

'Respectful and resilient; being the best that we can be.'

Timothy Hackworth Primary School



Newsletter

ISSUE 33

**Autumn Term
December 2019**

CRC Article 28 – All children have the right to play and relax.

Our Super Story Club

Many children come along to our weekly Story Club to listen to and join in with stories together. The children are really good at speaking in lots of different characters' voices, and the range of sound effects are always increasing week by week!

CRC Article 11 – All children have the right to information

Mr. Jones, our Vice-Chair of Governors, who has also served in the armed forces, led a Remembrance Day Assembly for us.

We were all very interested in what Mr. Jones shared with us and were especially proud of the children for listening so respectfully, and for showing such empathy and kindness.

We also held a two minutes silence on 11th November at 11.00 a.m. so our children could pay their respects on this special day.

Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter; we hope that you enjoy reading all about the very exciting things that we have been doing this half term.

Weren't your children absolutely amazing during the Christmas performances? Thank you all for coming and celebrating these truly fabulous and festive moments with us. The children were all magnificent; they really were a credit to themselves, their families and our school.

The children have also enjoyed party season! Much eating, dancing and many party games were certainly enjoyed by all. I wish you and your family a very merry Christmas, and all the very best for the New Year.

We look forward to welcoming you all back after the holidays.

Mrs. Boulton

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

We welcomed PC Kathryn, PC James, Mrs. Simpson and Mrs. Crook, our Chair of Governors, into our Assemblies this half term to talk to the children about their right to be safe.

This Right is really important to our school and community at the moment, as too many drivers are not driving safely, leading to near-misses of children being seriously hurt.

Please drive safely and carefully for the sake of our children's safety.

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

SCYPAN Awards – Shildon Civic Hall – November 2019

Did you read all about us in the Town Crier?! Wow! Didn't we do well?! We are so very proud of our children who worked hard to achieve a special SCYPAN Award for their abilities, talents and respectful behaviour. Our SCYPAN superstars are:

The Shildon Supremes

The School Council

Wayan P – Chloe Clark Special Achievement Award

Lucas E – School Award

Amira'h H – Creative Arts Award

Leah M – Can Do Award

Connor S – Sports Award Nominee

Zak S (Our Football Co-Coach from Y7) – Community Champion Award Nominee

Well done everyone!



Well done!

Pupil of the Week Awards

1T— Zaine, Robert, Orlah, Olivia, Mason, Ritchie
1H— Clinton, Lydia, Dylan, Macey, Sienna-Mae, Declan
2T— Lola-Mae, Joseph H, Jason, Daniel, Harry, Whole Class, Esther
2H— Dollie, Gracie, Faith, Alfie, Bobby, Dylan, Alfie
3T— Rosa-Leigh, Darcy-Mae, Olivia, Jorja, Taylor, Lucy, Cody
3H— Oliver, Noah, Elijah, Harley, Leon, Ben
4T— Jack, Shania, Jensen, Brooke, Laura, Summer, Tiana-Rose
4H— James, Cody, Sofia, Whole Class, Gracie-Mae, Kacey, Livia
5T— Lucas, Jaydon, Evan, Charlie, Evan, Jacob, Jacob, Millie
5H— Jack S, Graham, Whole Class, Alfie, Joe, Ambrose, Gabby
6T— Georgia-Mae, Mason, Shannon, Tilly, Abbi, Asena, Leah
6H— Adam, Dzenifer, Phoenix, Reece, Belle, Abi, Maddie

Lunchtime Superstars

Talia, Ethan S, Talliyah, Laura, Conner, Ana, Ashton, Jake J, Ben C, Wayan, Daniel A, Nathan, Jaydon, Sofia, Ellie W, Winter, Mackenzie, Lacey B, Evan O, Jake J, Robbie, Kieran B, Isaac H, Belle, Amelia S, Cameron J, Jaylee, Lucas H, Leah M, Asena, Ellie W, Gabby, Alex, AJ, Amelia P, Dylan B, James C, Zipporah, Natasha, Ewan, Ava T, Orlah, Millie, Kate, Rueben, Amelia S (Reception), Charlie B, Kai A, Hope H, Bella, Kacey, Riley B, Jake S, Ava-Mae, Jamie C, Anyah, Zak, Ben C, Taylor-Jay, Rossi, Robert, Shannon, Charlie R..

