



Nursery

 **Pupil of the Week**

Pupil of the Week is Spencer Spearman for being so interested in what seeds need to grow well.

In Nursery, we have been learning all about people who help us. This week we have had a visit from the police and our community support officers. They brought the police car, the police bike and Lee Wilson brought his police dogs, Poppy and Panther! We now know that the police help us in so many ways. Not just "catching the bad guys."

For Science Week, we have been looking at the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. We have talked about how to plant our broad beans and what they need to grow well. We know that they need water, soil and sunlight. We know that we need water and lots of vitamin D to help us to grow big and strong too. Nursery also made cress heads. We will watch them grow.

Year 1

 **Pupil of the Week**

Pupil of the Week is Emma Foster for producing an excellent recount of Zog and The Flying Doctors!

Year 1 and Mrs Berry finally got to meet on Wednesday! The children thoroughly enjoyed working with Mrs Berry and chatting to her. Mrs Berry is one of our school governors.

Year 3

 **Pupil of the Week**

Pupil of the Week is Robyn Steel for being a super scientist.

Year 6

 **Pupil of the Week**

Pupil of the week is Lilly Gill for her sensible attitude when exploring landmarks in Newcastle.



Reception

 **Pupil of the Week**

Pupil of the Week is Zoe Lucas for making great predictions during our floating and sinking investigation

We have had an exciting week with a visit from the police dog and the police motorbike as well as Lyndon Longhorne. We wrote to the pirate from our story and were very pleased to receive a message in a bottle from him! We have seen a video of a pirate ship in our outdoor area. We have explored floating and sinking, planted beans and measured our height with string as part of Science Week.

Year 2

 **Pupil of the Week**

Pupil of the Week is for Max Tate for his fantastic knowledge about the Easter Story in RE. He remembered all of the names and places in the story.

Year 4

 **Pupil of the Week**

Pupil of the Week is Alfie Faulker for incredible understanding of and enthusiasm for decimals!

On Tuesday, we had a virtual visit from the Roman Baths where we learnt about the important Roman artefacts that are on show in their museum.

Year 5

 **Pupil of the Week**

Pupil of the Week is Alfie this week. Alfie has had a brilliant week in school this week. He has been kind and caring to his classmates and he has had a mature attitude towards his learning. Keep it up Alfie!

Mr. Whitelock's Sports Superstars

- Year 1:
George Irwin & Matilda Miles
- Year 2:
Alfie Evans and & Maddie Mitford
- Year 3:
Cooper Spearman & Kelsey Whitelock
- Year 4:
Alfie Hart & Chloe Miles
- Year 5:
Olivia King & Alex Owens
- Year 6:
Oliver Norris & Ava-Mae Ridley



TOTAL DRAMA ALL★STARS

Mr Gough's Drama Superstars!

Reception

Amelia
Fox

Year 1

Bella
Freddie

Year 2

Tianna
Liam

Year 3

Macie
Poppy

Year 4

Alfie H
Chloe W

Year 5

Layton
Elena

Year 6

Cole
Oliver

General News

Progress Meetings

Open evenings will take place Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd March. More information will be shared after the half term break. All curriculum information is available on the school website.

History Day

In order to bring history to life and raise the profile of the subject across the school, we have planned a range of history themed days which will take place throughout the year. This term, Year 3 are learning about Ancient Egypt, so our first history day will be *The Egyptians*.

Visit to Whitworth Comprehensive School

Year 5 are visiting Whitworth Comprehensive School Wednesday 23rd March.

Reading at Home

Reading records will be checked on a weekly basis. Please listen to your child(ren) read at home and sign their record book. Thank you.

Robinwood

Mr Gough, Miss Denham and Miss Gregg will be accompanying the children on the Robinwood visit.

Massive thanks to Richard Pulman of AUTO-SPEC garage Ferryhill.

Richard has kindly sponsored our school football team. Look out for our great new football strips.



Auto-Spec is known in Ferryhill and the surrounding areas in particular for car bodywork, car servicing and MOTs. We've recently added specialist TerraClean fuel system cleaning, and DPF cleaning too.

Garage 01740 654400 Mobile 07876732790

Safeguarding

Stay safe when playing out and about.

Now the days are getting longer and the nights are getting lighter, you might be spending more time playing with your friends outside. Remember *Stranger Danger*.

Check out the website www.Safety4kids.com [Stranger Danger Tips - Safety 4 Kids](#)

Hi kids, please visit our website! My name is **Buddy** and here are my friends, **Hazel**, **Eric**, and **Paulie**. Together, we make the special **Safety 4 Kids** team.



We have some great tips for you on road safety, stranger danger, bullying, pool safety, and internet safety that you can view by visiting our [Safety Zone](#). Our [Fun Zone](#) section is full of exciting games.

Headteacher's Awards

- ❖ Mrs Allen and the Early Years Team for working together and making the move back to Ducklings as easy as possible.
- ❖ Charlie Dyce for being such a good friend to Bruce.
- ❖ Year 6 for their excellent behaviour during their school trip to Newcastle City Centre and the Baltic.

