



**Wylam First School**  
Rocketing to success

**Newsletter 6**  
**17.2.23**

Dear Parents/Carers

Blink and you've missed it!! That's what this half term has felt like.

Another great half term at Wylam First School where the children continue to amaze me with the knowledge and skills they are acquiring through the curriculum. Continue to check out our Facebook page where you will see the wide range of learning and experiences that take place across the week. If you don't have Facebook you can access this through our website.

Thank you to those of you who attended our Personal Development workshop on Thursday. This gave us the opportunity to showcase the wide range of things we do to support the personal development of our pupils. Thank you also to those who have expressed an interest in becoming a school governor. Applications are currently being processed by the central team.

In the last newsletter we asked if we had any parents who worked in the STEM fields who could come into school during Science week to talk to the children about what they do. If you would like to do this then please contact the school office. The children would love to hear about the range of careers available which might inspire the next generation of engineers!

As you are aware next half term I begin my new role as Executive Headteacher across both Wylam First School and Prudhoe Castle First School, and Miss Dodds begins her new role as Executive Deputy Headteacher. We are very excited about this new challenge and know that, in working collaboratively, we will be able to build capacity in the system which, in turn, will support our aims in providing the best educational experience for our pupils. To support this transitional period we have increased leadership capacity at Wylam First School. After Half term Miss Todd is taking on leadership responsibility for the foundation subject curriculum and will support the management and organisation of Wylam First School. This is a great opportunity for Miss Todd who will be an asset to the leadership team.

All that is left to say is that I hope you all have a lovely half term break and enjoy some well deserved family time and .....

**Come on Newcastle!!**

(Sorry if you are not a Newcastle United fan but we don't get to a final very often so I am just a little bit excited!)

## News

Miss Dodds will be sending out information today about our week long celebration of reading, leading to **World Book Day** on **Thursday 2nd March**. Look out for how you can get involved. From Wednesday that week there will be a table of books outside at drop off and pick up times. There will be children's books and adult books which are free for parents/children to take or swap with a donation of another.

Please have a look and take a book.

### **PTA Smarties Challenge**

The smarties challenge is underway again. Please can you support your child to collect as much money as possible in return for acts of kindness or helping out at home. Tubes are to be returned to school at the end of the first week back. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

### **Outdoor Learning**

Next half term Y4 will be working with Mr Mordue on a Tuesday afternoon. Please can you make sure your child has some wellies in school on that day. The Wild Passport focus will be **FIRE** and the children will be learning how to:

- produce sparks with a fire steel
- light cotton wool pads with a fire steel
- make a warm drink on the fire
- demonstrate the principles of 'leave no trace' when using a fire
- cook a simple meal on a fire.

### **Children's Cancer Run 2023**

Just a reminder to sign up to **The 40<sup>th</sup> Children's Cancer Run** which will take place on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May. Runner entries are now open - please go to [www.childrenscancerrun.co.uk](http://www.childrenscancerrun.co.uk) to find out more and register to run for our school team. The more the merrier!

### **Chance to Shine Cricket**

As part of our PE curriculum next half term the children across all year groups will receive cricket coaching from Chance to Shine Cricket. This will take place on a Monday. All children are to come to school on a **Monday** and **Thursday** (NUFC Foundation PE) in their outdoor PE kit.

## **Information**

### **Online Safety Meeting**

Just a reminder that we are holding an online safety session run by the NSPCC on Wednesday **15th March at 6pm**. This is a parent only session which aims to support parents to navigate the challenges of keeping their child safe online. As you are aware online safety is a huge concern, particularly as children get older and have more exposure to tablets or mobile phones. If you would like to attend then please complete the form we sent out via Parentmail. We do have to guarantee numbers of 15+ for the session to go ahead.

### **Merger with The Three Rivers Learning Trust**

Last week the consultation documents for the proposed merger with The Three Rivers Learning Trust were sent out to all stakeholders. A consultation meeting for parents is to be held on **Wednesday 1st March at 6pm** at Prudhoe Community High School.

### **NEU Industrial Action**

The next proposed strike day by the National Education Union will be taking place on Tuesday 28th February. We will be open as normal to all classes on that day.

## **School Calendar**

Friday 17th February	Last day before half term
Monday 27th February	Back to school
Monday 27th February	Chance to Shine Cricket (all year groups)

Wednesday 1st March	Y2 trip to Newcastle (Great Fire of Newcastle and Gateshead)
Thursday 2nd March	World Book Day Launch of our Give a Book Campaign
Thursday 9th March	Y4 Gymnastics competition
Week beginning 13th March	Science Week
Wednesday 15th March	NSPCC online safety workshop - parents (6pm)
Friday 17th March	Red Nose Day
Tuesday 21st March	Parents and Carers Evening
Wednesday 22nd March	Parents and Carers Evening
Wednesday 29th March	Y2 parents coffee morning/class assembly
Friday 31st March	Last day of the Spring term - Easter Holidays
Monday 17th April	Back to school
Sunday 14th May	Childrens' Cancer Run

Best wishes.

**S Gibbon**  
**Headteacher**