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jack S in 3H for winning the competition to design a bike safety poster. We look forward to seeing more children exercising their right to be safe by wearing their helmets while riding their bikes and scooters to school. In second place is Brodie and third place is Kate T.



Reading Champions

Nursery - Rocco, Jake, Evie, Richie, Thomas, Oliver, Ajana
1T - Hunter, Talia, Mason, Zaine, Olivia, Lincoln
1H - Tino, Emily, Clinton, Rossi, Aurora, Kai
2T - Kieran, Daniel, Rihanna, Ashton, Joseph H, Ava-Lily, Faith
2H - Gracie, David, Bella, Jack V, Lexi, Dylan, Lexi
3T - Bobbi-Jayne, Rosa-Leigh, Darcy-Mae, Lucy, Zipporah, Reece
3H - Jake, Jack, Isobel, Ava, Kye, Lacey
4T - Blossom, Ella-Rose, Tulisa, Corey, Sophie-Mae, Brooke, Spencer
4H - John-Thomas, Nathan, Leon, Scarlett, Mason, Cody, Scarlett
5T - Riley, Millie, Ewan, Riley, Kara, Taylor Jay, Ethan
5H - Alex, Dylan, Indie, Daniel, Graham, Gabby, Ben
6T - Charlie, Beau, Leah, Beau, Tyler, Lacey, Aaron
6H - Axshayan, Alfie, Hermione, Finley, Jaylee, SJ, Alfie



Reading Champion of Champions

Ewan 5T, Rossi 1H, SJ 6H

Show Racism the Red Card



CRC Article 7: All children have the right to a name and nationality

CRC Article 19: All children should not be harmed and kept safe

On Thursday 28th November, Year Five took part in a workshop with Jake, an education worker from Show Racism the Red Card. The children explored ideas to do with religion, nationality and culture; what is acceptable and what could be considered racist language and therefore may upset people. Jake explained how any racism is unacceptable and that we all have a responsibility to challenge and report it.

Everyone enjoyed it. Alex thought, "It was interesting. I liked talking about the different words and about how you can use certain words to describe, but not to make fun of people." Daniel said, "I really enjoyed it because it was very educational, but fun!"

Jake commented on how the children from both classes were very sensitive, respectful and contributed well to the discussion. Well done Year Five!

Keep your eyes peeled for a Show Racism the Red Card competition for THPS children to enter in 2020.





CRC Article 24: All children have the right to the best possible health care.



On 28th September, staff came together to celebrate and raise money for a fantastic cause that is very close to our hearts. Many of us have either suffered from or have family and friends who have suffered from or are dealing with cancer in many different forms. It is vitally important that we raise money for charities like Macmillan who provide care, support and advice to adults and children at a very difficult time in their lives. As part of the World's Biggest Coffee Morning, staff baked and brought cakes which we all enjoyed eating with a nice cup of tea! We managed to raise about £200, which was a record for us as a staff. Thank you so much to all those who contributed, to a fun event, in aid of such a good cause. Next year, we will also be organising a Macmillan event that parents and carers can be involved with to support this very worthwhile cause.

Year 7 Transition visit from Greenfield

CRC Article 29: All children have the right to be the best they can be.

CRC Article 12: All children have the right to be listened to.

Two former pupils and the transition teacher from Greenfield School visited Year 6 to discuss the transition period into secondary schools and to talk about what life is like as a Year 7 pupil. The Year 6 children were very eager to listen to the stories, ask questions and express their thoughts and opinions on the forthcoming changes. Once again, our Year 6 children were extremely polite and respectful to visitors

Climate Change Workshop

CRC Article 12: Your right to say what you think should happen and be listened to.

