



# Stanhope Barrington Co E Primary School Newsletter

SUMMER 2021



## Message from Head Teacher

Welcome to our Summer Term Newsletter.

You may have noticed that we didn't have a Spring Term Newsletter—that was because we were in lockdown and only fully re-opened on 8th March for the last 3 weeks of the Spring Term.

So far Summer Term has been incredibly busy in school as we try to make life as normal as possible for the children; be mindful of everyone's mental health and emotional well-being; assess our children's learning and deliver catch-up interventions where necessary. In addition, Summer Term also means report writing and parent appointments as well as planning for the next academic year.

I would like to take this opportunity to say how lovely it is to have all of our children back in school. Thank you to all parents/carers / grandparents and childminders for sticking to our one-way system and helping to keep our school Covid—secure.

Mrs Cross

## New End of School Year Report

I hope you have managed to have a look at our new format for our school report—available on our website.

School reports will be sent home on Friday 25th June 2021.



## Parent Appointments

After Half term you will receive a letter asking if you would like a parent appointment with your child's class teacher. These appointments will be via zoom or telephone and will take place during week commencing 28th June 2021.

## STEM Week

Our annual STEM week started on Monday 26th April 2021.

Throughout the week we had visiting Scientists in school working with our Learning zones. They delivered workshops ranging from making rockets to learning how to programme the Mars Rover!

Our older children were also involved in meeting a range of different Scientists virtually to learn about careers in STEM .

## Zoo Lab

On Friday 30th April 2021, as part of our annual STEM (Science, technology, engineering and maths) week, Zoo Lab visited our school. Every child in school had the opportunity to meet a wide range of animals. Each Learning Zone had a workshop focusing on science topics ranging from habitats to life cycles to endangered species.



### Our very own local Hero

We are all incredibly proud of Jake (Ruby Learning Zone) who was presented with a Durham Constabulary Hero Award this term. Jake (aged 7) saved the life of his cousin who was choking on a sweet. Jake used the back-slap

techniques but to no avail and then had to use Abdominal Thrusts to dislodge the sweet.

In addition, Paul Rickeard (CEO of the MAT) came into school and awarded Jake a certificate of courage.

You may have seen our hero on the local news.

Not only are we extremely impressed, we were also inspired to deliver First Aid training to every child in the school.

### First Aid Training for all children

Inspired by Jake, we have decided to deliver First Aid Training to all of our children. In the past we have delivered this training to our older children in Upper Key Stage Two however, Jake is living proof that our younger children are more than capable of

learning life saving skills.

Therefore, on 16th June Durham Police will be delivering bespoke First Aid Training from Opal to Diamond Learning Zones. Our younger children will be taught how to ring 999 for help and the training will increase in

complexity with our older children learning CPR techniques.



### Weardale Outdoor Education Centre

As part of our 'Return to School' plan, every Learning Zone has now had an educational visit to the Weardale Outdoor Education Centre.

The centre staff have worked closely with school to design sessions to reinforce and embed the Super Powers for each individual learning zone. The children have had a truly awesome time. These visits have helped to build confidence and resilience and have had a huge benefit to their emotional well-being and mental health.

Teachers have been able to use the children's achievements to motivate and encourage them in the classroom and we have seen a huge difference in their attitude to learning.

Feedback from the centre staff has been incredible—they were very impressed with

behaviour and how our children dealt with the challenges.

This first Educational visit was fully funded to the tune of £6500 by William Cook's—the foundry in Stanhope and we are immensely grateful for this support. We were planning to hold our second visit in July but by the time the funding from other local businesses and organisations was confirmed the centre was booked for residential visits.

We have therefore booked dates in September and October for our next visit.

I would like to thank all of our funders for their generous support. Some have chosen to remain anonymous but I would like to thank:-

- Weardale Methodist Church
- St Thomas' Church PCC
- Stone Valley Interiors
- William Cook
- Eastgate Church Committee
- RE Lighting

The value added to the lives of our children by these visits has been overwhelming. Feedback from children, Centre Staff and a video are available on our website but I wanted to share a quote with you from a parent which sums up this amazing

opportunity beautifully: "Thank you for the trips! This day will see my child wet today, tired tonight and happy forever. You change lives—all of you".

### **Women In Need**

On Thursday 27th May 2021 we will be holding a Skipathon to raise money for the charity Women In Need (WIN). This charity is run by two of our parents who have asked us to help them to raise money to support women affected by Covid-19 in India.

Please donate £1 on Thursday and your child will take part in a range of fun skipping activities.

### **Skip into Spring**

During week commencing 10th May 2021 we joined in with the Durham County Council Skip into Spring project. All children in school took part in a range of skipping activities which got increasingly more challenging for the older children.



### **Treasure Island**

On Tuesday 11th May we welcomed M&M Productions into school. They delivered a Covid-Secure video/live performance of Treasure Island. The children thoroughly enjoyed it and most learning zones have completed classroom based activities as a follow up to this exciting stimulus. It was lovely to be able to offer this theatre experience to our children.

### **Parent Pay Goes Live**

In response to our technology survey carried out earlier this year, parents overwhelmingly wanted us to introduce an online payment system.

As such, over the last few months we have been working with Parent Pay to set up our online payment system.

Activation letters have been sent to all parents so please, if you have not already done so, you need to

**ACTIVATE YOUR PARENT PAY ACCOUNT ASAP.**

Parent Pay goes live on 7th June (after half term).

We will accept cash/cheque payments for two weeks but from Monday 21st June 2021 all payments must be made online.

### **Allocation To Learning Zones September 2021**

Over the last few weeks our teaching team have met to discuss every single child in our school in order to identify the most appropriate Learning Zone for them in September.

You will receive a letter after half term informing you of which Learning Zone your child has been allocated to.

These decisions are not taken lightly and are not based purely on ability but also take account of social skills, resilience, friendships, preferred learning styles and which learning environment will support a child to make expected or accelerated progress.

The learning zones (which were introduced in March 2021) have been extremely successful and we look forward to embedding them in our school in September.

## HOLIDAYS 2021/2022

Summer half-term 2021	Friday 28 May 2021	Monday 07 June 2021
Summer 2021	Friday 16 July 2021	Monday 06 September 2021
Autumn half-term 2021	Friday 22 October 2021	Monday 01 November 2021
Christmas 2021	Friday 17 December 2021	Wednesday 05 January 2022
Spring half-term 2022	Friday 18 February 2022	Monday 28 February 2022
Easter 2022	Friday 08 April 2022	Monday 25 April 2022
May Day 2022	Friday 29 April 2022	Tuesday 03 May 2022
Summer half-term 2022	Friday 27 May 2022	Monday 06 June 2022
Summer 2022	Wednesday 20 July 2022	To be determined

**If your child will not be attending school, due to illness, medical appointments etc., please can you call the school office before 9.00 am to let us know the reason why? Any absence that is not reported will be recorded as 'Missing from Education' on your child's record. If they are 'Missing from Education' for more than 48 hours we are required to inform County Hall.**



**Don't forget ...**

**If you do need to take your child from school during term-time, for whatever reason, please complete a 'Leave of Absence' form which is available from the school office.**

**This form should be completed and returned to the school in advance of the absence.**

**Mrs D Cross, Head Teacher  
Tel: 01388 528218**