile (linking to our topic).



As part of this, the children designed their own constructions using triangulation before building shaduf's which would help the Egyptians take water from the Nile to use for crops.



The children could explain each part of the shaduf and how it is used.

### Investigating Tooth Decay!

In Science, Year 4 wanted to find out what affect different liquids have on teeth. In order to do this, we used hard-boiled eggs in replace of teeth. Each egg was immersed in a different liquid – water, milk, coca cola and orange juice.

The children checked on the eggs every few days to see if there were any changes.

At the end of the week, we concluded that the coca cola and the orange juice had more of an effect on the eggs in different ways, and therefore this would happen to teeth too!



## Year 5

### Singing Workshop

The children had a great opportunity to practise their singing techniques with a music specialist, from the Wolverhampton Music Service, Paul Wilcox. The children learnt more about how to sing, pitch, rhythm and used instruments, such as the dave, along with Paul playing the guitar.



### PCSO Trudy

This term the children had a visit from the resident PCSO Trudy, who spoke to the children about keeping safe outside school.



### British Science week

As part of celebrating British Science week, the children had to design, plan and create their very own solar system mobile, thinking about the growth in diameter of the planets.

They then had to work together and present their masterpieces to the class whilst using scientific vocabulary to describe how the planets move, the difference in sizes, as well as appearance.



## Year 6

Volleyball has been the topic covered this term by year 6. We have been learning volleyball skills including how to spike, set, bump/dig and serve the ball. We used these skills and took part in small games.



Year 6 had lots of fun during British Science Week! We focused on the science behind how roller-coasters work, the conversion of different energy types (potential, kinetic and gravitational) and built upon our prior learning of forces. We used this learning to create our very own 'marble run roller coasters' and presented our learning and our final designs.



This term, we learnt that the main character Michael (from our focus book: Kensuke's Kingdom) is passionate about Japanese shell art – something we could not wait to explore and try for ourselves. Japanese shell art is the art of decorating sea shells with colour, pictures and writing, which has been around from as early as the year 794! Here are a few examples of our work.



## Year 3 and 4 Switch Assembly

Years 3 and 4 had the opportunity to take part in a fun assembly with Christian and Alicia from the Switch Project. Switch offer support to young people by focusing on developing emotional identification, coping skills, communication skills, resilience, personal development and teamwork. All children enjoyed the assembly and were engaged throughout.



For more information on Switch and the brilliant support they offer, please click the image below.



Wolverhampton has some of the lowest vaccination rates across the West Midlands.

For local Covid vaccination walk in centres, please click the image below.



During the holidays, your child may spend more time online. Follow the link below for advice on talking to your child about online safety.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

Miss Cummings, our Family Support Worker has been busy this half term getting to know the wonderful children of Dunstall Hill and their families.



Miss Cummings would like to remind parents that there is always support available. To contact Miss Cummings, please email – [dh.familysupport@perryhallmat.co.uk](mailto:dh.familysupport@perryhallmat.co.uk)

Please see below for further information regarding local events and support over the Easter Break.

**Head 4 Health** – Supporting local adults with their mental wellbeing. To get involved, or for more information please email [healthadmin@wolves.co.uk](mailto:healthadmin@wolves.co.uk) or call 07971 900257



**Lone Parent Group** – Open to lone parents with their children to have a cup of tea and a chat. Click the image below for more detail.



**Yo! Wolverhampton** – Yo! Are offering lots of local fun activities for all the family over the Easter break. For more information on how to get involved, please click the image below.



Kooth is an online counseling service for children 11+. Please click the image below for more information.



Self-care tips for parents and carers: <https://www.annafreud.org/media/12208/selfcarepc-final.pdf>

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March, Miss Thomas attended an annual learning conference at the University of Wolverhampton. Miss Thomas aims to bring forward the forgotten parts of the Black British History Curriculum.

Please click the below image for more detail.



## IMPORTANT DATES

Easter Break Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April - 22<sup>nd</sup> April  
Children return to school on - 25<sup>th</sup> April  
Bank Holiday, School Closed - 2<sup>nd</sup> May  
Half Term Break 30<sup>th</sup> May - 3<sup>rd</sup> June  
Children return to school - 6<sup>th</sup> June

Food Banks:

Everyone prosper SDB Foodbank  
Telephone 07417 591746.

Based in the Whitmore Reans area. A collection of non-perishable food is available any evening between 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm.

They also deliver food parcels to those in need on a fortnightly basis. Providing fresh fruit and vegetables, toiletries, baby items such as milk, nappies, wipes and other essential baby equipment.

Call for more information- 07417 591746



From all at Dunstall Hill, we would like to wish you a happy Easter and restful break. We look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April.

