

Dear parents, carers and friends,

Welcome to the school's blog for this week. We have had another great week, full of activities and visitors. Firstly, thank you very much to Mrs Green who came into school to talk about her role with charities. This has continued our focus on careers and aspirations and has definitely opened our minds further to the range of careers that the children could pursue later in life as well as the skills and attitudes needed to achieve these.



## Homework consultation

On Tuesday 21st March at 3.30pm, as advertised in Mrs Athey's previous blog, there was a parent and carer/ staff homework consultation workshop with myself and Class Teachers present. Thank you to those that attended as this gave an insight to our current provision, what works well and what areas could be improved. It was evident from the comments received that our provision for homework matches the needs and capacity of families whilst consolidating the skills and knowledge taught at school. The use of the CGP books for maths homework was highlighted as a welcomed approach as it was stated by those who attended the meeting that written methods could be practised as well as how it enabled parents/ carers to access and support homework - this was something that was identified and acted upon from our previous feedback about homework and so is pleasing to see the impact it is having both in and out of school. A suggestion of having some homework alternate between maths and punctuation & grammar or reading comprehension was made, which is something that we were also looking at too. Many thanks again for your input as it means our school continues to always strive for bettering the outcomes of all children within our school.



## **NSPCC**

Recently, we had NSPCC staff deliver a session to the whole of school about personal safety, welfare and support. Year 5 & 6 also had a further session with NSPCC staff on Thursday to discuss safeguarding and develop our knowledge about abuse and personal safety as well as strategies on where and how to find support. The children were brilliant and gave some fantastic, mature and knowledgeable answers – they were a credit to the school – an opinion also shared by the NSPCC staff that ran the session.

## **Times Tables Rock Stars**

From the moment that we subscribed to TTRS (Times Tables Rock Stars), the children have been very keen to practise their times-tables using this programme. To further support this, we have set weekly 'battles' where the points achieved in any of the TTRS games count towards a total averaged score for each year group. The results are read out as part of our celebration worships on a Friday and the winning year group for each week gets some well-deserved extra playtime as a reward. The competition was fierce last week with Year 6 getting the first win; this week was no different and after a few movements on the leader-board, Year 5 have prevailed as the winners of this week's battle. The question is: can they retain the top spot or will another year group take victory next week?



To accompany this week's blog, please find attached the advertisement for the PTA's bingo event that will be tonight from 5pm in Whittingham Memorial Hall. The support that the PTA give the school is significant and greatly appreciated and I'm sure this will be another fantastic event!

As always, please do not hesitate to talk to teachers at the end of the day if you have any queries or concerns or Mrs Athey or myself when we are out on Gate Duty each morning. Have a lovely weekend!

