

Personal Development Newsletter Autumn 1

This has been a busy term for us at WPA as we all get stuck into learning. As well as all that we have been learning in our subjects we have been developing our understanding of how to grow into responsible, respectful and active citizens. We are helped in this through visits and visitors who come into school from the community. Here are some of what we have been up to this half term.

In KS2 Assembly we were visited by PC Horner, who is a drone pilot for the Police. He explained the role the Police have in keeping us safe and what his job entails. He also gave us a demonstration of flying the drone and showed the children what he could see when the drone was up in the sky. On a clear day he can see as far as Redcar! Here is the picture he took when flying above our school.



School Council - Democracy

In Key Stage 2, each year we hold a class vote on which children will represent their class on the school council. The children have to present their manifesto to their class and children vote on who will best represent them. Mrs Chambers facilitates their weekly meetings and they feedback to the Senior Leader Team on their ideas to further improve the school. This year the children are keen to improve the sustainability of the school and have decided to focus on developing the allotment area and are keen to plant more trees. They will produce a termly newsletter of their activities.

Year 6 - Grill our MP



In Year 6 we invited Peter Gibson in so that we could question him about his role as an MP, what improvements he would like to see in Darlington and what he has already done for his constituents. The children had the opportunity to “bob” in order to ask questions - just like they do in Westminster. They were polite and courteous, but had some very challenging questions. Hopefully it will inspire our children to get involved with making a positive difference to their community.

New Equipment to Improve Play - Individual Liberty, Respect

We ensure that our playtimes are active and fun whilst catering for all children. We noticed that a number of children enjoyed playing with the small wooden blocks so we have further invested in some large ones. The children have been working together to create ships, bug hotels, robots and even a replica Big Ben. It has been great to see children working across year groups on their imaginative creations.



Pupil Leaders in School



Our children make an invaluable contribution to our school community through their leadership. Throughout school we have lots of opportunities for children to make decisions and lead others. Our Play Leaders run activities at lunchtime for younger children. Our Reader Leaders give up some of their lunchtime to hear children in Year 2 and 3 read and the work of the school council has already been mentioned.

Year 5 Mini Police - Rule of Law



Our Year 5 pupils are involved in a project with the police. Mini Police is an innovative police engagement programme, which is delivered in schools with the support of local Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs). The scheme is designed to get children positively involved in the local community.

Food Bank – Tolerance

We have also been learning about where our food comes from and the work of farmers in providing food. We have collected produce that we will donate to King's Church Food Bank.

We are once again bowled over by the generosity of our community. Each year as part of our Harvest, we show our gratitude by collecting for the King's Church Food Bank. This year was no exception. Thank you to all of our children and their families for their kindness to others.