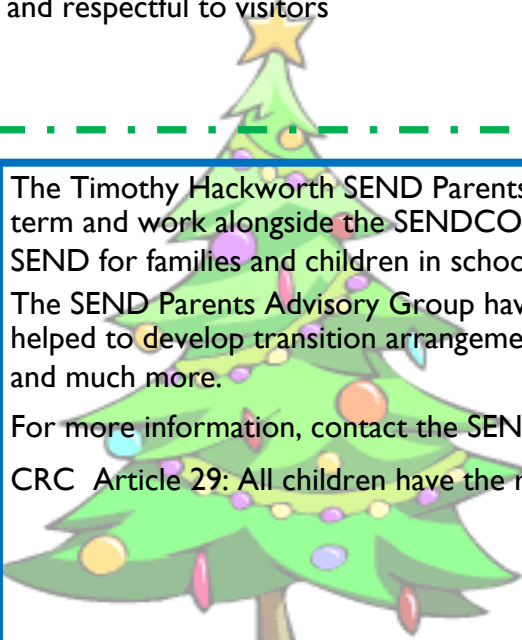
Year 5 participated in a fantastic series of workshops to find out more about climate change. They had the opportunity to write scripts based on their research, which were then used to make green screen films. These were edited to include appropriate backgrounds then presented in a special assembly. The children thoroughly enjoyed the whole process whilst learning a lot about saving our planet from global warming.

The Timothy Hackworth SEND Parents Advisory Group is a small group of parents who meet once a term and work alongside the SENDCO to improve SEND systems, information and experiences of SEND for families and children in school.

The SEND Parents Advisory Group have previously contributed to the improvement of Support Plans, helped to develop transition arrangements for SEND children, represented the school at parents' forums and much more.

For more information, contact the SENDCO or call into Parent Pod.

CRC Article 29: All children have the right to be the best that they can be.





There is no app to
replace your lap

READ TO YOUR CHILDREN

Reception Locomotion Visit

CRC Article 29: All children have the right to take part in a variety of activities.

Last month the Reception children visited the Locomotion Museum. When the children arrived the museum staff explained what activities they would be taking part in.



They quietly walked to the story train where they waited to see what the story would be. It was the Train Ride by June Crebbin and Stephen Lambert. The story was about a little girl and her mother who boarded the train in town and set off on a journey through the countryside. As they travelled, the girl looked out of the window, asking "What shall I see? What shall I see?" The children loved the story props they were given to join in with the story.

Next, the children found out all about the trains. They looked inside one of the trains to see the difference between the First Class and Second Class carriages. They loved the First Class carriages but didn't like how many people had to fit into a Second Class carriage! The children would have preferred travelling in Queen Alexandra's carriage which was very smart. They went into an engine to see how the trains worked..



Finally the children made their own train to take home with them. They coloured the carriages in carefully, cut them out and joined the carriages to make a train. The children had such a lovely time they wrote a 'Thank you' card to the staff of the museum when they went back to school.

Year 4 Gymnastics.

CRC Article 28: Every child has the right to an education.

CRC Article 29: Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.

The children in Year 4 have really enjoyed their gymnastics lessons this half term, with the gymnastics coach. Skills including forward and backward rolls and cartwheels were mastered and this included putting them into a sequence. The children have practised working safely, individually and with a partner.



Year 4 have been practising for a gymnastics performance which took place on 4th December. The sequences were performed to music – 4T "Old Town Road" and 4H "The Greatest Showman." The children have shown resilience and improvement as the term has progressed. Year 4 have also discussed the importance of warming up and cooling down before any form of exercise. Well done Year 4!





CRC Article 29: All children have the right to be the best that they can be.
 CRC Article 31: All children have the right to relax, play and join in a range of activities.

Board Games Night!

On Wednesday 16th October, we invited parents and carers to come along to another Board Games Night. In the summer term we held our first Board Games Night and it was a great success – all agreed that we should hold a second one in the autumn term.

