



# Newsletter

In April all children in year 6, will have table tennis coaching.



**On Thursday 18th February**, Shildon Library are delighted to have local artist Liz Million in to offer a free Cartoon workshop for children during the upcoming half term holidays between 10:00am and 11:30am

## ISSUE 8

Spring Term  
February 2016

### Welcome to Miss Crilley

I am pleased to inform you that Miss Crilley, a Higher Level Teaching Assistant, joined our school at the beginning of this term. Welcome to Timothy Hackworth Miss Crilley.

#### Reading at Home

Article 29 – All children have the right to be the best that they can be

Listening to your child reading at home is very important. Five minutes of reading at home each day can make a huge difference to your child's reading and overall academic ability.

Please use your child's Reading Record to make a short comment on your child's reading at home.



### A Message from Mrs. Boulton,

We are very proud of your children coming back to school in the new year with such a positive start. The children are trying hard with their learning; we can see the children demonstrating their 'Learning Powers' of resilience, perseverance and resourcefulness in particular. Visitors to school have also commented on the children's learning focus in lessons, their respectful behaviour in class and around school and their willingness to 'have a go'. Recent visitors into school also commented that your children are the most respectful, polite and well-mannered children that they have ever met in their travels around schools in the Durham area. Well done children!

I am pleased to inform you that the new fencing at the edge of the school field, running alongside the footpath at the bottom of Oxford Street, is a positive addition to ensuring the safety of your children in school. With thanks to local residents for their support during the construction of the fencing.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family an enjoyable half term.

Mrs. Boulton



### Book Amnesty!

If you have any school reading books, library books etc. at home that need to be returned to school please do send them back – there will be no questions asked! Thank you.

# Well done!

## Pupil of the Week Awards

1T— Lucas Horner; Tyler Robertson; Zak Cooper; Riley Askew; Connor Scaife.

1H— Luci Butterfield; Ambrose Beecham; Imogen Sedgwick;  
Brooke Derbyshire; Riley Bell.

2T— Whole Class; Mason Hopwood; Tilly Chester; Leighton Baxter;  
Abbie Claydon-Wood.

2H— Reece Cadd; Summer Oman; Lucas Ellwood; Sophia Meadows.

3T— Lily Holmes; Chloe Harwood; Harley Nixon; Tyler Fletcher; Shannon Durkin.

3H— All of 3H; Rosie Henderson; Connor Thompson; Millie Sanderson; Carly Scaife.

4T— Daniel Tomlinson; Sam Hopper; Mia Wilson; Owen Wells; Aimee Gray.

4H— Yasmin Ferens; Anthony Hickson; Grace Long; Owen Robertson; Lilly Tinkler.

5T— All of 5T; Matthew Jones; James Plews; Caitlyn Lawton; Caitlin Schofield

5H— Dylan Matthews; Kean-James Gillan; Tyler Leigh; Eve Finch; Tegan Dowson

6T— Cameron Caygill; Ebony Allinson; Sophie Wright; Abbie Webb-Brown; Declan Bryan.

6H— Imogen Flatman; Abbie Siddle; Morgan Bennett; All of 6H; Joshua Greenwood.

Well done!!

### Parent Questionnaires

#### **Article 12 – The right to an opinion**

Spring Term questionnaires will be sent out after half term. Please complete these and return to school. We value your opinion.

#### **Ofsted Update – Progress so Far: Article 28 – All children have the right to a good education**

Following our Ofsted inspection in November 2015, I explained that there would be an 'Ofsted Update' in each News-letter to inform you of our progress. To date, we have focused on the following:

The Post-Ofsted Action Plan is currently being implemented, monitored and reviewed on a regular basis; Although overall attendance levels are improving, there continues to be a large number of children whose attendance and punctuality is a cause for concern. We need your help with this. Legal action will be taken where necessary in order to address the issue of persistent absenteeism in school. Please help your children and us by sending your child into school each day;

The children are currently completing end of Spring half term assessments. Data from these assessments will be analysed and actions identified;

Improvements continue to be seen in the children's 'Behaviour for Learning' across the school. This means that children are focusing and concentrating on their learning rather than becoming distracted;

Planned monitoring of teaching and learning throughout the school continues to take place;

Training days and staff meetings are focused on key actions from the Ofsted inspection report;

There continues to be a significant focus on the teaching and learning of Reading (including Phonics), Writing and Mathematics across the school.

We continue to receive many positive comments from parents, carers, other local schools and members of the local community who praise the work of children and staff.



