

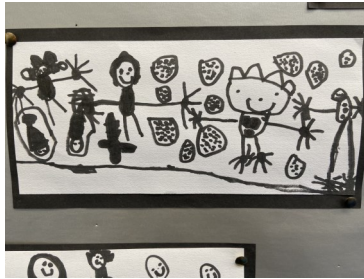


As we draw this half term to a close, I would like to share some of the fantastic things that have been going on in school over the last few weeks.

It has been an incredibly busy time at South Gosforth First School and all of the children and staff have been working really hard on a whole range of exciting things which will set us up for the year ahead and really make it one to remember!

Once again, I would like to say a huge thank you to the whole South Gosforth First School family for being so friendly, kind and supportive in my first half term here—it really means a lot to me and I am really excited for what we can achieve together for our wonderful children in the forthcoming 2 and a half terms.

Mr Adams



Y4 Community Project

The Year 4 children have taken part in a wonderful scheme this half term where they got to work alongside the teaching staff to develop a project which would give something back to the local community.

The staff were successful in applying for a grant from the council which gave school £150 to spend on buying resources to help with the project. We decided to purchase a small, portable PA system which will come in really handy for the Christmas and Summer fair!

They took this PA system down to Abbeyfields Care Home, where the children sang some old war time songs for the residents. This was a brilliant success and Mr Woodley commented that it had really put a smile on the occupants' faces.

Harvest Festival Collection

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who kindly donated food or toiletries to our harvest festival appeal. We donated the toiletries to 'Shelter' and the food items to The West End Newcastle Food Bank. Both charities were hugely grateful for all contributions and commented what a truly generous community we are!

KS2 Sports

I would like to say a huge well done to our Key Stage 2 sporting teams this half term who have represented our school beautifully in various sporting events over the last few weeks. Our Year 3 dodgeball players played really fairly and graciously and made us so proud and our Year 4 footballers showed great sportsmanship a couple of weeks ago during a trust wide tournament—they even won! Olympians in the making...

Sporting Opportunities at

SGFS

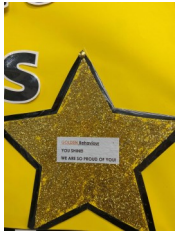
Next half term and beyond, we are going to be introducing a whole range of sporting and enrichment activities which really help our children to stay active, fit and healthy. Some of these activities include multi skills, tennis, hockey, rugby with the Newcastle Falcons, dance and cricket. We will also be providing opportunities for children to do dance, taekwondo, tag rugby and netball amongst others at after school clubs. We really are a sporty school!



The Daily Mile

We have started doing the 'daily mile' for all children across school at the end of every lunch time (weather permitting.) Already after only a few weeks we have noticed how much more stamina the children have when they are running and the children are going in to school on an afternoon much more alert and ready to start their learning. A resounding success so far!





Behaviour Policy

We have recently introduced a new, consistent positive behaviour policy in school linked to 'traffic lights'. The children have really responded well to

having defined behaviours which relate to a specific traffic light or colour, which means that they are able to refer to these easily and understand our expectations really tangibly. This clear understanding by all pupils and common language about behaviour means that all children are able to regulate their own behaviour in a much more proactive way as they have a strong grasp of what positive behaviour should look like in our school. Keep this up everyone—You are all doing really well!

Safeguarding—Mobile Phones

May we please politely remind parents and carers to not use mobile phones whilst on the school premises, particularly to take photographs or videos, even if this is only of your own children—this is classed as a safeguarding risk to the pupils in school. Thanks in advance for your co-operation.



Scholastic Book Fair

Can we say a huge thank you to everyone who came and bought a book (or two) at the scholastic book fair which took place last week. We managed to raise around £1300! From this amount, school will receive £700 in scholastic book vouchers which we will use to invest in whole class texts for pupils across school.

A Plea for Donations

Over the course of the next term or so, we are looking to develop some specific areas across school. One of these areas is the reception class space and we are looking at introducing some more storage which is accessible for the children. If any families have any Ikea storage units (or similar) which they no longer need, we would welcome these with open arms! Alongside this, we are looking to introduce a 'sensory room' in school, so if any parents or carers have any sensory toys or lights etc that they would like to donate, this would be much appreciated. Finally, we would like to build on our reading areas in each classroom, so if families have any good quality books which they no longer need, then these would also be really gratefully received. Thank you!



PTA

I thought that it was important to pay tribute to the South Gosforth First School PTA, who meet regularly and work tirelessly to organise fantastic enrichment events for our children, whilst also raising a lot of money for our school. The Halloween Disco was a 'spooktacular' success and made a profit of over £800 for school! The group are always looking for new people to help out, so please get involved if you can! We really appreciate all of the time and commitment that the PTA give—it makes a real difference to our pupils.

School 'Tag Line'

A big thank you to everyone who submitted suggestions for our new school tag line! I have collated everyone's ideas together and we will share these with the children and staff after half term break so that they can vote on their favourite. The 'big reveal' will follow closely after that!

[I hope that everyone has a restful and enjoyable half term break.](#)

Mr Adams