

Welcome to our March Feel Good Friday Newsletter.

Please share this on all of your social media channels and let's celebrate the work of schools, colleges and academies in Stockton.

in this issue >>>

- *New Outdoor Playground*
- *Plant a Tree for The Jubilee*
- *Women in Science*
- *World Book Day*
- *Easter Holiday Activities*
- *Art Week*
- *Ukraine Fun Run & Collection Day*
- *Ukrainian Crisis Appeal*

Issue

March 22

A Monthly Insight into School Life

FEEL GOOD FRIDAY NEWSLETTER

Durham Lane Primary School's new outdoor playground certainly looks exciting!

Before



The Early Years area now has a mud kitchen where nursery and reception children can play with clay and a theatre area too.

Plus there's new play equipment and a canopy with landscaped grounds which the children are already loving.

Helen Gregory, Head Teacher of Durham Lane Primary School, said: "We're delighted with the new Early Years area, which is now complete. It is so much better than we could have ever imagined and it has been lovely to see the children thoroughly enjoy it."

Early Years children and this investment will not only make sure that pupils have lots of fun in the fresh air but the space has been carefully designed to help them improve their development and boost key skills such as working together, speech and communication."

These improvements are part of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council's school investment programme, which is continuing across the Borough.

After



Barley Fields - Tree Planting For the Jubilee

On Friday 11th of March the Mayor of Stockton on Tees joined the Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire, Joanna Ropner, to 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee' in the recently developed Forest School area at Barley Fields Primary. The children have been involved in fundraising for trees and developing the area as part of the 'Queens Green Canopy' project and the school recently received ten additional fruits trees from the council. The ceremonial planting was assisted by members of the school pupil council, pupil governors and members of the Eco Committee. It was a great honour to be involved and we excitedly await the growth of the trees in Spring.



Billingham South

Women in Science

As part of our Science Curriculum, children across Billingham South learn about some of the great Women Scientists. From Y1 to Y6, these include Jane Goodall, Rachel Carson and Mamie Phipps Clarke.



By learning about the work of these amazing women, children were able to look at science illustration, sea life, space travel and other areas too.

Easter Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

Easter Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) – Parent/Carer Comms

Fun, food and friends this Easter!

Could your child be eligible for free activities this Easter?

All children and young people aged 5-16 years old who live in Stockton-on-Tees and are in receipt of benefits-related free school meals are being offered a place for fun activities, including a meal over the Easter holidays.

There is a wide range of activities on offer including sports, boxing, martial arts, high wire adventures at Go Climb, dancing, drama workshops, music, arts and crafts, cooking, gardening and horse riding.

This is a great way to have fun this Easter, build confidence, learn new skills and receive a nutritious meal each day.

The programme is delivered by Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council in partnership with the Department for Education and Catalyst.

To find out more, check your eligibility and register visit www.stockton.gov.uk/haf

The Links

Art week 2022

In January we celebrated the life and work of Frida Kahlo, each class researched her life and art work. The children were inspired and produced their own paintings, self-portraits, 3D collages, sculptures, canvases and shopping bags. The children produced some wonderful work and had a fun week. Each class produced a mood board and an online gallery to showcase the children's work. Year 6 even made a catwalk video to show off their shopping bags!



Ukraine Fun Run and Collection Day

It was such an amazing sight to see all the children and staff come to school dressed in blue and yellow on Friday 11th March showing their support for Ukraine. We decided we didn't only want to wear the Ukrainian colours but also wanted to run to show our support. Children and teachers joined in running ran five laps around the school field equating to 1 mile. Even Nursery and Reception managed to get their full mile in, some children with energy to spare!

We were completely overwhelmed by the donations given to our Just Giving page and our school community managed to raise £948. That money will be well used supporting the people of Ukraine.

But this wasn't the only thing we did to help Ukraine, one of the parents in our school has been collecting items for Ukraine. So, we also reached out to our school community to ask for donations of supplies and again the response and generosity of our school community is outstanding. We are so grateful to have such an amazing school community.