## **Eleven Arches – The UK's Biggest Open-Air Night Show in Summer 2016 – in Bishop Auckland!**

### **Article 29 – All children have the right to be the best they can be**

*Russia bid for it, China bid for it - and Bishop Auckland got it!*

*I am delighted to inform you about an extremely exciting event planned for this Summer. You may already be aware of the Bishop Auckland 'Eleven Arches' project which will result in a series of live open-air night shows this Summer. The Eleven Arches project, based at Auckland Castle, is a fantastic opportunity for all the family to be involved, both young and old alike!*

*The shows will be presented, delivered and performed by over a 1,000 local volunteers from our area. The stage, set in the grounds of Auckland Castle, is the size of five football pitches. There are many volunteer roles still available, even though the target for 1,000 local volunteers has already been met. The youngest volunteer is 2 years old, the oldest being 89! All volunteers continue to be made welcome. The following gives you an idea of how you might be able to contribute. The Eleven Arches Team are in need of:*

*Parking attendants*

*Horse riders*

*Landscaping*

*Dancers*

*First Aiders*

*Tickets and Bookings support*

*Sales and Communication*

*Ushers*

*Food and drinks support*

*Security*

*Technical Team*

*Costume-Making*

*Pyrotechnics Team*

*Set and Props Team*

*Actors (no learning of lines needed!)*

*...and more... there is something for everyone!*

*School has already met with the Eleven Arches Team to discuss how our children might be involved in these spectacular shows.*

*Please visit the Eleven Arches website [www.elevenarches.org/joinus](http://www.elevenarches.org/joinus) for more information or contact us*

#### Spring and Summer Term Dates

Spring Term 1 – School closes for teaching on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February

Spring Term 2 – School opens for teaching on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Please note that school is closed for teaching on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February for staff training purposes.

School closes on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

Please note that school is closed for teaching on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March for staff training purposes. Please note that 'Good Friday' is Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March therefore school will be closed.

#### Summer Term 1

School opens for teaching on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April

May Day – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

#### Summer Term 2

May Half Term – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

School closes on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July

### **Parking and Traffic around School**

Article 19– All children have the right to be safe.

Parking continues to be a serious concern around our school. Recently, a child was almost knocked over by a speeding car. Thankfully, due to the very quick reactions of the child's mum, she managed to prevent her child, and his siblings, from being hurt by the car. This could have had very serious consequences. Mrs. Simpson, our School Crossing Patrol lady, continues to do a sterling job in working with us and the local police to ensure that your children have the right to be safe when crossing the road.

It is important that the crossing patrol area, marked with a single yellow line, is left clear at all times. If this area is not left clear, Mrs. Simpson is not able to have a clear view of the traffic, as cars that park on this yellow line are an obstruction.

Thank you to all parents who use the recommended one-way system when dropping off and collecting children in cars. Although this one-way system is voluntary, we highly recommend this in order to keep your children safe from potential traffic hazards. Please also take care not to park in front of driveways. We are very keen for your children to be safe outside our school as well as within it. Thank you for your continued support.

### **Attendance**



#### **Article 28 – All children have the right to learn**

Thank you for your support for sending your child/ren to school on time every day. It is crucial that children are in school so they can move forward with their learning and make progress.

Please continue to provide medical evidence if your child is absent from school through illness. G.P. surgeries and pharmacists do provide medical evidence cards; please ask for this evidence and bring to school.

Although overall attendance levels are improving, there continues to be a large number of children whose attendance is a cause for concern. We need your help with this. Legal action will be taken where necessary in order to address the issue of unauthorised absences linked to persistent absenteeism in school.

### **Homework**

Article 28 – All children have the right to a good education

Thank you to parents and pupils who have given us very positive feedback about our new arrangements for Homework. The new arrangements are working well. May I take this opportunity to remind you that Homework Club is available for pupils in KS2 every Wednesday from 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. Please speak to the School Office if you would like your child to start Homework Club.

#### **Club Homework Mascots**

Well done to 1H and 5H who were awarded our Home-



Congratulations to Joe Sparke, who came joint 3rd in the schools table tennis champion on Saturday 6th February. Well done Joe!

All children in year 6, will be Fencing in February, beginning 24th. There will be an after school club and details will follow.

*Well done to Kennedy Jones, in Year 6, who talked about her recent gymnastics achievements in Assembly.*



### **Medicines and Care at the Chemist**

Article 24 - All children have the right to be healthy

School is now able to administer medication if medicine is prescribed by a pharmacist or G.P. 3 times a day. School will continue to administer prescribed medication for 4 times a day. We know that this is helpful to parents and carers as it ensures that children are able to maintain their attendance record at school. Please see Mrs. Smith in the School Office should you require any further information.

If your child needs to see a Pharmacist for medical treatment, please ask the Pharmacist for a 'Care at the Chemist' card which can then be brought into school so that your child's absence due to medical attention can be authorised.

