

## Weekly Newsletter

If you would like to sponsor our Weekly Newsletter, please see Mrs Hogarth, our School Business Manager, in the General Office.

### School Website

[www.dunstonhillprimary.org.uk](http://www.dunstonhillprimary.org.uk)



### Beehive Club

The Beehive Club which provides quality affordable childcare provision before and after school is now situated in the Lifelong Learning Centre behind the main gates on Market Lane. The Breakfast Club operates from 8.00-9.00am and the After School Club from 3.15-6.00pm. If you require further information, please call in to the Club or telephone either 07986673950 or 07979734312.



### Special Awards



**Year Group Awards** were presented today to the following children:

Reception: Neve Baxter Class RH      Year 1: Shannon Roberts Class 1M  
Year 2: Tom Richardson Class 2A      Year 3: Jack Waterson Class 3A  
Year 4: Megan Hamilton Class 4A      Year 5: Louise Griffiths Class 5G  
Year 6: Adam Stokell Class 6D

Well done to you all, we are very proud of you.

**Class Awards** this week were presented to Class RA in Key Stage 1 and to Class 6G in Key Stage 2 for their general behaviour at lunchtime.

**Attendance Award:** This week's attendance awards were presented to Class 1T in Key Stage 1 who achieved 99.30% attendance rate for week ending Friday 9 January and to Class 5Gn (96.00%) in Key Stage 2. Overall attendance for the school was 94.00% - slightly down on our target figure of 95%.



# Dunston Hill Community Primary School



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### PE Kits

Please ensure that your child brings their PE kit to school on the required days each week.



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### Admissions



Currently, Dunston Hill is the largest primary school in Gateshead. We have a total of 467 children on roll from Nursery up to Year 6 and only thirteen places left before we are full. This is most encouraging given the surplus place issues in other parts of the borough. Our numbers for next year's two Reception classes are again very good and bode well for the future. There are a few places left for next year's Nursery cohort and application forms are available from the school office for any children who will be three years old on 31 August 2009.

### Extended School Provision

As part of our commitment to ensuring that our children have access to a broad and balanced curriculum, we have a variety of different extracurricular activities running this term during lunchtimes and after school. Currently, we are offering gymnastics, ICT, fun fitness, football coaching, karate, dance and skipping. It is pleasing to see so many of our children benefiting from this additional provision and developing their skills and understanding. We will continue to look to expand the range and number of clubs and make the most of our new facilities and amenities.



Our next **school discos** are planned for Thursday 5 February for all year groups. Further details to follow in due course.

## Reading Projects



We were pleased to learn this week that we were successful in our bids to take part in two different projects run by the local authority to support children's reading. Our Year 1 and Year 5 pupils will benefit from extra funding to provide additional support and resources to supplement our current reading provision. We will look for further opportunities to access external funding for other year groups to enjoy.

## New Laptops

This week we introduced our latest range of ICT hardware to support the children's learning ... thirty new laptops to use in the classroom. These machines will supplement the fifty desktop computers we already have in our ICT suite, activity street and classrooms. The laptops can activate the internet through our wireless connectivity infrastructure in school.



## The Magic Paintbrush



Next Friday our Reception, Year 1 and 2 children will receive a visit from drama students at Gateshead College who will perform a special play about a 'magic paintbrush'. We are sure that our boys and girls will enjoy the performance and have fun.

## CLC Visit

Yesterday our Year 4 children spent the day at Heworth CLC to work on some new ICT programs: 2 Animate, Kar2ouche and Spreadsheets. They managed to learn and practise lots of new skills on the computer, which they will be able to use back in school and the children all agreed that they had an exciting and enjoyable day. Mrs Chapman, Mr Armstrong and Mrs Fergus were, furthermore, delighted with their impeccable behaviour.

## Library Visit

This week it was the turn of Mrs McLean's class to visit Dunston Library. They learned about the library services and were able to choose a book to bring back to school. This will help to enrich the classroom reading area and the children's experiences with books. Next week Class IT will have the opportunity to do the same.

## Sport

**Football Coaching:** The first Year 4 football session with the Newcastle Community Football coaches kicked off on Wednesday night. The boys and girls showed great resilience to the cold and impressed with some silky skills and dedicated attitudes. We look forward to next week's session ... **remember those tracksuits!**



**Dance Club:** "A big thank you to all of the Year 3 children who attended our Dance Club after school on Wednesday. We had some fantastic dancing talent on show! We are looking forward once again to the local authority's forthcoming annual Dance Festival later this term - more information to follow. See you all again next Wednesday." Miss Harbottle and Miss Anderson.

**Skipping Club:** Likewise, Mrs Cox and Mrs Leonard were delighted with the attendance and enthusiasm shown by those children who attended the first Skipping Club on Thursday. Katie Irving said, "It was really good ... lots of new skills to learn." The boys and girls are very excited about performing at the Gateshead Schools' Skipping Festival in March.



## Family Learning



A reminder that we will be running the first of our Family Learning computer courses in our excellent new ICT suite on Tuesday 20 January from 9-11am. The course, which is open to mams, dads, grandparents and carers of children in school, will run for four consecutive weeks and cover basic ICT skills. Those who have already applied have got a place and are asked to meet in the community room once they have taken their children to their respective classroom.

## Sinbad the Sailor

A reminder that there are still some tickets available for this year's St Nicholas Church pantomime 'Sinbad the Sailor'. The shows are on Thursday 22, Friday 23 and Saturday 24 January and tickets are on sale at Dunston Activity Centre priced at £4.00 an adult and £3.00 for a child.