Well done The Links Primary, we may be small but we have a big heart!

Ian Ramsey responds to the Ukrainian Crisis Appeal



Mrs Proudman, Peter, Chloe, Eden, Noah, Heidi, and Theo getting ready to load up the minibus

Mrs Proudman, our Year 10 and 11 Pastoral Manager, put out the appeal for items to help those affected by the war in Ukraine and, a week later, this was the result!

A massive thank you to our wonderful Ian Ramsey community for all the donations. The minibus was loaded up twice and the items are on the way to where they are needed.



Loading up for the second time



A very full minibus. Thank you



Wanting to help, Chloe and Grace organised a bake sale over the weekend and raised a massive £100

The Worship Leaders with the help of Catherine Simpson, from the Durham Diocese, and Cydney Nugent, Youth Pastor from Stockton Parish Church, have created a prayer space where pupils and staff can go to contemplate the experiences of those people in the Ukraine and can pray for peace.

World Book Day 3rd March 2022

Thank you to all of the schools have taken part in World Book Day 2022

Oakdene Primary

At Oakdene we had an amazing time celebrating **World Book Day**. Teachers and children looked fabulous dressed up as their favourite book characters - a huge thank you to all parents and carers for showing how creative you can be! Teachers planned exciting activities around their key author/s so that the children were **immersed in the enjoyment of reading for pleasure**. Mrs Stevenson officially opened **'The Reading Retreat'** so that children can access at quiet times or get hooked in a book during break times. Special parcels arrived at the main office for children in reception and Y1. The boxes contained reading buddies for every child. This is a great way to instil **daily reading habits for life**. Hopefully, the children came home and shared their new found knowledge and were inspired to read for pleasure at every opportunity. Following on from this, at the end of last week and going into this week, all classes enjoyed a **Book Tasting activity**, which enabled them to explore different book genres and new authors. The idea was that the children spent time reading books that challenged their book choices and hopefully inspired them to move away from familiar authors and continue to expand their knowledge of authors and the range of books available to them.



Mill Lane Primary

Children and staff of Mill Lane dressed as our favourite book characters for World Book Day. Every child received a free book and we enjoyed some amazing activities and took part in an extreme reading challenge.



St Joseph's Norton

World Book Day

The children of St Joseph's Catholic Academy, Norton celebrated the 25th World Book Day, with a love of reading abundantly clear, for all to see. The children dressed up and took part in a costume parade - they had great fun spotting their favourite book characters.

Throughout the day the children participated in many exciting reading activities. They visited our 'book cafe', swapped pre-loved books with one another, visited a 'read aloud' session of their choice to hear staff read our favourite books, and then they took part in a mystery book quiz where they identified which book was wrapped up, from the clues they were given.

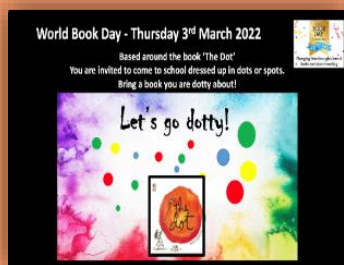
To end the day, the children entered a 'book in a box' competition. The entries were fabulous, and some very worthy winners were chosen to receive a prize. A very busy and exciting day was had by all.



St Pauls

World Book Day

We had lots of fun on our “The Dot” themed World Book Day.



St John The Baptist

World Book Day

At St John’s this year we focussed on sharing stories. We asked our children to dress up as their favourite character from their favourite book, and to bring that book with them so they could share it with the class. The Reading Champions were tasked with judging whose outfits were the most imaginative and creative and they had a very difficult task, as our children had been fantastic in their creations for their outfits! We shared stories each day and in our morning Worship, the children were treated to a whole school sharing of one of the teachers’ favourite picture books. The children all had a fantastic day and were really eager to share their favourite books with other children. The prize winners were able to choose their own brand new books from Drakes. Pictured are our prize winners (staff member included!).

