

Stars of the Week			
Year 1	Ronia	Year 4	Callum
Year 2	Ireayomide	Year 5	Oscar
Year 3	Lenka	Year 6	Sophie

Head of School Update

What a lovely, busy week it has been in school.

Spending time in classrooms this week has been a real reminder of just how much the children have grown. There's a real sense that they're ready for what comes next - showing confidence, independence and a determination to do their very best.

I've seen so much learning! From creative stop motion LEGO animations that really brought ideas to life, to some brilliant times tables work with children building real fluency and confidence. Writing across the school has also been fantastic retelling *The Iron Man*, creating imaginative posters about lost animals, and producing seagull fact files to inform us.

And, of course, learning hasn't been confined to the classroom - we never seem to stop!

Children have enjoyed trips to the beach, visits to Broomhouse Farm, and the excitement of the Greenpower car racing day. These experiences add so much to our curriculum and create memories that last far beyond the week itself.

As we head towards the end of term, please keep an eye on the newsletter for key dates, and check the Arbor app for any updates or timings you may need.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Have a lovely (and hopefully sunny!) weekend.

Laura Tullock

Head of School



Year 3 at Broomhouse Farm

Year 3 rounded off their farm learning journey with a fantastic final visit to Broom House Farm, exploring how the environment and farm operations have changed over time. We began our day with a peaceful walk through the fields, where the children observed the cows and sheep enjoying the wide-open space and fresh summer air. Their thoughtful questions and careful observations showed just how much their understanding of animal habitats and seasonal changes has grown.

The excitement continued as we spent time with the goats and chickens. The children showed great confidence and care while interacting with the animals. These hands-on experiences are always a highlight, especially when we found a pig just like Wilbur from Charlotte's Web.

As tradition demands, we ended our visit in the Adventure Forest. This is always a favourite part of the day, and the children embraced every challenge with enthusiasm — climbing, balancing, supporting one another, and celebrating each small success. It was a joy to watch their teamwork, resilience, and laughter fill the forest. With amazing weather, beautiful scenery, and truly amazing children, it was the perfect way to conclude our series of visits. We are incredibly proud of Year 3 and the way they represented our school throughout each trip.



Reception Class at the Beach

Over the last few weeks in Reception, learning has focused on local history. The children revisited a previous trip to the River Wear, using photos to recall that Sunderland is known for glassmaking, book production, and shipbuilding. They reflected on artwork of landmarks such as the Stadium of Light, learning it was once Monkwearmouth Colliery and discussing miners' work, its dangers, and the importance of coal.

They also explored Sunderland's glassmaking past, with some linking this to visits to the Glass Centre. A beach trip allowed children to find evidence of history, including sea glass and coal, alongside discussions about pollution and caring for the environment.

They later wrote about their experiences and used sea glass in creative work. Further learning included local land ownership, the development of the port, and identifying key features such as the marina and pier using Google Earth. On visits, children explored the river, lighthouse area, and RNLI station, while completing activities such as stone stacking to support focus and calmness.



Year 6 Greenpower Day

On Tuesday, nine of our Year 6s took part in the Greenpower race day at Gateshead Stadium. After building the car last month, they then competed against twelve other schools in three different events: a drag race, a slalom race and a sprint race around the entire track. Each child competed in at least one race and they all showed great teamwork throughout, cheering each other on and pushing the car into position between events. The day ended with the team achieving second place in the drag race.

We've definitely got some budding engineers and racing drivers in Year 6!



Summer Concert

We're delighted to invite you to our Summer Concert, taking place at 2.00pm on Wednesday 24th June in the School Hall.

This is a free event and a wonderful opportunity for parents and carers of our musicians and choir members to come along and enjoy their performances.

Our talented pupils will showcase their hard work and enthusiasm, and we look forward to sharing a fantastic afternoon of music with you.

We hope to see you there!

Girls Football Tournaments

Our girls' football team have two final nights next week. On Tuesday, we play at the Beacon of Light in the Jill Scott Cup final, kicking off at 4pm. On Wednesday, we then have our league finals night at Ford Hub, which again kicks off at 4pm. These finals are a celebration of the hard work and the determination the girls have shown all season; good luck girls!

Safeguarding

This week in assembly, we have been talking about trusted adults - someone children feel safe with, who listens, cares, and helps them when they have worries. We have encouraged pupils to think about their own "trust team" by identifying up to five trusted adults they could go to if they need support, both in school and at home. It would be helpful to continue this conversation at home

by talking with your child about who is in their trust team, helping them feel confident that there are always people around them who will listen and help keep them safe.



A Little Weather Reminder

(North East style!)

It looks like we might actually be getting some warm weather next week - fingers crossed it lasts longer than a day!

Please can you send children to school with:

- Sun cream already applied before they arrive (we'll remind and encourage children to top up using our dispensers at break times)
- A hat for break and lunchtime
- A filled water bottle to keep them hydrated

We'll make the most of the sunshine while it's here!

Book Amnesty

As we approach the end of the school year, we are taking some time to review and refresh our library. Please could you check at home for any school library books and return them as soon as possible. Our library will be closing at the end of next week to allow for some exciting new developments to take place!

