Weekly Bulletin –7th April 2017

Headteacher's Message

We extend our thanks to all who have enabled us to enjoy an excellent range of Easter celebrations in school this week. FOSS worked extremely hard to present the Easter Coffee Afternoon yesterday and it was good to see so many children, parents and carers enjoying the afternoon's events and refreshments. Congratulations to the winners of the many eggs donated! It is always good to come together as a school community. Yesterday also saw Years 3 and 4 present their Easter Worship with the story of the 'Three Trees' providing a thoughtful reflection on Jesus' journey to the cross. Earlier today, at our Easter service, the Communion Group received Holy Communion for the first time as part of our celebration. We thank Fr. Peter and Mrs Duell for preparing the children during their after school club. The service was a fitting way to end the term by reflecting on the message of Easter. It has been really good to see so many parents supporting both of these events. Your continued support is greatly valued. Later on in this week's bulletin, our Year 6 pupils have prepared short articles about the 'Playing by the Rules' Drama Performance, Maths Challenge and Science Club. I encourage you to read them. On behalf of all of the children and staff I wish you all a happy and joyful Easter and look forward to seeing you after a restful break as we begin the summer term together (Monday 24th April 2017).

Best wishes

Mr Tait

Diary Dates

Friday 7th April 2017	– School closes for Easter Holidays
Monday 24th April 2017	– School re-opens for Summer Term 1
Tuesday 25th April 2017	- KS2 Worship Choir commences
Thursday 27th April 2017	- Girls' Football League commences
Monday 1st May 2017	– May Day Bank Holiday
Wednesday 3rd May 2017	- Y5 Geography Field Trip
Thursday 4th May 2017	– School Closure, Parish and County Council Elections
Thursday 4th May 2017	- Girls' Football League – no matches
Monday 8th – Friday 12th May	– SATS Week
Monday 8th May 2017	- Y4 Geography Field Trip
Tuesday 9th May 2017	- Y3 Mini-tennis
Tuesday 9th May 2017	- Y5 visit to the ISKON Temple
Tuesday 9th May 2017	- Girls' Football League
Thursday 18th May 2017	- Girls' Football League
Friday 19th May 2017	- Y5/Y6 Kwik Cricket

For a full list of school holiday dates please see the school website.

Christian Values

During the first half of the summer term we will explore the value of thankfulness and worship will be led by Mr Tait, Mrs Matthews, Fr. Peter, Fr. Bill and our Key Stage Two pupils. We will be thinking about the things in life for which we are thankful.

Head lice- Advice for parents

We kindly ask parents and carers to be extra vigilant and check your child's hair regularly. There have been several reported cases of head lice in school recently. Head lice spread from head to head contact. Children with head lice will continue to spread them to others until they have been treated successfully, therefore please check and treat only if required, as the treatment is not effective if used when not needed. Please also ensure that hair is tied back neatly and securely for school to help stop head lice from spreading. If you wish to obtain additional information, then please contact the School Nurse: 03000 261507. The school nurse will be coming into school on 15th May to speak with the children about head lice.

School Events

Year 5 and 6 Science Club (written by the Club members)

Miss Kimberlin (a Physics Durham University Student) ran a Science Club for Year 5 and 6 for 4 weeks. We did three main experiments about Electricity, Materials and Light. We found out about viscosity and made cornflower gloop and a homemade lava lamp. The cornflower gloop was solid in the bowl but when we picked it up, it turned to liquid! When we experimented with circuits, we found out about the different symbols used to represent the equipment we used. Then we made a buzzer game by creating our own circuit! When we learned about pin hole cameras we found out that you had to cover up any gaps in the tube so that no light went in and you could see out of the pin hole. We all thoroughly enjoyed investigating Science topics in different ways. In our final week, we divided ourselves into groups and created posters to show what we learned for teach topic. It turns out we learned quite a lot!

The Drama Group (written by Group members)

From the 10th January to the 21st March, 25 children from years 4, 5 and 6 learned and performed 'Playing by the Rules!' at The Assembly Rooms in Durham. It was written and directed by Christina Castling from Off the Page Drama.
We all enjoyed the rehearsals – especially the warm-ups - including 'Bungalow', 'I Got Rhythm' and 'We're Building a Shed'. We also had fun performing on a stage in front of quite a big audience. It was the first time for some of us but we managed to overcome our nerves! We thoroughly enjoyed meeting new people and working as a team.
'Playing by the Rules!' is about a group of games who all have different rules. Sadly, three parts of the games go missing: Snakes, Spinner and Snap 2. Dice goes to search for them but will anything

happen to her? Chess (the bad guys) want to stick to the rules and believe in logic and skill rather than luck or chance. At the end, they get locked up and everything is back to normal thanks to Pawn (a member of Chess who decides to change his ways) and Dice. The moral of the story is: be who you want to be!

Maths Challenge (written by Finn, Luke, Jude and Lewis, Year 6)

A Year 6 team were invited to take part in a Maths Challenge at Belmont Secondary School on Tuesday 15th March 2017. In school, we had to enlist the help of Year 6 to create a poster about Rene Descartes, who created the concept of coordinates. We found out lots of information and created a poster at the competition. At the challenge, we had lots of rounds that we had to complete: the poster, a maths question relay and logic rounds. We had a lot of fun and enjoyed competing against other children in Year 6.

Sport

Congratulations to our **Y5&Y6 Football team** who won the Mixed Shield at Meadowfield on Monday 3rd April 2017. They played five matches before beating Bowburn Primary School in the semi-final. The final was against League winners Finchale Primary School and finished as draw in normal time. The match went to penalties; both of our penalty takers scored and our man of the match goalkeeper saved two of Finchale's penalties. An outstanding performance by individuals and the team.

Year 2 visited Maiden Castle for the Outdoor Adventurous Activities event on Tuesday run by the School Sports Partnership. The pupils participated in an orienteering treasure hunt activity. Thank you to the parents and grandparents who helped at this event.

Weekly Bulletin

If you would like to receive a copy of the Weekly Bulletin by e-mail please e-mail the school. Shincliffece@durhamlearning.net

The Weekly Bulletins from previous weeks can be found in the parents' section of the website.