



Welcome to our Spring 1 Newsletter. Despite it being a short half term, we have managed to fill it with lots of exciting events and activities.

I am also pleased to announce that our SATs booster classes have started this half term for our year 6 children and have been very well attended. A huge thank you to Miss Watson, Mrs Rockett and Mrs Dimanna for making this possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mrs Rockett back to school following her maternity leave. It is wonderful to have her back in our year 6 class on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Sadly, Mrs Vockins has secured a new job and will therefore be leaving us on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February. Mrs Vockins has made a very positive impact on our school, not least in developing and relaunching our Read. Write. Inc phonics platform. Mrs Vockins will be missed but we wish her lots of luck as she takes on a new challenge in her career.

Enjoy reading on to find out about all the exciting events and activities that have taken place at Barnburgh during this half term.  
**Mrs J Potts - Headteacher**

## ATTENDANCE BRONZE AWARDS

Congratulations to 71 children across our academy who received a Bronze Attendance Award. This award was presented to all the children who did not have any time absent from school during the autumn term.

Considering all the nasty winter bugs, we think this is a Truly Great achievement. Well done.

**Our whole school attendance from the start of September to 12<sup>th</sup> February is 96%**



## KEY DATES

- 24.02.25 KS1 & KS2 cheerleading festival
- 25.02.25 Year 4 trip to Murton Park
- 28.02.25 Wear Red Day
- 28.02.25 Year 5 puberty talk
- 05.03.25 Year 2 ASPIRE event 09:00 to 10:00
- 06.03.25 Year 5 and 6 dodgeball competition
- 06.03.25 World Book Day
- 10.03.25 Year 6 Anne Frank day
- 10.03.25 Year 3 and 4 tennis competition
- 11.03.25 Year 6 Anne Frank day
- 12.03.25 Year 6 ASPIRE event 09:00 to 10:00
- 12.03.25 Beyond Academy Aspire Awards
- 17.03.25 Big Walk and Wheel week
- 17.03.25 Year 1 ASPIRE event 09:00 to 10:00
- 18.03.25 Year 2 ASPIRE event 09:00 to 10:00
- 18.03.25 Year 5 and 6 tennis competition
- 19.03.25 Nursery ASPIRE event 08:50 to 10:00
- 19.03.25 Reception ASPIRE event 14:15 to 15:00
- 20.03.25 Year 3 ASPIRE event 09:00 to 10:00
- 21.03.25 Year 4 ASPIRE event 09:00 to 10:00
- 21.03.25 Year 5 ASPIRE event 14:00 to 15:00
- 24.03.25 Parents Evening
- 25.03.25 Dance festival rehearsal
- 26.03.25 Dance club performing in Leger dance festival
- 27.03.25 Parents Evening
- 28.03.25 Break up for Easter

## #TEAMBARNBURGH

### ATTENDANCE WINNERS

Congratulations to Year 2 for being Truly Great at coming to school every day. Year 2 had the best attendance this half term with 98% including two weeks at 100%

### HOUSE WINNERS

Congratulations to Mandela House who are our cumulative winners so far this year with an impressive 3950 house points!

### ASPIRE WINNERS

It has been a pleasure to present ASPIRE awards to so many children this half term. For photographs and names of children, please refer to our School Ping newsletter items. Thank you to our ASPIRE winners for being Truly Great!

### SPORT COMPETITIONS

Dodgeball	14.01.25	Years 1 & 2	4 <sup>th</sup>
Dodgeball	20.01.25	Years 3 & 4 Ballblasters	1 <sup>st</sup>
		Years 3 & 4 Bodysotters	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Dodgeball	31.01.25	Years 5 & 6 Bodysotters	6 <sup>th</sup>
		Years 5 & 6 Ballblasters	1 <sup>st</sup>

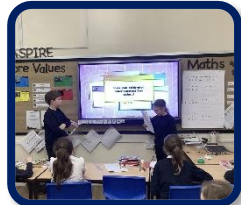
## YOUNG VOICES

On Monday 27th January, 19 children from the KS2 choir attended Young Voices at Utilita Arena Sheffield. The children spent the afternoon rehearsing with live musicians and singers including MC Grammar, Tommy Blaise (the lead singer from Strictly Come Dancing) and Souparnika Nair who was an instant hit on Britain's Got Talent in 2020. The children then took part in a dance rehearsal with Urban Strides, a street dance group. Following the rehearsal, the children got ready for the evening performance. They performed with nearly 5,000 other pupils from across Yorkshire to a HUGE arena audience. The songs they performed included Get Loud, Pop Medley, Little Blue, Bob Marley Medley and Hairspray Medley. The children spent the evening singing and dancing and had THE BEST time!! The children in the choir were an absolute credit to our school.



## KEEPING SAFE

On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January our year 6 children visited Crucial Crew. During the visit, they learnt how to keep themselves and others safe in a number of different scenarios. They covered: Arson, knife and hate crime, water safety, fire in the home safety, child criminal exploitation, pet safety, road safety, public transport safety and they found out what it is like in a magistrate's court. They role played a court case and thought about how the actions of one person affected not just themselves but so many others too. Safer Internet Day 2025 took place on the 11th of February 2025, with learning based around the theme 'Too good to be true? -Protecting yourself and others from scams online.' Safer Internet Day is the UK's biggest celebration of online safety. Each year we cover the issue that speaks about the things young people are seeing and experiencing online. Our digital leaders did a fantastic job of presenting to each class and addressing a variety of different scenarios in order to help the children know what to do if they felt like they were being scammed. They also explained the things to look out for online and the importance of telling a trusted adult if they are unsure.



## A MUSICAL THEATRE DAY

On Friday 7th February, our year 5 children took part in a musical workshop delivered by Arts International at Ridgewood Academy. The children participated in a series of musical activities related to 'Shrek the Musical'. The drama workshop started with each child getting to know the staff from Arts International and the other cast members. They all shared names and one amazing fact about themselves. Once they were acquainted, the children began warming up their voices ready for their first activity. 'Freak Flag' was the first song the children started to learn. Their enthusiasm and willingness to take part was impressive. The children split into groups to learn harmonies to the song before learning a dance and then performing on the stage in front of their peers. It was wonderful to see so many budding actors!



## WEAR WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY!

On Thursday 6th February we wore something to make us happy. This was organised by our School Council to raise funds towards a chat shat. The school council chose this date as it was within Children's Mental Health Awareness Week and Thursday was time to talk day. We raised £196! Our School Council would like to pass on their thanks to everyone who participated in this event.



## BEDTIME READING

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January Nursery and Reception enjoyed a special reading event after school with their parents. It was lovely to see so many families returning to school to share stories. The children enjoyed a class story first and then they explored themed story tables with their grown-ups. The children read stories about vehicles, winter, farm animals, Peppa Pig and fairy tales. It was all made very exciting with a drink and a biscuit.

