

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

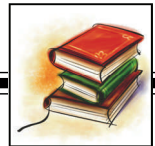
WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils and Friends

DATE: 1st May 2009

Dear Parents

Now that our Library is well and truly established, and being enjoyed by all of our children, the love for reading is being spread throughout the school. We would like to offer you the opportunity to come to the Library each Thursday between 3.20pm and 3.45pm with your child on to borrow a book to share with your child. The first session takes place on Thursday, 7th May. At the first session we will be giving out goodie bags. We hope to see you at the Library!



THE FRIENDS OF BLAYDON WEST are holding an informal planning meeting for the Edwardian Fayre we are holding on Monday, 8th June.

The meeting will be held in the staffroom on Tuesday, 5th May at 3.30pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

We will be looking for ideas and volunteers to help run stalls, make simple costumes etc.

If you think you can help in any way please come along.

THE CURIOUS CASE OF GARIBALDI'S MISSING BODY

Your child will have received a letter yesterday regarding a project being run by Blaydon Arts Group on Saturday 8th May between 1.00pm and 2.30pm to locate the whereabouts of the remains of Garibaldi's statue that disappeared many years ago.

As stated on the letter places are limited so if your child would like to take part please return the form to school as soon as possible.

PARENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE

We will be sending out a questionnaire to parents next week to gain an insight into what parents think about our school.

Please use this questionnaire to give us feedback.

Once the questionnaires have been received we will look at them to see what we can do to improve the service we offer to both children and parents in school.

Please remember if there is anything at all you are concerned about in school you are more than welcome to discuss issues with either your child's class teacher or myself.

ATTENDANCE FIGURES

This week's attendance figures are:

Reception— 85.0%, 1B—79.2%, 2W— 96.2%, 3L— 82.4%, 4C— 92.8%, 5D—94.6% 6C—98.1% and 6F—93.3%.

The attendance prize was won by Miss Collins' and Mrs Champion's class! Our whole school attendance is 90.2% which is well below our school target. With your help we will continue to work to improve our attendance.

As a reward Miss Collins' and Mrs Champion's class will receive 10 minutes free time and will have the attendance rosette, cup and mascot for a week.

Our Year 2 children had a wonderful visit on Wednesday to St Mary's Lighthouse.

Below are some extracts about our children's experiences!

A recount of my visit to St Mary's Island by Shona Bassett

As soon as I got on the bus I was very excited. We were going on a school trip to St Mary's Island, which is a lighthouse.

Firstly we went across the long causeway and Captain Raggybeard took us into a little room. Then he told us a wonderful non-fiction story about him seeing mermaids and about mermaid's tears. He said if you find some you are allowed to take them home. So we set off after we got our nets and buckets to the slippery rock pools to see what we would catch. The first thing I had to do was fill the bucket then me and Jessica shared the net and bucket politely. While I was waiting for Jessica to catch something I was walking quietly around the rock pools and I found some interesting pieces of pottery and a mermaid's tear. At the end of rock pooling we showed each other what we had caught. Altogether we had caught some hermit crabs, shore crabs, an extremely long prawn, a shrimp and some winkles. Before we had our scrumptious lunch Captain Raggybeard showed us a magic ring which changed colour and told if your future would be lucky or unlucky. Then we had our magnificent lunch. For lunch I had a sandwich, a bottle of juice, a yogurt, a packet of crisps and a Bounty bar!

A recount of my visit to St Mary's Island by Anya Kaszefko

First we went on the bus. I looked out of the windows trying to spot anything green. I spotted trees, leaves, signs and cars. Next we came off the bus and walked along the causeway and met a man called Captain Raggybeard. We listened to his magnificent adventures. One of his adventures was about mermaids' tears. He said they came in different colours. After that we went rock pooling. I caught a few shrimps, a tiny crab, hermit crabs and sea snails. Then we had a really tasty lunch. After we had our lunch we went to the beach to do some sea art. My group did a black shark. Then it was time to go home. Me and Hollie played sea creatures. Hollie was a limpet and I was a sea anemone.

A recount of my visit to St Mary's Island by Matthew McNichol

First we went to St Mary's Island on the bus. When we got there we saw someone called Captain Raggybeard. After that we went to the rock pools. We caught some crabs, some hermit crabs and fish. Later Captain Raggybeard told us a story about him going to Madagascar. I was interested. Then it was time to have our lovely lunch. I was excited because we were going to climb to the top of the lighthouse. We did but it was scary! I didn't look down.

Finally it was our last activity. We did some beach art but it wasn't just normal. We made it from sand and things we found on the beach.

Then it was time to go back to school.

I loved the trip!



MANY THANKS to Shona, Matthew and Anya for their wonderful recounts of their trip.

Although we only had room for a few recounts I am sure there are many other children in the class who enjoyed their experiences on the Island with Captain Raggybeard.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you that school is closed on Monday for the Bank Holiday.

School re-opens at 8.55am on Tuesday. I look forward to seeing you all then.

Finally, I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

PM Bailey

Head Teacher