Playing board games such as Snakes and Ladders, Monopoly, Connect Four and Ludo are a great way to develop maths skills, as are many card games, dominoes and darts. They also provide a chance for all the family to get together and have fun while learning.

So thank you to all parents and carers who came along and brought their favourite board games to share with us. Mrs. Reid, Mrs. Finkle and Mrs. Boulton all enjoyed playing Monopoly, dominoes and a rather strange game involving camel racing. We all enjoyed cake, biscuits and a nice cup of tea too.

We plan to have another Board Games Night in the spring term – we hope to see you there.



Timothy Hackworth Early Years have recently enjoyed a fantastic first-hand meeting with hedgehogs!

CRC Article 28: All children have the right to an education

We have been keen to build on the children's interest in animals as research shows that an animal friendly school:

Promotes a sense of responsibility and respect towards all living things;

Teaches children about animals and their needs;

Encourages empathy and understanding of animals;

Is relevant to everyday life.

Bernie's Hedgehog Rescue is a charity organisation, dedicated to ensuring that wild hedgehogs are healthy and free of infection. When Bernie has successfully rehabbed any sickly hedgehogs she returns them to their natural environment to once again thrive in the wild.



When visiting our school Bernie brought to school both healthy baby and adult hedgehogs. She talked to the children about hedgehog welfare and how our actions such as providing the correct food and drink for wild hedgehogs and creating a hedgehog highway can support the longevity of their lives.

You can find out more about the charitable work if you search on-line for Bernie's Hedgehog Rescue, HelpWildlife.co.uk

Families kindly donated to this wildlife charity and the children raised over £65.00 for the Hedgehog Rescue Fund.



Children in Need

CRC Article 19: All children have the right to be safe.

CRC Article 24: All children have the right to a nutritious diet,

clean water and medical care if they are ill.

CRC Article 23: All children have the right to special care and support if they are disabled.

On Friday, 15th November, the children and staff took part in a non-uniform day for Children in Need. They all wore their spots with pride! Thank you for all of your donations. We managed to raise £243.64 to support the charity which is absolutely fabulous and will go a long way to supporting the rights of children who are in need.



Remembrance Day Assembly

CRC Article 19: All children have the right to be safe.

CRC Article 28: All children have the right to an education

On Friday, 8th November, Mr. Jones, our Vice-Chair of Governors, led a moving and extremely interesting Remembrance Assembly. The assembly focussed on why everyone is wearing poppies and how important it is to different people. Mr. Jones also explained how the money that is raised through buying poppies is used, for example, to support the families who have lost loved ones during times of conflict. The children listened extremely well, respecting their right to an education, and they wore their poppies with pride. The children also made their own poppies during their Family Group session and wrote messages on them about why it is important to remember. If you would like to look at the assembly slides or Family Group slides, they are available in the Assemblies and Family Group sections of our website.

The children and staff observed two minutes silence at 11 o'clock on the 11th November.

Thank you to everyone who purchased a poppy to support the Poppy Day Appeal.



*"They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We shall remember them"*



CRC: Article 28: All children have the right to be the best they can be.

CRC: Article 29: All children have the right to take part in a variety of activities.

*Year 2 went to visit Shildon Library.
We all enjoyed this and borrowed our
favourite book to bring back to
school.*



A Visit From Jane Hackworth

CRC Article 28: all children have the right to a good education

On Friday 22nd November, Jane Hackworth and John Raw visited school to share more information about the exciting developments happening in and around Shildon to celebrate the anniversary of the railways and the important role Timothy Hackworth played. We look forward to welcoming them again in the new year, when they will be working with a group of children to create a permanent display in school about Timothy Hackworth and working with Year 2 children on their History topic 'Who has helped make History?'

A visit to Shildon Cenotaph



CRC Article 28: All children have the right to a good education

At Timothy Hackworth Nursery we were keen to answer the question that the young children had asked recently, "Why are people wearing red flowers?"