Book Recommendations

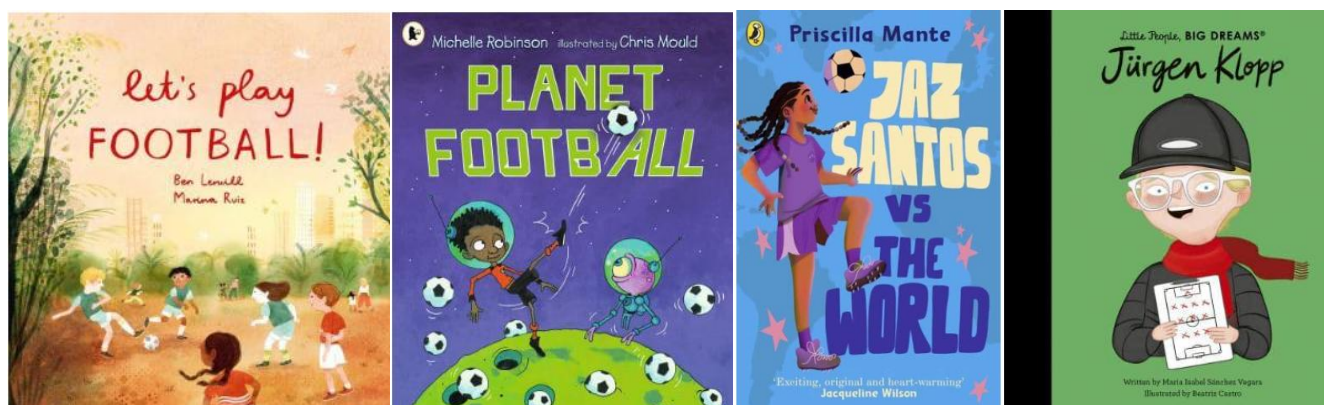
'Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.'

Margaret Fuller

Starting in our next few newsletters, we'll be sharing some recommended books that you might enjoy reading with your children or perhaps save for the summer holidays ahead. We know how special it is to take time together with a good story, and a summer read is something we all look forward to—whether it's at home, on holiday, or simply enjoying a quiet moment in the sunshine.

There's only one topic for our reading recommendations this week... it has to be the beautiful game and the start of the World Cup! This link takes you to a collection of brilliant football books for old and young — perfect for keeping everyone reading right through the tournament.

[Football books for children and teens | School Reading List](#)



Thank Crunchie It's Friday!

Celebrating Our Staff

Our staff truly do make Dame Dorothy a special place. From all of the rich learning experiences in the classroom to the opportunities pupils get outside of the classroom. Don't forget, if there is a member of staff who has made a difference, please nominate them for a Crunchie award via the Arbor app.

Attendance

Another improvement in attendance this week – 95.95% Keep this up Dame Dot! When you're not in school, we really feel it - and you miss out on all the moments that make each week special, like we've seen so clearly again this week. You're a valued part of our school, and it's simply not the same without you. Being here means sharing learning, spending time with friends, joining in, and being part of everything that's going on. Everyday matters, and every person matters. Quite simply - you're part of us, and you belong here!

This week's attendance winners with **98.6%** are **Year 3**.

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

Our school day starts at 8:00am with our free Breakfast Club, which is open to all children from Reception to Year 6. Children must arrive before 8:30am to attend Breakfast Club. If your child arrives after 8:30am, they will not be able to enter school until the main gate opens at 8:45am.

Classroom doors are open from 8:45am to 8:55am for the start of the school day. Any children arriving after 8:55am must enter through the school office and will receive a late mark.

Thank you for your support in helping your child arrive on time each day.

DIARY DATES

- 24th June - Summer Concert (musicians and choir)
- 29th June - 3rd July - Last Week for Clubs
- 14th July - Sports Day
- 16th July - Beach Day
- 17th July - Y6 Leavers Assembly @2pm
- 22nd July - Y6 Guard of honour @3pm
- 22nd July - Last Day of Term – 3:15pm
- **2nd September - Children Return to School**

INSET DAYS (SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN):

- 1st September
- 23rd October

HALF TERM DATES:

- 26th October – 31st October
- 21st December – 1st January
- 15th February – 19th February
- 26th March – 9th April
- 31st May – 4th June

Nursery Newsletter Special

Welcome back Nursery children! We have had some new children start with us recently and our returning children have been great role models showing them how to access our nursery provision.

In Early Years we have been looking at all things gardening as this week is 'National Gardening Week'! We are very fortunate down in EYFS to have such a lovely garden space with everything we need to grow so many of our own plants.

We have been exploring plants indoors, using microscopes to look at plants closely and see all the different parts such as the roots.

In our classroom we have also been planting cress seeds, talking about all the things plants need to grow!



Sunshine Room News:

Our older nursery children have been helping to dig weeds out of our planters, ready for new plants to be put in. They have also put new plants into the greenhouse to grow, ensuring to give plenty of water.

We have also been learning about positional vocabulary, words such as in, out, over, through.

We practiced this with an obstacle course outdoors, and a great time was had by all!

Rainbow Room News

Our younger children have been looking at seasonal change and exploring blossom trees. We love collaborating and working together- look at the lovely painting they have been doing. We also used real tree branches and glued pink tissue paper to look like blossoms; the children absolutely loved this and was a great opportunity to improve those fine motor skills. We also learned about the story of St. George and the dragon whilst making some fantastic fire breathing dragon crafts!



General reminders:

Can children please come into nursery already wearing suncream on hot days, plus they will need a sunhat as we spend time outside.

Also, can parents/carers please ensure children have at least 1 spare set of clothes in school as toileting accidents can happen. Thank you.