

★ Stars of the Week ★

Year 1	Raymond
Year 2	Ethan
Year 3	Neil
Year 4	Danielius
Year 5	Tiwalade
Year 6	Hope

Head Teacher's Award

★ **Sienna** ★

House Point Winners



SCHOOL MEALS PROMOTIONAL DAY

The school meals service is holding a Chinese New Year (Year of the Horse) promotional day on Tuesday 17th February.

We would encourage all children to have a school meal on the day. If your child does not normally have school dinners, then please let the school office know in advance if they want to be part of the promotional day so that the kitchen can plan to feed them.



Tuesday 17th February

Chicken fried rice with curry sauce and chips
Stir fried pork and noodles with chips
Sweet & Sour Vegetables with fried rice

All of the above main courses served with a vegetable spring roll

Followed by

Pancake and ice cream



Place2Be's

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

9-15
FEB
2026

Children's Mental Health Week

Wow! We have had an amazing week, celebrating Children's Mental Health Week!

The theme for this year was 'This is My Place', and our aim was to support children and young people to help them feel they belong through lessons which focus on identifying who they are and what is around them. We were lucky to have some strange visitors come in to see us, thanks to Katy and the

Science Buddies crew for bringing in their animals. We have joined in some great meditation sessions and some of us took part in a yoga session with Kalma Life. We had the opportunity to eat some healthy fruit kebabs with our classmates to really get a sense of belonging. Some classes took part in inclusive activities together such as bird watching, listening to music for 'good vibes' and lots of fun with friends.

Animal visit





Fruit Kebabs







This morning, our nursery children enjoyed a calming Teddy Bear Yoga session as part of Children's Mental Health Week. With teddies by their side, they practiced gentle stretches and breathing exercises, promoting relaxation and wellbeing.