# Important Notice—Online Safety

## Online Safety and the Use of Social Media

Article 19 - All children have the right to be safe

At Timothy Hackworth Primary School we are committed to promoting the safe and responsible use of the internet. We feel that the use of social media by children, is becoming an increasing concern outside of school due to the increase in inappropriate use of Facebook, Online Gaming and other Apps.

Many of the issues, outside of school, that have been brought to our attention by your children, parents and carers and local police have involved the use of:

- Facebook – Users are required to be at least 13 years old before an account can be created.
- Instagram - Users are required to be at least 13 years old before an account can be created.
- Skype - Users are required to be at least 13 years old before an account can be created.
- WhatsApp - Users are required to be at least 16 years old before an account can be created.

Other Apps ,for example, Oovoo and WhatsApp are also being used inappropriately by children outside of school.

Children, out of school, often create 'groups' to which others are joining. This means that all information is shared with groups so privacy is lost, and in some cases, strangers are then added to the group.

We understand that it is increasingly difficult to keep up with the ways that our children are using new and ever-changing technologies. Our children are immersed in a society that is increasingly dependent on powerful computers, including smartphones, ipads, interactive online games and virtual communities. Websites such as Facebook and Instagram do offer wonderful opportunities for communication and social interactions, however, they are created for a specific audience which are for people for those 13 years old or over. When monitoring your child/ren on the internet, please consider the following concerns around the use of social media:

Many sites use 'targeted' advertising and therefore your child could be exposed to adverts of an inappropriate nature.

Young people may accept 'friend' requests from people they don't know in real life which could increase the risk of inappropriate contact or behaviour. The general rule is, if they aren't friends in real life, they shouldn't be 'friends' online.

Language, games, groups and content posted or shared on social media is NOT moderated, and therefore can be offensive, illegal or unsuitable for young people.

Photographs shared by users are NOT moderated and therefore young people could be exposed to inappropriate images or even post their own.

Under-age users might be less likely to keep their identities private and lying about their age can expose them to further risks regarding privacy settings and options.

Social media sites can be exploited by bullies and for inappropriate contact.

Social media sites cannot and do not verify its members, therefore, it is important to remember that if your child can make up who they are online, so can anyone else.

Should you decide to allow your child to have an online profile we strongly advise that you:

Check their profile is set to private and that only their friends can see information they post.

Monitor your child's use and talk to them about safe and appropriate online behaviour such as not sharing personal information and not posting or messaging offensive/inappropriate behaviour messages or photos.

Monitor your child's use of language and how they communicate to others.

Have a look at advice to parents on the social media sites.

Set up your own profiles so you understand how the site works and ask them to have you as their friend online so you know what they are posting online.

Make sure your child understands the following:

Always keep your profile private.

Never accept a friend that you do not know in real life.

Never post anything which could reveal your identity including photographs.

Never post anything that you wouldn't want your parents or teachers to see.

Never agree to meet somebody you only know online without telling a trusted adult.

Always tell someone if you feel threatened or if someone upsets you.

In school, we do our best to ensure that children are aware of how to stay safe online.





### Learning from home just got more exciting with Discovery Education Espresso!

We are pleased to announce that you and your child can access award-winning Discovery Education Espresso service from home. School has recently subscribed to Espresso to support the children's learning at home and at school.

We use Espresso in school to help motivate, engage and support learning in the classroom. Now your child can continue to enjoy what they have been doing at school, and you can be involved in their learning at home.

### About Discovery Education Espresso

Espresso is an online cross-curricular service that provides video-rich resources to schools throughout the UK. It contains thousands of videos and multimedia activities, as well as a weekly news service — all designed by teaching professionals. For more information, please visit: [www.discoveryeducation.co.uk/espresso](http://www.discoveryeducation.co.uk/espresso)

Your Home Access includes a *Home learning* area and *Parents' guide* with information to help you use the service with your child.

### How to access Discovery Education Espresso from home

To access Espresso from home you will need a PC or Apple Mac and a connection to the internet. You can then go to [www.discoverylearning.co.uk](http://www.discoverylearning.co.uk) click the 'Login' button in the top right corner, select 'Discovery Education Espresso' and enter your child's username and password. These login details are given to your child in school. If your child does not have these details, please ask them to speak with their teacher.

If you have any trouble logging in or accessing the service from home, please contact

**Mrs. Hill- Espresso Champion.**

### Getting started



Before you start using the service, we recommend you read the *Parents' guide*. This explains what Discovery Education Espresso is, how to use it and how to support your child with their learning. To find the guide, select one of the *Home learning* icons (from the appropriate key stage) on the left-hand side of the home page. The *Parents' guide* button is located in the top left-hand corner of the following page.



