

# BEACON CURRICULUM UPDATE

Your newsletter from Beaconside Primary School

“a light set up in a prominent position as a celebration”



We are now at the end of the Autumn term and we cannot believe how fast the year has flown so far. The children have been as busy as always exploring our Beacon Curriculum and the exciting opportunities and experiences within it. It has been great to see so many of our children enjoying performing during the festive period and also trying new sporting activities too. Our children have learned all about **places** in our world, **people** who can inspire us with their discoveries and contributions and **innovation** that changed our world as we once knew it.

## Our Christian Vision and Values

Learning to live, Learning to shine



Our school vision has three main aims. To ensure that all children are:

- **Learning**
- **Living**
- **Shining**

Through promotion of our Church School values and the implementation of our Beacon Curriculum we aim for all children to develop academically, personally and socially. Each child is encouraged to explore their own talents and encourage those of others.

In Autumn 2 the whole school enjoyed a visit onto the Library Bus. Some of us were lucky enough to hear a story from the Library Bus librarian which we really enjoyed. The whole school had the opportunity to borrow a book whether that be a classic story book that they had enjoyed before, a non-fiction book about something they had been learning in school or something totally new! As always, it was great to see so much enjoyment and enthusiasm on the bus. We are looking forward to our next visit which will be in the Spring term – just in time for World Book Day!

## Library Bus



## Sporting teams

Fell walking group



Cross Country



Tag Rugby



Y3/4 football



Athletics team



Multi sports



# VISITS AND VISITORS

Since introducing our Beacon Curriculum a couple of years ago, our children have had so many fantastic visits and experiences and the first term of this academic year has been no different! Reception had a fantastic visit to St Andrew's Church to watch a teddy bear wedding. Busy Bees burnt off some energy at the soft play at Rheged which they really enjoyed. Nursery had a lovely visit to Penrith Library whilst year 1 enjoyed their day outdoors at Stockwood. Year 2 went to the Aviation Museum where they were able to sit inside some old planes whilst year 3 made a trip to Brougham Castle. Year 4 were the first year group this year to head into the lakes for canoe rafting. Year 5 visited the Jorvik Centre and year 6 had a memorable experience visiting London and all it has to offer. We look forward to more exciting visits next term.



# OUTDOOR LEARNING

## Reception, year 1, year 2 and year 5

Outdoor learning is an important part of our Beacon curriculum. Each term each class does a 5 week block focussing on conservation, wildlife or bushcraft. It is delivered by each class teacher and is supported by our outdoor learning team- a team of four teachers who have additional training and experience. It has been great to see the children outside learning during the winter season and making the most of our Outdoor Learning Zone in all weathers.



**Next half term:**  
Nursery- Talking about what we see  
Reception – Weather safety  
Busy Bees – Planting seeds and growing  
Year 1 – Conservation and nature  
Year 2 – Fire lighting and navigation  
Year 5 – Fire lighting and cooking  
Year 6 – Using tools and first aid



## NURSERY

In Nursery, the children have had two exciting topics; learning all about themselves and also exploring how people around the world celebrate. They have had some wonderful festive experiences such as meeting donkeys and also looking at the Christmas tractors. Meanwhile, in Nursery they have been busy telling stories, getting creative and exploring the provision both inside and outdoors.

This term, Reception children have settled really well into school life. They have started their early reading journey with Phonics and have also enjoyed counting and calculating in Maths. They enjoyed making poetry actions during their poetry workshop and also enjoyed a walk to the post box to post letters to Santa. They were all stars in their Nativity play and also enjoyed a trip to St Andrew's to watch a bear wedding ceremony.

## RECEPTION



## YEAR 1

This term, the year 1 children have had lots of great learning experiences. They have been learning all about toys from the past. They enjoyed an interesting talk and got to see lots of these toys up close. They also had a fabulous day out at Stockwood exploring the outdoor environment. They continued this in their Outdoor Learning back in school and collected leaves to make collage pictures. Finally, they enjoyed learning all about the human body in Science and making their own skeleton pictures. The children finished the year leading the whole school in a carol concert at St Andrew's Church!



# BUSY BEES

Busy Bees have lived up to their name this term getting involved in lots of different learning opportunities. They have enjoyed the provision in their unit, explored different places in Penrith, used the apparatus in their PE sessions and have even met donkeys and an elf during the final weeks of school. They thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the soft play at Rheged too!



## YEAR 2

Year 2 have had a busy term learning about famous first flights and also about Kenya. The children have enjoyed Science experiments based on materials and also clay work in Art based on animal patterns. We have also enjoyed a visit to the Aviation Museum, a trip to the Library bus and also a poetry workshop. We ended the term with a fantastic performance of 'The Amazing Advent Calendar'.

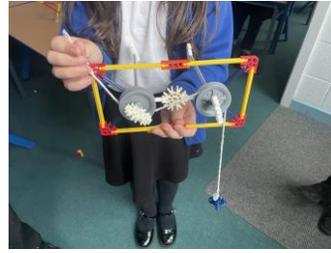
## YEAR 3

Year 3 have been learning all about invasion in Autumn 1 and cemented their learning with a visit to Brougham Castle which they thoroughly enjoyed. The whole year group led the whole school confidently in the Harvest Festival service at St Andrew's Church. It has been great to see year 3 settle so well into Key Stage 2 life and throw themselves into music and sporting events representing the school brilliantly. They have also learnt their Talk 4 Writing stories brilliantly complete with actions!



## YEAR 4

Year 4 have had a very successful and busy Autumn term where they have been busy getting fully involved in all aspects of the curriculum. They have been learning all about Ancient Egypt as the main part of their learning. They have also enjoyed tem building activities and especially their visit into the Lake District to take part in outward bound activities. A large number of year 4 children also represented the school as part of the choir this term at St Andrew's and the celebration awards.



## YEAR 5

This term in year 5 the children have been learning all about Anglo Saxons and Vikings in history. In DT they have enjoyed making Viking long ships and have also enjoyed a visit to the Jorvik Centre where they experienced a replica Viking village. Back at school, the children have enjoyed outdoor learning and have also enjoyed their Science learning about forces and properties of materials.



## YEAR 6

This term, Year 6 have been very busy learning all about our country's capital – London! They have been creating their own art work based on famous landmarks and writing descriptions of a busy city. They have learnt all about evolution and electricity in Science lessons and have enjoyed tennis and gymnastics in PE. To end Autumn 1, the children went on residential to London which they thoroughly enjoyed – we hope the memories will stay with them forever.



...Learn To Live...  
... Learn To Shine...

## Educational visits next half term

Year group	Spring 1
Nursery	Visit up the Beacon (26.01.23)
Reception	Visit up the Beacon (Date tbc)
Busy Bees	Outside In (08.02.24)
Year 1	TBC
Year 2	No visit this term
Year 3	TBC
Year 4	Tropical World (02.02.24)
Year 5	TBC
Year 6	Military Museum (17.01.24 or 19.01.24)



## Class worships



We have loved inviting you all into school during the Autumn term to share with us in our child led class worships. Thursday mornings are a special time for us where the children take ownership over their worship and love leading us all in it during that time. It really makes such a difference to have parents and carers as part of the audience so thank you for attending this term. We look forward to more class worships after Christmas.

### Contact Us

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