

Lees Hill CE Primary School Spring Term 2018

After the Christmas break, we all returned to school ready to embrace our new topic; 'wheels, wings and other things'.

Soon into the term, we welcomed dance artist Helena Lockwood into school. She worked with the whole school throughout the term, preparing our dance piece for the U dance festival. We will perform our dance early in the summer term, so will let you know how much fun we have in our next review.

Our school football team participated in the county football tournament at The Sand Centre on Saturday 27th January. We would like to thank Tommy Mark for continuing to support our school by working with our footballers.

We welcomed Miss Atchinson to work with us in the infant class. She is an apprentice from RWP and was a great asset to the team. Thank you.

On 22nd February, all children in school participated in the RSPB Birdwatch and thoroughly enjoyed it! They came into school with an array of bird books and binoculars and were surprised to discover a huge variety of birds; including several long-tailed tits, pheasants and pigeons and even a heron! Throughout the afternoon, children composed their own poems about the birds that they spotted and produced some beautiful artwork, using pastels. Look out for their outstanding artwork and poetry the next time you visit.

After a snow delay, on Thursday 15th March, the children all came to school dressed as a character from a book, which had a link to food. The children had great fun sharing stories, listening to stories and using their reading skills to make some delicious, healthy snacks to round off our celebrations. Check out the fantastic costumes in the gallery on our website.

Our School Council organised fund raising for Sport Relief. They decided to have a non-uniform day charging a fee of £1.00, a cake bake competition and sale and sponsored circuits with our PE coach. We raised just over £300 for this event! Very impressive! Very well done everyone; especially to Isaac and Sam who were the winners of the baking competition! There are some photos of this event in the gallery on our website.

A big thank you to Phil and Olly, who both came to visit our school. They work at Egger; a factory in Hexham. They talked to the children about their roles as engineer and apprentice chemist. They explained that they make different types of furniture and worktops. This visit was organised by Mrs Rooney to link with our second half term topic on construction and engineering. Phil explained that we couldn't go to visit the factory because we are not old enough, but they decided to come out to talk to our school because we seemed so friendly! Thank you - we think we are too.

They brought us some pencils and Egger bears for being such good listeners and we received this e-mail after their visit;

Just wanted to thank you for inviting us to your school. Both Olly and I enjoyed talking to your pupils. I was really impressed that they were so engaged from start to finish, and weren't shy when it came to asking questions!

Parents Evening was, as always, well attended and provided a good opportunity to enjoy viewing the children's work and discussing progress with the teachers.

The outdoor Trim Trail has now been completed and the rubber mulch surface laid so we can get outside and use it as much as possible. It looks fantastic and the children are having so much fun using it whilst keeping fit!

Gardening sessions have re-commenced and as a result of a successful grant application, we will be purchasing new play bark (for the Sycamore Circle) and gardening equipment. Many thanks to Mrs Coupe and the school PTA for securing the grant funding. Mrs Coupe and Mrs Ward-Jackson continue to help out in school every week and we thank them for their support and contribution.

We welcomed Miss Williamson back from maternity leave and look forward to her teaching mostly in the junior class. We are pleased that Mrs Rooney is staying with us to teach in the infant class and to be our teaching assistant.

Lees Hill children in years 1 and 2 were invited to attend a Multi Skills Sports event and years 5 and 6 attended a Badminton Festival at William Howard School and thoroughly enjoyed the experience – many thanks to the staff and students at William Howard.

The children worked hard to prepare for our retelling of the Easter story through reading, songs and prayers. Our end of term service was held in St Marys church, Walton and we thank parents and friends for attending.

Lees Hill Toddler Group continues to grow and is held every Tuesday morning at school. If you would like any information about the Toddler Group, Community lunches, Nursery or school places please contact the school office on 016977 2577 or visit our school website www.leeshill.cumbria.sch.uk

Another busy, successful term here at Lees Hill CE Primary School and we look forward to a fun filled summer term, starting with our topic on farming life.