



# Newsletter



08/02/2019



## St Mary's Church of England School, Kirkby Lonsdale

Dear Parents and Families of our School Community

I read a quote recently which said, 'Don't rescue your child from a challenge, teach them to face it'. This week we have had two super challenges in the week. The first has been the Ben Greenep Winter Run 2019. This year really highlighted the determination of our children to 'have a go' and push themselves. As staff we were impressed with the team spirit as well as the personal determination of the children. Cross Country is very much a marmite sport for those who enjoy runs and find them exciting and of course, some really struggle with endurance running. However, for those taking part, this proved to be the best run yet in the history of the Ben Greenep Winter Run. This photo exemplifies the camaraderie and encouragement seen on the run.



From the first to the last, all children taking part were cheered on and they all had a sense that they were representing their team. Well done to everyone taking part and enjoyed the mud!

The second challenge was to learn their 'year group spellings' and celebrate this in a mini Spelling Bee. I saw first-hand this week, the pride and joy of two children who were challenging themselves on spellings and they got them correct after what was clearly a battle. This was a vivid example of how confidence and self-esteem can be carefully and sensitively built through thought through challenge and achievement. Well done to everyone who has spent some time over the past few weeks working hard to try to learn and master new spellings. As James Dyson said, 'Children want the challenge of difficult tasks – just look how much better they are than their parents on a computer'. This week we were inspired by Amelia Earhart's story of her passion for flying, becoming the first woman to fly across the Atlantic in 1932. We were all challenged to discover our interests, achieve our dreams and to quote Amelia, 'Adventure is worthwhile in itself'. I hope the various experiences this week have helped our children think about this a little more.

Hoping you all have a lovely weekend – Mr Jones

Honesty Trust Responsibility Perseverance Respect



# Ben Greenp Winter Run - 2019

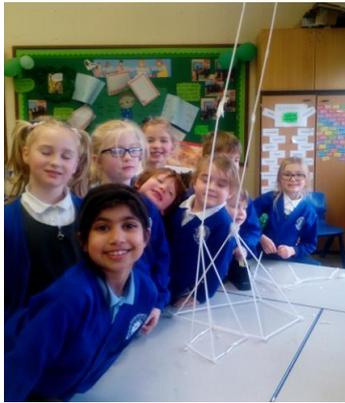
Here are a few pictures of the Ben Greenp Race 2019. Our Website has the details of the first three boy and girl winners of each class. Congratulations to everyone and especially those children in 'Farleton' who won the Cup this year. <https://www.stmarys-kl.cumbria.sch.uk/>





# STEAM – (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) Club Activities

This week has been National STEAM Club Week. Year 2 have been completing STEAM challenges through the week at lunchtime. Thank you to Mrs Smith who helped inspire the children.



Well done to all of our budding engineers who took part this week. In After School Club they are also exploring STEAM challenges. It is fantastic to see the computing, engineering and science activities taking place.

As we move on through the year we are looking forward to planning more STEAM activities and challenges for our children. The atmosphere at STEAM Club this week was superb and as you can see from the faces of our children, they had a superb time.

We were certainly 'Nurturing creative thinkers' this week.

## Spellings



The atmosphere in school was very exciting on Friday as we looked to try and spell the spellings on our class lists. The children explored the spellings in different ways and we were very impressed with the effort that had gone into learning as many of the year group spellings as possible. Some of the classes really went to town, Year 3 were even face painting Spelling Bees on their faces!



## Air Pollution

We are very aware of this week's news articles about the rise in air pollution particularly affecting school children. In the Guardian recently they noted *'Child health experts have said families and parents are worryingly unaware of the severe damage air pollution is doing to young people in the UK. In a survey of leading health professionals, nine in 10 said air pollution was harming children in their areas, and a similar proportion (92%) said the public needed to be better informed about the issue.'*

*'A series of reports have outlined the impact of air pollution – including detrimental effects on teenage mental health, a "huge" reduction in intelligence among children growing up in polluted areas, and a record number of asthma deaths.*

*"The impact of toxic air is undeniable. The UK is home to more children suffering from respiratory conditions than anywhere else in Europe. Every 20 minutes a child experiencing an asthma attack is admitted to hospital. Now child health professionals are warning of the seriousness of this growing health crisis."*



*We and our children wondered if we could all help by improving the air quality around our school? This could be done very simply by making a concerted effort to turn off our engines once we have parked near school. This would have a huge impact and would certainly improve the air for all of our school community but especially those most vulnerable ie. younger, little ones, those in prams/buggies etc. We hope you will help us with this special request.*

## Dates:



EVERY MONDAY - DROP IN COFFEE AFTERNOON for all parents and families – a chance to meet with other parents and get to know other parents. Coffee, cakes and teas provided by local church members. In 'The Shed' on the Infant yard 2:00pm – all welcome.

Parent Consultations – Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th Feb and a chance to meet Dolce Staff – our new school catering providers.

|            |                       |  |
|------------|-----------------------|--|
| Mon        | 11 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | Cross Country Finals – Sedbergh Prep                                       |
| Tues       | 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | Fit for Sport Club   |
| Wed        | 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | Swimming Last Session (am)<br>Swimming Gala – Sedbergh Prep (pm)           |
| Thur       | 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | NSPCC visit<br>Jammie Dodgers Club – Year 3 – Lunchtime<br>KS2 Sports Club |
| Fri        | 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | Spelling Bee Finals (pm)   |
| <b>Mon</b> | <b>18th Feb</b>       | <b>HALF TERM</b>   |
| <b>Mon</b> | <b>25th Feb</b>       | <b>INSET DAY – No children in School</b>                                   |
| Fri        | 1st March             | PTA Film Night   |
| Tues       | 5 <sup>th</sup> March | Traidcraft Coffee - After School   |