



Spring is in the Air!

Even though the Met Office gave us plenty warning of the 'Beast from the East', we were still taken by surprise by the quantity of snow which covered the area. We would like to thank families for supporting the school in making the decision to close for three days. This decision was not taken lightly and many factors were taken into consideration; most importantly was the safety of our children, their families and the staff—some of whom have long car journeys to work. The last school closure due to snow was in the terrible winter of 2019 to 2010. Hopefully it will be another decade before it happens again. There were certainly no grumbles from the children and we are pleased that they took the opportunity to sledge and build snowmen.



This term promises to be a busy one with Parents' Evenings planned for late March. This is a valuable opportunity for parents to find out how children are progressing and where perhaps more support may be needed. Many trips are also taking place this term as staff take advantage of the better weather. In recent years, Redby has held an activity week in a bid to move away from the more formal Sports Day. In doing so, we are able to offer a great variety of new activities for children to experience. As a treat, the enormous inflatable is also returning to the school field; this was a huge hit two years ago with both pupils and staff!

Top 2% in the Country

Redby has gone from strength to strength over the last four and a half years. Whilst it has been by no means an easy journey, we are delighted that the hard work of all concerned has been noted by the Rt Hon Nick Gibb, the Minister of State for School Standards. Due to the phenomenal progress that pupils made between key stage 1 and key stage 2, Redby has been placed in the top 2% of schools in England. This is the third year in a row we have been in receipt of a letter from the Government commending us on our extraordinary rates of progress.



Well Done!

Diary Dates

<u>Tuesday 13th March</u>	Y5S Class Assembly
<u>Friday 16th March</u>	Y2 Trip to Centre for Life
<u>Monday 19th March</u>	Y3 Trip to Centre for Life
<u>Thursday 22nd March</u>	Y4 Trip to Centre for Life
<u>Friday 23rd March</u>	School Photographs
<u>Monday 26th March</u>	Parents' Evening
<u>Tuesday 27th March</u>	Parents' Evening
<u>Tuesday 27th March</u>	Y2 Trip to Trincomalee (Hartlepool)
<u>Tuesday 27th March</u>	Y6 Trip to Nissan
<u>Thursday 29th March</u>	Break up for Easter
<u>Monday 16th April</u>	Return to school for Summer Term
<u>Wednesday 25th April</u>	School Disco
<u>Monday 7th May</u>	May Day Holiday (1 Day)
<u>Monday 14th May</u>	Key Stage 2 SATs Week
<u>Friday 25th May</u>	Half Term. School closes for one week.
<u>Monday 4th June</u>	School reopens.
<u>Monday 11th June</u>	Y1 Phonics Screening
<u>Monday 25th June</u>	Y6 Derwent Hill
<u>Monday 2nd July</u>	Y6 Induction Week at Monkwearmouth
<u>Friday 13th July</u>	School Reports issued
<u>Friday 20th July</u>	School closes for Summer break



Noticeboard



E Safety

The internet is an amazing tool, children can play, learn, create and connect— opening up a whole new world. Sadly, the internet can also expose innocent children to inappropriate material. It is imperative that parents keep a close eye on internet activity, ensuring that security settings are tight and parental controls are used to block harmful or upsetting content.



Recently a couple of teachers from Redby have accessed PE training from AAA Sports in Sunderland. Since launching in October 2007, AAA Sports have rapidly grown and are now the largest Gymnastics, Trampoline and Cheerleading club in the North of England. AAA Sports main centre is in Southwick, however, they run classes at 6 other centres in the area, including Raich Carter.

AAA Sports offers a comprehensive range of sessions to meet ability levels from beginner through to advanced. More information about clubs can be accessed on their web site.

<http://www.aasports.co.uk>



Twitter

Redby now has its very own twitter page! Staff have already been uploading photographs as lessons are happening! In doing so, families are given an insight into the exciting lessons that take place daily.



World Book Day

Due to the Beast from the East, World Book Day took place a week after the national date; nonetheless, most children came to school dressed as their favourite book character. Staff also dressed as grannies from David Walliams' book Gangster Granny! An opportunity arose to take a group of children to Barter Books—one of Britain's largest second hand book shops—in Alnwick. The book shop is housed in a beautifully restored Victorian railway station. The most expensive book in the shop is a work of Chaucer costing £39000.....needless to say we didn't buy it! It was a pleasure to see the group of children immersed in a range of books; in fact they needed to be forced out to come back to school.



Karate Kids!

Rhys Lisle, Ayden Lisle and Alec McNaught, who all attend Redby Karate Club held at the community centre, have all received awards recently. Alec—1st Dan black belt and Rhys and Ayden—students of the year. Anyone who is interested in karate can go to the community centre on Sundays between 5pm and 6pm.

Cricket

Earlier this month, we were lucky to have a visit from a cricket coach from Durham County Cricket Club, Liam Simpson, to work with some of our younger children. Liam was most complimentary about the enthusiasm and behaviour of our children. As well as promoting the sport of cricket, Liam also shared with the children information about 'All Stars' cricket, a brand new initiative from the England and Wales Cricked Board (ECB). This is a fantastic scheme aimed at providing girls and boys aged between 5 and 8 with a great first experience in cricket. Children who register will receive a bag containing cricket equipment, a season ticket for Durham County Cricket Club and 8 sessions of training at a local club. Whitburn and Boldon Cricket Clubs are both hosting the All Stars scheme this Summer. Parents can go directly to either of these clubs to register.

