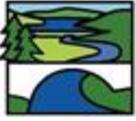




Y8 History

As part of their study about the Industrial Revolution, Y8 braved the weather to visit Killhope Lead Mine this week in Weardale. An underground tour in the mine, a stint of 'hard labour' as a washer boy processing the raw lead ore, and, a short spell next to the fire in the miners' lodgings were just some of the things they experienced during their visit. A big 'thank you' to our lovely Mrs Hill for accompanying Mr Ramshaw and his class.





Microscope Marvels!



In Science, Year 7 have been using microscopes to examine and draw human cheek cells. Their skill in focusing the microscopes and creating microscopic slides has improved considerably in the past 2 weeks.





Lots of 'Pawtential'!

We are VERY excited, and can't wait, to welcome Rachel Martin and 'Gus' from Pawtential Unleashed into school on 11th November! Benefits of a support dog visiting school can have many positive influences on children and young people, such as helping to build self-esteem as well as helping to build interaction skills with others. There are cognitive benefits as support dogs can help to stimulate memory and problem solving skills. Mental and emotional health benefits show that support dogs help to reduce anxiety and help lift moods. Interacting with therapy dogs can also help to improve a students' reading skills, stimulate memory and problem-solving skills, optimise executive-functioning skills, support concentration, attention, motivation, and relaxation which in turn reflects reduction of high stress levels which inhibit effective learning and performance. Support dogs are relatively new to schools but have been recognised as a positive addition. Twelve Ofsted reports since 2016 have praised schools for using support dogs.



This is Gus! Gus is just beginning his career as a support dog and is currently going through training on a daily basis. We can't wait to see the impact a support dog has within school! Watch this space...

School News



A reminder to our Y8 parents that you must have applied for a Y9 school place for your child by 31st October. A direct link to the portal can be reached [here](#) where you will need to login to access the application form. If you need any help, please give us a call.



Please, please, please complete the short 'home technology' questionnaire which has been glued into your child's journal today. We are keen to ensure that we know which families need support with technology devices at home so that we're fully prepared should any child need to isolate and work remotely from home. Your prompt support in completing this form would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!



Dates for your diary...

Wednesday 20 th October	Progress Reports posted home
Thursday 21 st October	Barrasford Quarry – Y8
Friday 22 nd October	Y5 Creative Writing visit - Cragside
Friday 22nd October	School closes for half-term
Monday 1 st November	Teacher Training Day – school closed
Tuesday 2nd November	School re-opens
Tuesday 9 th November	Newcastle Castle & Keep – Y7
Thursday 11 th November	Pawtential Unleashed – visiting support dog 🐾
Friday 12 th November	The Sill, Northumberland National Park – Y6
Wednesday 17 th November	Gurdwara Temple, Newcastle – Y8
Thursday 18 th November	Parents' Evening: 4pm – 7pm
Friday 19 th November	Curry Night at BMS from 7pm
Tuesday 23 rd November	Parents' Evening: 4pm – 7pm
Tuesday 23 rd November	Hindu Temple, Newcastle – Y7
Wednesday 24 th November	Coffee Afternoon with Mrs Hamilton – all welcome!
Thursday 2 nd December	Coffee Morning with Mrs Hamilton – all welcome!
Tuesday 7 th December	Marine Society and Sea Cadets workshop – Y5 & Y6
Wednesday 8 th December	Marine Society and Sea Cadets workshop – Y7 & Y8
Friday 10 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 13 th December	Enrichment Homework reward - afternoon
Tuesday 14 th December	Christmas Parties - afternoon
Wednesday 15 th December	Christmas Fayre: 1:30pm – 3:00pm
Thursday 16 th December	Christmas Performance – 6:30pm, St Cuthbert's
Friday 17th December	School closes for Christmas holidays
Tuesday 4 th January 2022	Training Day
Wednesday 5th January 2022	School opens for Spring term
Friday 7 th January 2022	Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Newcastle (Oh yes, we are!)