Guidance from Durham Education Authority

Watching the horrors of war unfold has been very difficult for many adults this week. TV and Radio news are full of information about the awful attacks on the Ukrainians and, perhaps one advantage of social media, is letting us all see what happens when one country invades another. Much of the information on TV has, to a certain extent, been sanitised with the most horrific content removed, this is not the case on social media. We have recently become concerned that some of our children are seeing horrific pictures and videos of the war, and some are struggling to cope with what they have seen. There is not one particular app or website that is worse than the others. Pictures and videos of the war are available on YouTube, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat and probably lots of other social media sites too. In addition, they are being reposted so they do not always come directly from The Ukraine. We strongly recommend you take some actions to help your children:

1. Discuss this with your children, have they seen upsetting content? Explain what you would like them to do if they see something scary. (Turn the device upside down and get either Mum, Dad or their carer – they are not in trouble).
2. Carefully consider what social media (if any) is suitable for your children. The minimum age for most platforms is 13 because the content providers cannot guarantee that it is suitable for a younger audience.
3. Set up parental controls on devices. Many apps have settings which try and limit the most graphic content – but even with safety features turned on, content is not guaranteed to be “child friendly”. The website “Internet Matters” <https://www.internetmatters.org/> is particularly useful in providing advice on most apps and security settings.
4. Talk and listen to your children. We can’t pretend this isn’t happening and they may well have questions and worries which are better discussed than kept secret.
5. If you have serious concerns then please talk to the school as staff there may be able to help, or it might be that other children from the school are equally affected.

Bruce’s Corner



Sometimes we have to do as we are told.

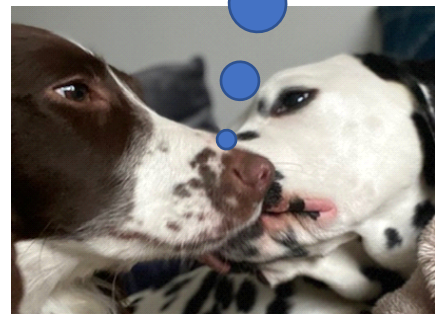


My mate Biff came to visit last weekend. He needed to offload his problems, as he is having a few issues with his owner. As you can see I listened to him very carefully.

Biff complained, because his owner would not let him sleep on her bed and eat all of his treats at once. Biff needs to learn he can’t always have his own way. I reminded him that there are times when we have to follow instructions- whether we like it or not. This made Biff cross.

You should have done as you were told in the first place, Biff.

After a little while, Biff stopped feeling angry and said sorry. I am pleased to say, we are still friends.



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Updates

Parental Support

Following the discussion at the coffee morning around parental support groups, services and the Local Offer from Durham County Council, please find below useful links to gain advice and support:

Kinship

Kinship is the leading kinship care charity in England and Wales. We're here for all kinship carers – the grandparents and siblings, the aunts, uncles, and family friends who step up to raise children when their parents can't.

<https://kinship.org.uk/>

Durham County Carers Support

Durham County Carers Support is a registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee. We are a voluntary organisation that provides free high-quality services and support to unpaid Carers over the age of 18 who support someone living in the County Durham & Darlington.

<https://www.dccarers.org/>

Durham Grandparents Support Group – Durham Christian Partnership

DCP delivers a variety of projects with the aim of making a positive difference to the lives of people living, working and visiting County Durham.

<https://www.durhamcp.org.uk/grandparents-support-group>

Occupational Therapy Support

Proprioception is feedback from our muscles and joints. It helps children know where their bodies are in space and how much force is required to complete a task. Children may seek out proprioceptive sensory input in order to enable them to feel calm and emotionally regulated.

Kids Master Skills

Ways to Provide PROPRIOCEPTIVE Activities at Home

- RESISTANCE WORK!**
 - Push chair, table, or heavy box
 - Pull wagon; Jump on bed; Hang from bars
 - Sweep floor; Wipe counter;
 - Push feet on theraband on legs of desk
 - Pull on a rope tied to a doorknob or tree
- CARRY & CLIMB!**
 - Carry books; Carry backpack; Stack chairs
 - Toss, roll, carry, and catch a weighted ball
 - Wear wrist and ankle weights
 - Rearrange a shelf of cans and boxes
 - Climb on outdoor play equipment
- ANIMAL WALKS!**
 - Slither like a snake; Slide like a worm
 - Creep like a spider; Crawl like an ant
 - Bear walk with hands and feet on floor
 - Cat walk and arch your back
 - Pony gallop on hands and feet
- MUSCLE WORKOUT!**
 - Knee push-ups; Wall push-ups; Chair push-ups; Planks; Long jumps
 - Play tug of war; Commando crawl
 - Crawling/Creeping obstacle course
 - Wheelbarrow walk; Yoga poses
- ORAL MOTOR INPUT!**
 - Chewy jewelry; Vibrating oral toys
 - Suck a candy; Drink from a straw; Chew gum
 - Drink from water bottle; Eat crunchy foods
 - Blow bubbles; Blow a whistle; Blow pompoms across a table; Blow into pop tubes/straws
- SQUISH AND BE SQUISHED!**
 - Give and get bear hugs and massage
 - Squish between cushions; Roll in blankets
 - Stress ball; Playdoh; Theraputty
 - Weighted lap pad/vest; Compression garments
 - Squish under therapy ball; Joint compressions

Dr. Lisa Marnell, Occupational Therapist www.KidsMasterSkills.com

Miss Gregg is our school SENCO. if you would like to speak to her about your child's special educational needs, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment. **Miss Gregg is now available to contact via your child's Class Dojo account.**