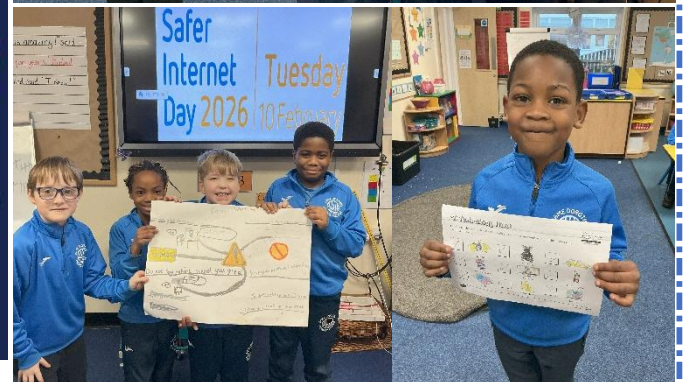
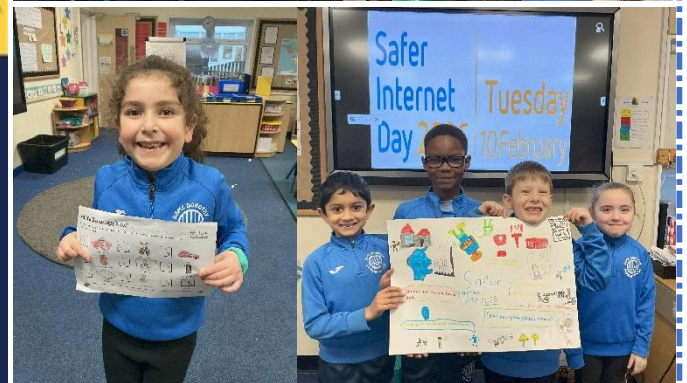
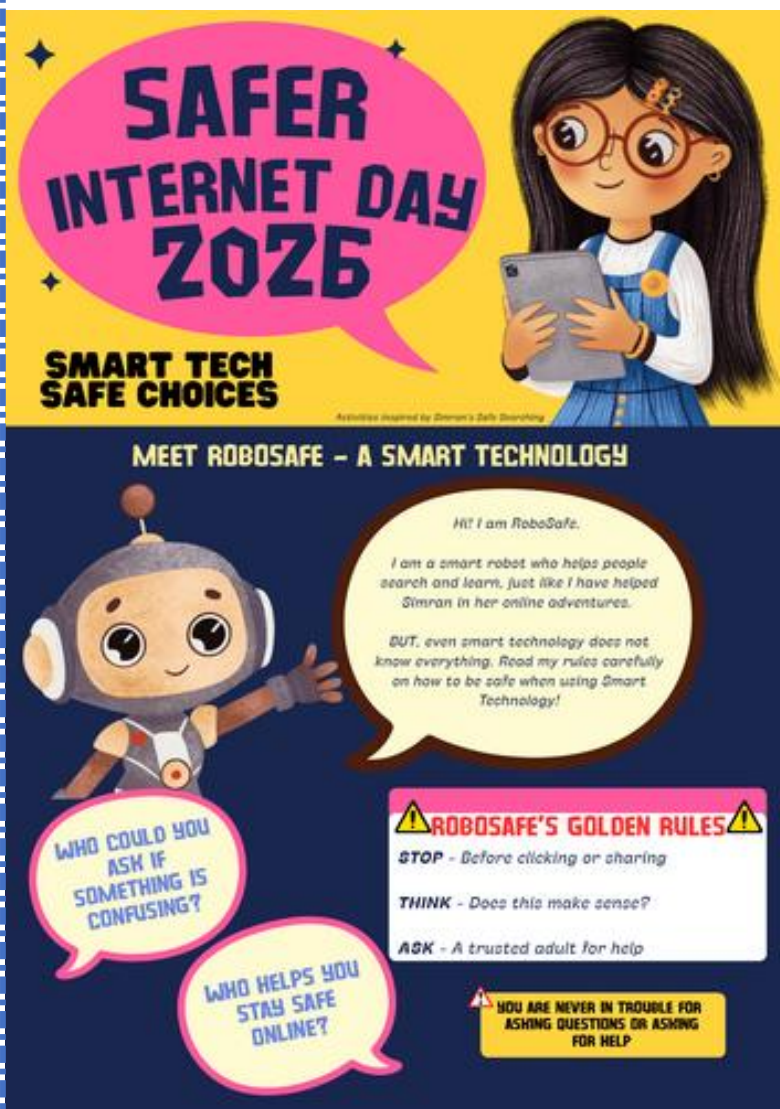
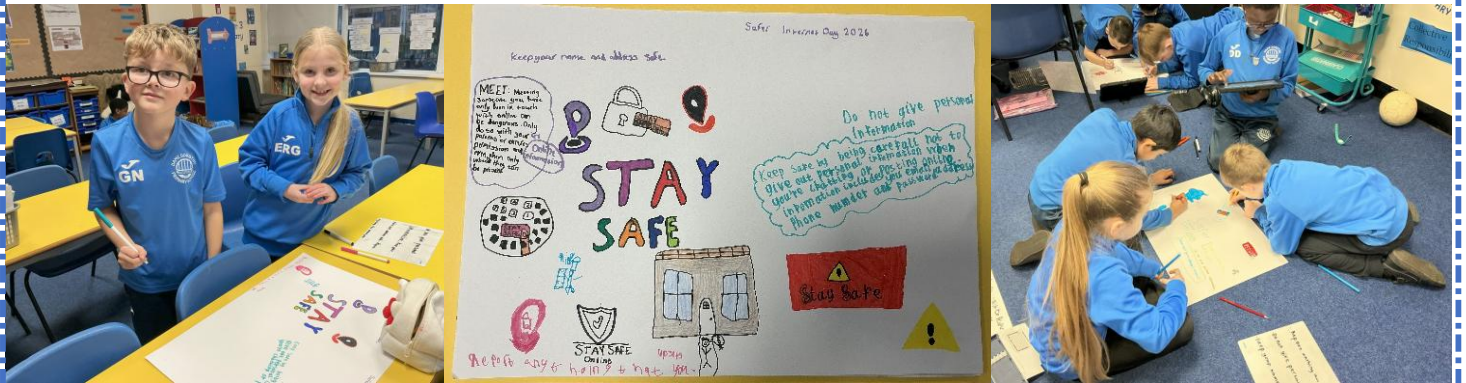


YOGA



SAFER INTERNET DAY – TUESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY

Dame Dorothy had a great day on Tuesday celebrating Safer Internet Day. We focussed on the theme "Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI." The children took part in a variety of lesson and activities to explore this, including making posters, investigating where AI is used and understood that AI should not be used for personal information. Some of the children even took part in live BBC Teach lessons to find out what AI is and how to use it safely.



FOOTBALL

Last night, our 5-a-side team made up of Year 5s and 6s competed in the regional finals. Representing Sunderland, they were playing against champions from Peterlee, Durham and Gateshead. It was a fiercely competitive set of fixtures. The team finished the night with two draws and a tight 0-1 loss, finishing third overall. Getting to this stage is a phenomenal achievement for a school of our size. The boys should be very proud of their achievements; they have represented the school brilliantly.