This led to talking about Remembrance Day and making poppies. Following on from this, over the morning of Friday 8th November, Timothy Hackworth Nursery and 2 Year Olds enjoyed meeting Lance Sergeant Rowe of The First Battalion Scots Guard.

Sergeant Rowe kindly brought in official uniforms including a variety of headwear which the children enjoyed trying on. The bearskin helmet he used when a Queen's Guard, was a big hit with the children. Mr. Rowe explained that the synthetic bearskin needs to be carefully cleaned with shampoo to ensure it is kept in the best condition.

Both Sergeant Rowe and Mrs. Rowe kindly supported the children as we walked to the Cenotaph in Shildon Town Centre; here we placed our handmade wreath of poppies and observed a short silence to show our respect for the fallen soldiers.

Reception Cenotaph Visit

CRC Article 29: All children have the right to take part in a variety of activities.

On Monday 11th November, the Reception children walked to the Cenotaph (a monument to commemorate people who have died in war) outside St John's Church. They wanted to know why people were wearing poppies and about Remembrance Sunday as they had heard this on the television.

Some of the children said that their parents had told them that people buy poppies to remember others whose lives had been ended by war and that Remembrance Sunday takes place each year in November. The children learnt also that the poppies are made by volunteers. The money raised from selling the poppies is used to help servicemen and women who are still alive, whose lives have been changed by wars that they fought in.

The children looked at all the names of people who had died in the wars and at all the poppy wreaths and the names of the people who had placed them.

The children made their own poppy wreaths in school and placed it amongst the others on the Cenotaph to remember.



NURSERY AND 2 YEAR OLDS STAY AND PLAY

Autumn Term 1

CRC Article 31: All children have the right to play.

CRC Article 28: All children have the right to a good quality education.

During our October, 'Stay and Play, lots of seasonal tasks were on offer that included further developing the children's skills in cutting, decorating, colouring and sticking. Using the salad spinner to mix paints and making a firework picture was a very popular activity with the children.

The children were also encouraged to make a tasty spider using biscuits, strawberry laces and edible eyes!



Believe and Achieve at King James Academy

CRC Article 28 - All children have the right to a good quality education

CRC Article 29 - All children have the right to take part in a variety of activities

Year 6 visited King James Academy for our annual Believe and Achieve celebrations. The pupils took part in two workshops, which were Music and Dance, with the superb students and teachers at King James.

During the Dance workshop, Year 9 pupils taught us a traditional Brazilian dance to a newer pop song. Even though we found the pace very fast and the moves difficult to remember, we all gave it a 100% and our Year 9 teachers said we were the most enthusiastic school they had taught!

We also took part in a music workshop where we used frogs and tadpoles to read music and play games. Once we had learned how to read some music, the teacher let us all have a guitar. We then played to a song using the notes. We may need to spend much more time with the guitar before we are let loose in a band!



Timothy Hackworth Football Team

CRC Article 29: All children have the right to become the very best you can be.

CRC Article 31: All children have the right to relax and play.

Our school Football Team are currently competing in the Football League. This is held every Wednesday at St John's School, Bishop Auckland. There are 16 teams in the League and we will play every one.

The League runs for six weeks in the Autumn Term.

Our children are dedicated and come along to training every Friday after school.

We have played four weeks into the League and the positions at the moment are very tight, with only a few points between 1st and 5th. The children have shown great resilience and strength as weather conditions have been quite tough at times. We also receive many compliments about our respectful behaviour.



Charlie, our goalkeeper, was also spotted and played for the District Team on Saturday 23rd November in Stockton.

Well done to all of our very talented and respectful football players!

Yoga

CRC Article 31: Every child has the right to relax and join in a wide range of cultural activity.

Yoga Mike recently attended our school to teach all our children about yoga. Each class had a session and they loved it!

The benefits of yoga are enhanced flexibility, strength, co-ordination and body awareness. In addition to this it improves concentration and a sense of calmness.

Yoga at an early age encourages self-esteem and confidence with a physical activity that is non-competitive.

