



Greenhead CE Nursery and Primary School

Newsletter

Newsletter No. 5 Autumn Term 2023

Friday 22nd December

West Tyne Federation of Schools

Executive Headteacher - Mr Mike Glenton NPQH, MEd, BSc (Hons)

Assistant Head Teacher - Mrs Sherry Makepeace, BSc (Hons)

Greenhead

Northumberland

CA8 7HB

Tel 016977 47347

A Message from the Head Teacher

It doesn't feel like we should be at the end of our first term this year...Our first day in September seems like it was only last week - but what a great term it has been and the progress and love of learning across school has been amazing! We are all looking forward to seeing what next term will bring...

What a jam-packed end to the half term we have had; nativities, pantomime and cinema visits, Christmas performances, Christmas jumper day, Christmas dinner, Christingle services and a Santa dash! We have been so fortunate to offer the children these wonderful, festive enrichments and I would like to take this opportunity to say a HUGE thank you to the staff across the Federation who work tirelessly to make these events happen - we really do have a great team across our two church schools.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas break and enjoy this festive time with your nearest and dearest, see you all in 2024!

Best wishes, Mr Glenton

Key Stage 2 Production of the Snow Queen at Haydon Bridge High School

We were immensely proud of our Key Stage 2 children from school on Friday as they performed their Christmas production of 'The Snow Queen' to over 90 people for the first showing and a whopping 185 people in the second showing!

Performing on a stage, with microphones, a sound system and lighting can be quite daunting but it was quite clear to see the confidence, resilience and dedication each and every member of Key Stage 2 brought to the production with dancing, singing, acting and a bit of Christmas sparkle! Check out the pictures on Facebook - we can't wait to see what the next production at the High School will be next Christmas!



Class News

Early Years

Eden class have enjoyed reading the story of the *Gingerbread Man*. We followed a recipe to make gingerbread and wrote our own instructions such as 'mix it' and 'cut it'. We learnt some wonderful words that aren't in the book such as pursue, accelerate and cunning. We used these wonderful words to re-tell the story with our puppets. The children carried out a gingerbread man experiment to find out what would happen if he fell in different liquids. We made some fantastic predictions and observations. Ask your child if they can tell you the story.

Clyde Class

We have loved planning our story maps to retell the story of *The Gruffalo* linked to our class author. In addition to this we have been working with a local author Sarah Fae who retold her story "*Ghost the Christmas Stag*" and worked on a range of activities linked to the story. In Maths Year 1 have been exploring addition and subtraction linked to number bonds. Year 2 have been exploring 2D and 3D shapes. During Science we have been working scientifically to make predictions about which edible slime would be best and why. To continue to support your child at home listen to your child read every day for five minutes.

Danube Class

Danube class has been getting into the Christmas Spirit with lots of festive based maths activities this week. The children have been solving problems using their multiplication and division knowledge. We have been looking at the features of play scripts in English. The children looked amazing in their Christmas jumpers today and enjoyed being served their Christmas dinner by Mr Glenton! We hope you all stay safe and have a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing all the children back, recharged and raring to go in January 2024!

Mississippi Class

Mississippi class have had a jam packed few weeks! We shone brightly at our Christmas performance at Haydon Bridge High School and are all super proud of each other. We have enjoyed a trip to the cinema, the Christingle at the church and another trip to Haydon Bridge to create Ancient Chinese clay masks. We are looking forward to beginning our new topics next half term - Merry Christmas!



Our School Promise

Our School Promise reminds us of our vision and values that we hold dear at The West Tyne Church Schools Federation.

We felt all the children deserved an award for their hard work, commitment and enthusiasm shown during their Nativity Play at school, the Snow Queen performance at HBHS and their Christingle service at St Cuthbert's Church.



Well done everyone, we are so proud of you all!

Also a special mention to the staff who help to make these wonderful events happen. A very BIG THANK YOU.

Attendance: **Every day is important to give children their full entitlement to an exciting learning journey**

Eden - 96%

Clyde - 94.5%

Danube - 98.2%

Mississippi - 97.1%

Whole School - 97%

Our target for attendance is 96%



Opening Schools Facilities - National Press Release

The Department for Education has worked with their partners, RISE to facilitate opening schools facilities further to get children and our communities more active and engaged in physical activity. At Henshaw and Greenhead Primary Schools, we have been successful in our bids to develop our sporting clubs and after schools facilities and have been chosen as a case study of how developing after school clubs has a huge benefit to young children. Last week, our football team and one of our Reception cohorts took part in a photoshoot to promote our great work through a national press release. Here are some examples of the photographs taken.



St Oswald's Hospice



St Oswald's
Hospice

We will continue to support the wonderful work of our local charity, 'St Oswald's Hospice', in the coming year. Thank you for your help so far with our fundraising efforts, where all profits will go towards supporting families in our local area who desperately need this provision. St Oswald's sent a goodbye celebration video with the children, which was a lovely way to mark the end of the Shaun the Sheep trail. Look out for our next fundraising event, a film night, after Christmas!

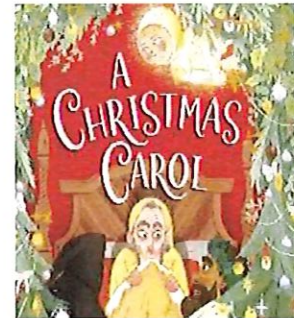
A quick message from our local library

Haltwhistle library are running a series of holiday activities tomorrow, including a dance production and workshop based on A Christmas Carol.

Aptly named 'The Three Jolly Ghosts of Christmas', it is a brand new contemporary take on the classic tale touring Northumberland Libraries this Christmas holidays and coming to Haltwhistle on 23rd December at 10.30am

(Please see the poster on the last page)

Tickets are 'Pay As You Decide' on the day, but places need to be booked using the following link:



<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-three-jolly-ghosts-of-christmas-tickets-730676000587>

Teacher training Day

Today, school will close for the next two weeks for the Christmas holidays. **On Monday 8th January**, we start the term with a Teacher Training Day whereby school is closed to children. We look forward to welcoming the children and their families back to school on **Tuesday 9th January** for the start of Spring Term.

From all of the staff across the West Tyne Church Schools Federation, we wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

A final thought...

It is through our family that we first learn to compromise, and come to an understanding that even if we don't always agree about things, we can still love and look out for each other. **Sara Sheridan**



The Three Jolly Ghosts of Christmas

Saturday 23 December, 10.30am | Haltwhistle Library

 Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Xf@ @eliotsmithdance

scan the QR code to
book tickets!



Illustrator: Daniel J. Weatherill