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We have had another exciting week. This week we welcomed Tracey from Hoopstarz into school to do a hula hoop festival and a Zumba session with all the children. The children were brilliant and she was full of praise for how responsive and quick to improve they all were. We had a great time and it is great to see the new skills being practised on the yard since.



Forest school art with Pippa is going well. The children are working with clay and thinking about modelling. Last Friday they thought about making nests and eggs for their fantastic creatures. They also made bee hotels for solitary bees, many of which are under shelter in our Remembrance Garden area. Forest school will be for everyone next Friday as usual so children will need suitable clothing.

Our Remembrance Garden is coming along nicely, thank you so much to everyone working so hard to transform that area of our grounds. We look forward to a time in the future when we can welcome you back onto our grounds to see it. In the meantime, usual Covid restrictions are still in place in school until we are advised otherwise.

Rebecca

Newcastle Diocese virtual leavers' service

The diocese is hosting a virtual leaver's service for year 4s on 17th June and we have been asked to write and record prayers for the event. We are very proud that we have been chosen to do this important part of the service.

This week we have been recording the prayers with our year 4 group. The theme is 'Building Something That Lasts' and our prayers are a mix of thanksgiving and looking to our hopes for the future.



A plea for water pipe and old rope

Of all the things we usual ask for this is a little more eccentric than usual! Mrs Strangeways is keen to make some larger and heavier hula hoops for the older children and can make them from flexible water pipe if you have any going spare.

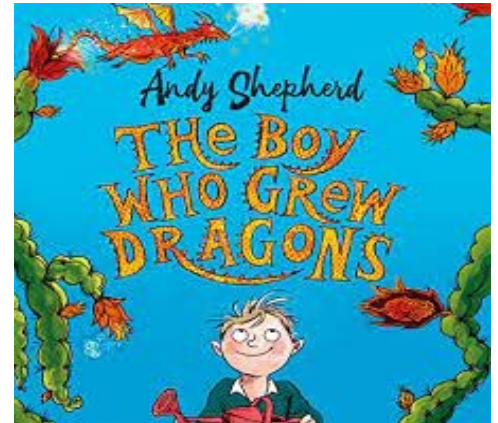
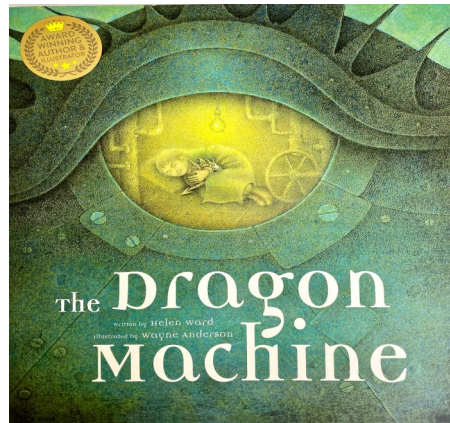
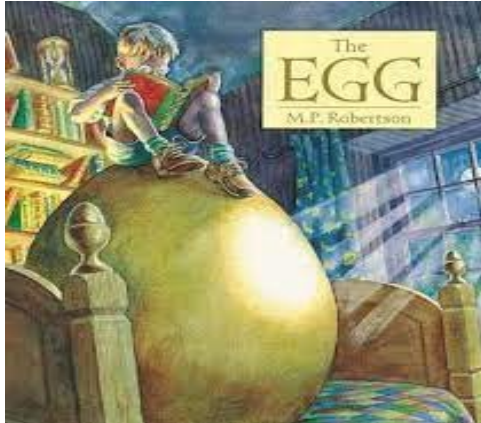
Similarly, we have been using old rope to wrap the tires we are planting up for the Remembrance Garden and it looks very effective. So if you have some old rope you no longer need, we can make good use of it!

Curriculum update

After our fantastic visit last week from the dragons, the children have been planning and writing some excellent stories in the fantasy genre. Their imaginations have been sparked and they have some weird and wonderful ideas to make their stories stand out from the ordinary!

Class books for this topic, which we are using in English are as follows:

The Egg in class 1 and The Dragon Machine in class 2. We are also using The Boy Who Grew Dragons as a class reader.



The children in our phonics small groups have shown good progress and more children will be graduating from the Read Write Inc program this half term. My morning 'times tables' group has done very well with understanding the commutative law in multiplication, and they are increasing their scope and speed in different times tables depending on their age. The children are all working very well and we are really pleased with their positive attitude in the classroom. Well done everyone!

Being Safe

We are putting information for parents and carers onto our website about road safety. The reason this is so important is that, globally, road traffic incidents are the leading cause of death among children and young people. Younger children especially cannot accurately judge the speed of traffic and safe gaps in traffic in the way that adults can and should not be left unsupervised to cross even quiet roads alone. We will be doing safety sessions in school, but it is very important that parents and carers ensure that children stay safe when they are out and about and our children understand the key messages:

- How pedestrians walk safely on the pavement and vehicles use the road
- How to walk with an adult who they know and hold hands when walking near the road
- Safer crossing places and how to use them
- The Stop, Look, Listen and THINK sequence.
- How pedestrians walk on the pavement and vehicles travel on the road
- Places where it is not safe to cross the road



A leaflet by the RSPA (the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents), with more information is on our website in the newsletters section on the main page.

Eco-School News

This week at Eco-Schools Club we started our 5 activities to become Explorers for the Global Goals. This project is to link with our Global Citizenship Topic which will earn us our Green Flag Award. The first activity after meeting the Explorers was to create a 'Peace Path'. We first thought about what it meant to be 'peaceful' and agreed that it is the absence of war; which we know happens in lots of countries around the world. Then we thought about how we could create a Peace Path. The children agreed that it would be:

- Nice to walk on
- Relaxing
- Quiet
- Feel safe
- Be decorated and beautiful

At club we designed our own Peace Paths with features which were special to us. I have put these in a special folder dedicated to Eco-Schools art and designs.

At collective worship on Thursday we had a think and realised we already have a path which could become our Peace Path. Next week, along the edges of the short grass at the Remembrance Garden, we are going to add decorative touches such as painted stones and flowers, along with some bird feeders to make our path extra special. Finally we discussed which Goals we were addressing for this part of the project. We decided they were; 3 (Good Health and Wellbeing), 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), 15 (Life on land) and 16 (Peace and Justice). Next week as Explorers we will look at 'Little Homes'.



Miss Easten

Dates for your Dairy....

Wed 26th May: We will welcome Dane Sherrard from Fogo Kirk into school to talk about his experiences of pilgrimage.

31 May - 4th June – Half term holiday.

Thurs 17th June – Virtual Leavers Service link up with Newcastle Cathedral (our children are doing the prayers so we feel very honoured).

Thurs 24th June – Festival of St John the Baptist – more information to follow nearer the time.

Tues 29th June – pencil in a walk to Holy Island – more information to follow.

Fri 2nd July – Year 4 Move Up Day.

Fri 16th July – end of term.