Your child should already be familiar with Espresso. They could show you how they have been using it in class and how to find resources. Once you are familiar with the service, you and your child may like to explore Espresso's modules or the *Home learning* area. Specifically designed for home use, it includes easy-to-follow Learning paths and specific curriculum objectives.

We hope you will find Discovery Education Espresso useful as a resource to extend your child's learning. If you have any further questions about how to use the service, please speak to your child's teacher.

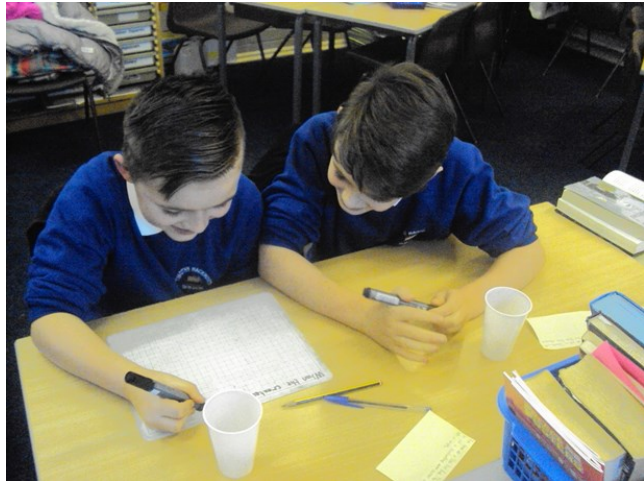
Kind regards

**Mrs. Hill**

# Creative Writing Club



It all began with just ten of our favourite words!



This term saw the beginning of the THPS creative writing club. Some of our more able writers are spending Friday afternoons exploring a range of writing opportunities.

Watch this space for pieces that they have written.



Have you or could you write a super fantastic short story? Do you want to enter the Chris Evans Breakfast Show's 500 Words competition? Just follow the steps below to submit your story... you have until 7:00pm on Thursday 25 February 2016 to enter!

use the link below or search online for — 500 words Radio 2.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0orfvr1>

**Top Tip!** 500 words is less than you think! How many words do you think are on this page?



Let Mrs. Churchill know if you have entered because the Creative Writing Club would like to display your writing. Similarly, if you have another piece of writing that you would like to share and/or display we would love to hear from you!

## *Dates for the Diary*

**Tuesday, 23 February—School Re-opens at 8.50am**  
**Tuesday, 23 February—Year 3 Visit to St John's Church and Methodist Church**  
**Friday, 26 February—Year 6 visit to the Safety Carousel—The Workplace, Newton Aycliffe**  
**Monday, 29 February—Year 3 visit to the Oriental Museum, Durham**  
**Thursday, 3 March—Travelling by Tuba—further details to follow**  
**Tuesday, 15 March—Year 1 Visit to Bowes Museum**  
**Friday, 18 March—Class Photographs for Reception, Year 6 and Football Team**  
**Monday, 21 March—School Council visit to Redworth House**  
**Wednesday, 23 March—School Closes at 3.30pm for the Easter Holidays**  
**Thursday, 24 March—School Closed for staff training**  
**Monday, 11 April—School Re-opens at 8.50am**  
**Thursday, 14 April—Reception visit to Hall Hill Farm**  
**Tuesday, 19 April—Year 2 Visit to Durham Cathedral**  
**Tuesday, 26 April—Nursery visit to Shildon Community Garden**  
**Monday, 2 May—School Closed for May Day Holiday**  
**Monday, 9 May—Year 6 SATs Week**  
**Monday, 9 May—School Council Visit to Redworth House**  
**Wednesday, 25 May—Year 1 at House of Objects**  
**Friday, 27 May—School Closes at 2.35pm for the Half Term Holiday**  
**Monday, 6 June—School Re-opens at 8.50am**  
**Tuesday, 7 June—Careers Day**  
**Monday, 20 June—Year 5 at Greenfield School (Sunnydale Campus)**  
**Monday, 4 July—Year 5 Visit to Broom House Farm**  
**Thursday, 7 July—Foundation Family Fun Day at South Shields**  
**Friday, 8 July—After School Singing/Dancing Club Performance at 2.40pm**  
**Monday, 11 July—Year 6 Residential visit to Robinwood**  
**Monday, 11 July—Year 6 at Hamsterley Forest (children not at Robinwood)**

**Additional Dates and Events will be added as they are arranged.**

**Please check our website for up to date information about our school.**

### **Contact Us**

Telephone No: 01388772959

Email: [timothyhackworth@durhamlearning.net](mailto:timothyhackworth@durhamlearning.net)

Website Contact Form: [www.timothyhackworthschool.co.uk](http://www.timothyhackworthschool.co.uk)

If you would like to meet with a member of staff please ring ahead to ensure they will be available when you call.