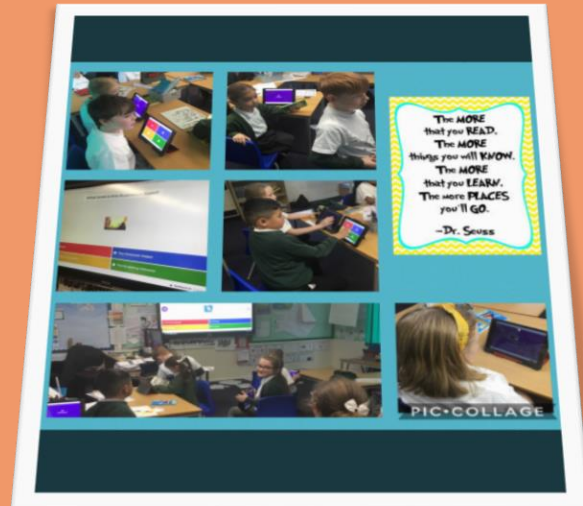
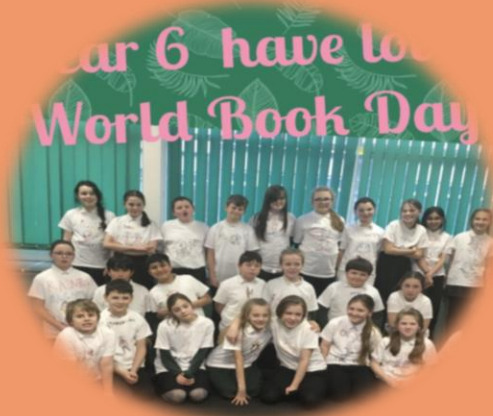


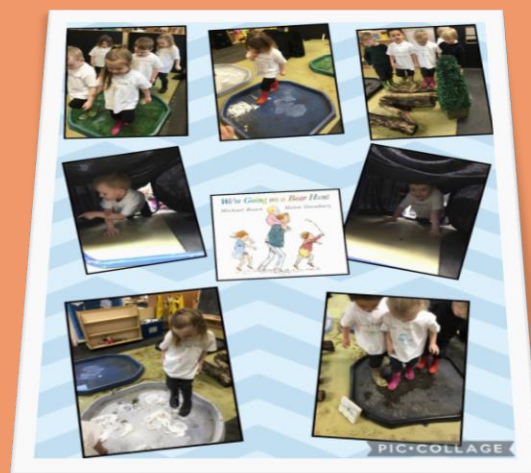
Bader

World Book Day

This year, Bader Primary decided not to ask parents to provide children with a fancy dress costume. Instead, we provided every child and staff member with a white T-shirt. Children and staff together then had a great time using fabric pens and decorating them with their favourite book character.

Children gathered in the hall for an assembly- we talked about the history of world book day and enjoyed participating in a quiz together. Best of all, all children and the staff too, paraded their World Book Day T-shirts around the hall in assembly. Each child then got to take a book home, which was provided by Drake's Bookshop.





Hartburn Primary

World Book Day



The Links

World Book Day

World Book Day

The children and staff at The Links Primary School had an amazing World Book Day. They came to school dressed as favourite characters from books or in their pyjamas, ready to share stories! Our Early Years children had a superhero theme with an evil pea roaming around the classes. Some year groups enjoyed hot-seating activities to get into character, with one Gangsta Granny bringing her tin of stolen jewels. There were pirates taking part in a scavenger book hunt and book tasting with an afternoon tea twist! Some children were designing and making miniature reading areas, complete with electronics. All the classes had a brilliant time and were totally immersed in the world of books and reading.



St Gregory's

World Book Day

St Gregory's celebrated World Book Day with all things reading.

The children started the morning with a whole school assembly where they took part in a quiz. Throughout the day, there were many activities for the children to enjoy including creating bookmarks, writing stories, and even reading stories with different classes.

The children were invited to dress up as their favourite book character for the day and everyone had a great time!