Our Year 1 and Year 2 children both enjoyed the benefit of a coaching block of yoga. When asked why they enjoyed it their responses were, "It is calming", and, "I feel relaxed."



Early Years Fire Fighters Visit

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



In November, the Fire Fighters came to visit Early Years. They brought their fire engine which they allowed all of us to take turns at having a sit in. It was very high up and full of different equipment. We looked at the different tools and hoses on the fire engine and then one of the fire fighters rolled a hose out into the yard and we were allowed to hold the hose while it squirted water. It was very powerful and we were glad the fire fighter helped us to hold it straight but it was very exciting too. They told us all about how we could keep safe, especially on Bonfire Night, information such as never go back to a firework, only adults should light them and standing well back from them. It's important that we keep our pets safe too as they don't like all the loud noises and bangs that fireworks make. We decided we needed to ask adults to check bonfires in case hedgehogs were hibernating under all the wood, before they lit them. We all agreed we like sparklers and making patterns in the air with them but must remember that when they go out they are still very hot and we mustn't touch the ends; it's a good idea to put them in a bucket of cold water when they are finished.

The fire fighters also told us how important it is that all our homes have smoke alarms that work properly. They said if we don't have smoke alarms then we can contact the fire service and fire fighters will come to our home and fit some for us free of charge. This could save lives. If you don't have working smoke alarms please contact them as soon as possible.

Bishop Auckland Community Fire Station

Green Lane
Bishop Auckland
DL14 6RS

Telephone
01388 602643



Anti Bullying Week 2019

CRC Article 31: Every child has the right to relax, play and join in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

Anti-Bullying Week helped us think about what we can all do to create a better world. We all have a role to play in creating kind and supportive communities where children and young people can feel safe and supported.

This week across school we looked at ways to encourage everyone to see they have a role to play in creating a world that is friendlier and kinder. We wore Odd Socks on Friday to celebrate what makes us unique. We made pledges to say how we were going to continue to have a safe and happy school community where diversity is embraced.



CRC Article 2: *All children have the right to protection against discrimination. This means that nobody can treat you badly because of your colour, sex or religion, if you speak another language, have a disability, or are rich or poor.*



Y4 trip to Bowes Museum Thursday 14th November 2019

CRC Article 31: All children have the right to relax, play and join in a range of activities.

4T and 4H enjoyed a trip to Bowes Museum this half term where they experienced lots of exciting adventures. It began with a Lego Trail where they had to track down exhibits that had been replicated in Lego. The children completed a chart to show they had found everything in the Museum including a dress made from Lego that had been originally made from silk and worn by Josephine Bowes. They also found a model of John and Jennifer's faithful dog, perfectly constructed from Lego!



The afternoon was a Creative Writing Workshop based around the amazing paintings upstairs, and the children then wrote character descriptions. The day ended with a viewing of The Silver Swan - the swan is life-size and is controlled by three separate clockwork mechanisms. The children were fascinated by it. The children's behaviour was excellent and a great day was had by all!

Our Visit to Durham Cathedral and Durham University's Palace Green Library

CRC Article 14: Your right to your own religion.

This half term we are studying the Northern Saints, in RE, and the Anglo-Saxons, during History. The children had the opportunity to become university students when visiting Palace Green Library. They participated in fascinating workshops, where they handled real artefacts and detailed replicas, whilst discovering how they were made and used.

At the Cathedral, the children completed a Northern Saints Trail. It was great to see how respectfully the children behaved and what insightful questions they asked. The picture above shows some of the children dressed as monks.



Reception Forest School

CRC Article 29: All children have the right to take part in a variety of activities.

Reception children have enjoyed four weeks of Forest School activities. They have made Superhero Smelly Potions, made firework pictures using items found in the forest and taken part in a photography session. For the last session the children used the skills they had been practising to toast their marshmallows on the Forest School fire. Delicious!

The children look forward to the next four weeks of Forest School later in the year.