GYMNASTICS

Gymnastics: A young team of KS1 gymnasts took part in a festival at Monkwearmouth this week. The children had to perform three routines to showcase their skills in balance, movement and vault. They all performed brilliantly and had a great time. A special shout out to Sophia who won the individual award for the best vault.



Next week marks the end of Mrs Wheatman's time with us at Dame Dorothy.

We will miss her happiness and care so much. During her time with us she has helped dozens and dozens of our children to read, be good friends with one another and have fun whilst learning. Mrs Wheatman we will miss you so much. Have a fabulous final week at Dame Dorothy.



DERWENT HILL

There is a meeting for parents and carers of children who are going to Derwent Hill on Tuesday 17th February in school at 3:20pm. Please make every effort to attend as important information will be given and any questions can be answered.

MOORHOUSE – Y4 RESIDENTIAL TRIP

There is a meeting for parents and carers of children who are going to Moorhouse on Thursday 19th February in school at 3:20pm. Please make every effort to attend as important information will be given and any questions can be answered.

Parents can collect their children and wait in the yard; the teacher will then bring them in for the meeting in the classroom.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is so important for children to get the most from their education and the aim should always be 100%.

This week's attendance winners with **96.6%** are **Year 4**.

Children with **5** late arrivals will miss out on prizes and awards even if they are at **98%**.

School starts at 8am with our free breakfast club, open to anyone in Reception – Year 6 classes but must enter before 8:30am, classroom doors open from 8:45 - 8:55. Any children arriving after this time should enter via the school office, where a late mark will be given.

DIARY DATES

- 17th Feb - Derwent Hill Meeting 3:20pm for parents in school
- 19th Feb - Y5/6 Football (7 a-side)
- 19th Feb - Metting for Y4 Residential 3:20pm
- 23 - 27th Feb - Half Term – School re-opens on Monday 2nd March



UK Health
Security
Agency



Should I keep my child off school?



Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

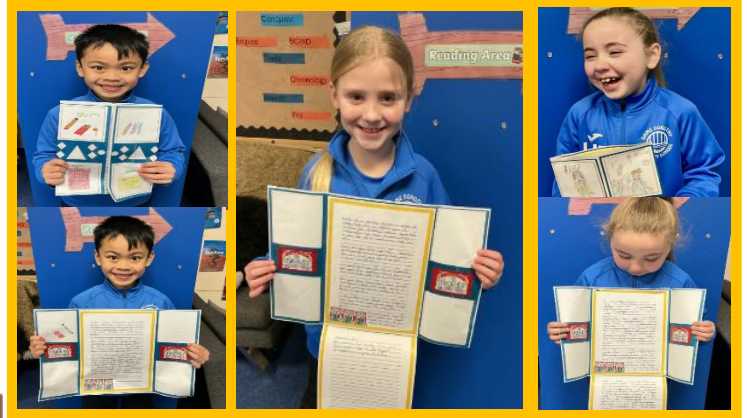
Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

Year 3 Newsletter Special!

Literacy

This term, Year 3 have been writing detailed narratives inspired by our class read, *The Chocolate Factory Ghost*. To present their work, they designed mysterious factory doors that open to reveal their writing. Throughout their narratives, the children skilfully included dialogue, prepositional phrases, and adverbs to add depth, detail, and atmosphere to their stories.



Topic

Chocolate has been a theme woven through much of our learning this term. From exploring how ancient civilisations first discovered and used cacao, to tracing the long and fascinating journey chocolate took before eventually arriving in Europe, the children have developed a rich understanding of its historical, cultural, and geographical significance.

Early Origins of Chocolate

Part A: Vocabulary

Match the words to their meanings:

- Cacao Tree: The plant that produces cacao beans
- Cacao Pod: The fruit of the cacao tree that contains cacao beans
- Cocoa: A group of people with an organized society and culture
- Geography: The study of places and the situations that human people and their societies create

Cacao Tree Ancient civilisations using chocolate Cacao pods

Design and Technology

Year 3 have been getting creative as they prepare to make their very own chocolate bars! They've designed colourful wrappers, come up with imaginative names, and explored catchy slogans. Of course, no chocolate project is complete without tasting—so we held a *very official* chocolate-tasting session to help everyone decide on the perfect ingredients.



Maths

In maths, we've been exploring length and perimeter—rulers at the ready! We even linked our learning to our chocolate topic, measuring chocolate bars and working out their perimeter.



Physical Education

After all that chocolate tasting, our weekly tennis sessions have helped us stay active. The children have been practising ball control, forehand and backhand shots, and taking part in short rallies to build their confidence and coordination.