Bottle Festoon

CRC Article 28: All children have the right to an education.

CRC Article 29: All children have the right to be the best that they can be.

Members of our School Council and Art Rocks Club were invited to work with a local artist, at Shildon Library. During the visit, the pupils worked with local artist Dawn Belshaw to create a chandelier, which was going to be featured in the Durham Lumière. The children were informed that they would be making the chandelier using plastic bottles. The children worked as a team to cut the bottles into an artistic shape. Then, they decided upon two colours that would be used to add detail to their design. The children worked very hard to ensure they created something that represented our school. They were very excited to find out that their creations would be featured at Durham Lumière. Well done to every child who took part in the event, I hope you enjoyed watching your creations come to life!



Dazzling Drama

After half term, a group of Year 4 and 5 children have had the opportunity to partake in a new Drama Club at our school. The group have been exploring movement and improvisation techniques. The Drama Club has enjoyed acting out a variety of scenes which lead up to them performing their own group improvised plays. It was fantastic to see the creativity and confidence of each child shining through their drama work.

In the upcoming weeks we are looking forward to moving on to script work with the intention of putting on a small performance for other children at school. It is thrilling to see the children grow into budding actors and to explore different dramatic skills.

We are very excited to see what they do next!

CRC Article 29: All children have the right to be the best that they can be.

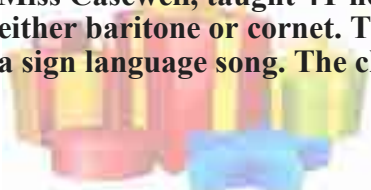
CRC Article 5: To learn how to use your rights as you grow up.

Year 4 Music Showcase

CRC Article 28: All children have the right to an education.

CRC Article 29: All children have the right to develop their talents and abilities.

4T had the pleasure of inviting their parents into school last half term to showcase their work. The children had been working really hard on their music. A Durham County Council Music Teacher, Miss Casewell, taught 4T how to play brass instruments. The children had the opportunity to play either baritone or cornet. The children played these instruments for their parents as well as singing a sign language song. The children enjoyed learning their instrument.



The Great Engineers Schools Challenge

CRC Article 29: All children have the right to develop their talents and be the best that they can be.



Each year, The Locomotion in Shildon plays host to a primary school STEM event - The Great Engineers Schools Challenge. In preparation for this competition, a number of Year 6 children are offered the opportunity to work with some of the organisers of the challenge in an afterschool club.

Our chosen team worked really well with their mentors, Kath and Harry, to build a number of Meccano models as entries for the competition. The children followed some complex diagrams to produce accurate models and found some of the construction tasks to be very challenging. They all improved their dexterity! The pupils also produced a report for each model, evaluating both their finished product and their individual and team performance.

On 23rd October, our Young Engineers enjoyed a short amble to The Locomotion in the autumn sunshine. They impressed the judges with their knowledge of their respective models and then took part in a number of STEM activities and challenges around the Museum before the winners were announced. Although they didn't repeat the success of last year's team, the pupils learned a lot and developed some skills that will prepare them well for their Design Technology studies at secondary school and beyond.

Hedgehog Visit in Year 3

CRC Article 28 – All children have the right to an education

Both Year 3 classes have recently enjoyed meeting some very friendly four legged animals!

We were keen to build on the children's interest in hedgehogs following English work based on the text 'The Hodgehog', by Dick King Smith.

Bernie's Hedgehog Rescue is an organisation that was brought to our attention by Mrs. Laverick as this is a charity which she supports.



Bernie, who currently cares for 101 hedgehogs, brought an adult hedgehog, Hector, and two baby hedgehogs, Suzy and Henry to meet the Year 3 classes. Hector is healthy apart from the fact that he is underweight and should be twice the size he is currently if he is to have any chance of surviving through hibernation in the wild.

As Hedgehogs are nocturnal, if you see one out and about during the day, this is a sign that it is a poorly hedgehog. We were reminded not to give any hedgehogs milk or bread as this can cause them great harm. Kitten and dog food are best to leave out for these animals and water is very important too.

Do you know why they are called a hedgehog? They live in hedges and make a sound like a pig when eating!

We found out that hedgehogs have a fantastic sense of hearing and smell but very poor eyesight. They are quick on their feet and are very good climbers as they have long back legs. They have a very soft furry tummy but are very smelly animals!

All the children were very respectful during Bernie's visit and were very mindful of not being loud; by being quiet, the hedgehogs remained calm and did not become at all frightened.

Bernie was thrilled with the donations of food for the hedgehogs and explained that the money raised by the children would help to buy medicines to support the poorly hedgehogs over the winter months.





Safer Parking at Our School Gates

'Respectful and resilient; being the best that we can be.'

CRC Article 19: Children have the right not to be harmed and should be looked after and kept safe.

The Junior Road Safety Officers have been busy spreading messages about parking safely around school. We observed lots of cars parking on the zig zags, the school entrance, kerbs, residents' driveways and on the bus stop.



We are in the process of writing our own Pledge; 'Road Safety Starts with You'. We need you, to-day, to make the commitment to drive more safely. We are wanting people to make simple changes to protect all children, build happier communities, and help save the planet. Our Pledge will be revealed soon. In the meantime, we would like you to stay under limits, slowing down to 20 mph around school. Driving slowly and smoothly saves fuel, money and reduces pollution.



Let's work together and remember to use our voluntary one-way system. To use the one-way system please enter Oxford street from Byerley Road and exit via Ruskin Avenue, then onto Diamond street. This will help to keep all children and adults safe.



CRC Article 19: All children have the right to be looked after and kept safe.



Seasonal Netiquette: 5 new parenting rules for screen time and tech when families gather



Ann-Marie Corvin lists the top five yuletide 'netiquette' rules.

The festive season can be a social minefield, made all the more complex by an ever-increasing number of digital devices.

'Tis the season to be a thoughtful sharent

That picture of your little nephew wrapped in tinsel may be adorable – but check before you post on social media. His parents might have a different view on posting images of their children than you do.

Older children may also have their own views on whether they want awkward images of them in ill-fitting Xmas sweaters splashed all over their Facebook wall.

If you are part of a blended family and some of your children are staying with the other parent, also be mindful about posting any family snaps that might make them feel excluded.

'Don't feel guilty if your guests give you disapproving looks because you allow your children more access to devices'

The host's rules apply

If you are staying with relatives or friends over the holiday period, you may have to relax some of your own rules around screen time and access. If your host's kids are allowed unlimited access to their iPads, you may have to let your rules slide while you are guests in their home.

If you are concerned about your children accessing inappropriate content while you are away from home, then ensure that you adjust your devices accordingly.

For advice about setting parental controls on your family devices see the Tools section on the online version of the current [Digital Parenting magazine](#). You can click on live weblinks to individual apps and platforms to find out how to set controls.



iPads for dinner?

It depends on what kind of a meal you all want. If you have young children and want them to sit around an extended family table for long periods of time, you need to be prepared to keep them entertained. Ensure that you come armed with ideas for table games, crayons and stickers, to keep the younger ones entertained.

Pay attention to the people you are with

It can be tempting to spend even more time on social media over the Christmas period – posting images of comedy Christmas presents, wobbly trees and woefully undercooked turkeys – but guests could get upset if you are constantly checking devices rather than engaging with them, so save the postings for quieter times when you are alone. And, as an adult, it's very difficult to tell children to cut down their device use if you're constantly checking your phone yourself.

Make sure any games and tech gifts you give are age-appropriate

If you are giving computer games as Christmas presents make sure you check the PEGI ratings.

There is a lot of Virtual Reality gear doing the rounds this Christmas too – be aware that there is an age limit of 13 for most headsets – for more details check out Parent Zone's Parent's Guide.

Advice published on Parent Info is provided by independent experts in their field and not necessarily the views of Parent Zone or NCA-CEOP.

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