

Firthmoor Primary School Newsletter



Autumn Term 2022

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Upcoming Dates and Reminders

(Further details to follow where necessary)

Wednesday 23 rd November	11.00am - 12.00pm - Book Start visit for Nursery children and parents
Thursday 1 st December	Year 2 visit to St John's Church for Christmas Journey Story
Thursday 8 th December	Christmas Jumper Day / Christmas Lunch
Monday 12 th - Friday 16 th December	½ price Book Fayre - open for pupils during school and parents after Christmas performances
Tuesday 13 th December	Christmas Performances - parents may attend 10:00am - Miss Jamieson, Mrs Walker (Y5 pupils only) & Miss Trainer's class 1.30pm - Mrs Blagg/Howland & Miss True's class
Wednesday 14 th December	PM - Year 6 visiting Hippodrome for Pantomime
Thursday 15 th December	AM - Guitar Concert - pupils only Christmas Performance - parents may attend 2.00pm - Mrs Morrow, Mrs Irwin & Miss Heslop's class
Friday 16 th December	Christmas Performance 10.15-11.15am - Nursery, Mrs Duffy, Mrs Smith and Mrs Coad's class PM - Class Christmas Parties Mrs Morrow, Mrs Irwin, Mrs Coad, Miss Heslop, Mrs Blagg/Howland, Miss True and Miss Trainer's class
Monday 19 th December	AM - Selected pupils singing Christmas Carols at Roxby Court AM - Nursery Class Christmas Party PM - Class Christmas Parties - Mrs Duffy, Mrs Smith, Miss Jamieson, Mrs Walker and Miss Murray's class
Tuesday 20 th December	2.00pm - Year 6 Christingle (Year 6 parents only)
Tuesday 20 th December	Last day of term
Wednesday 4 th January 2023	Children return to school

Remembrance

To commemorate Remembrance Day and to teach the importance of remembering the sacrifices of those who served our country during the wars, our children and staff have created an art installation.

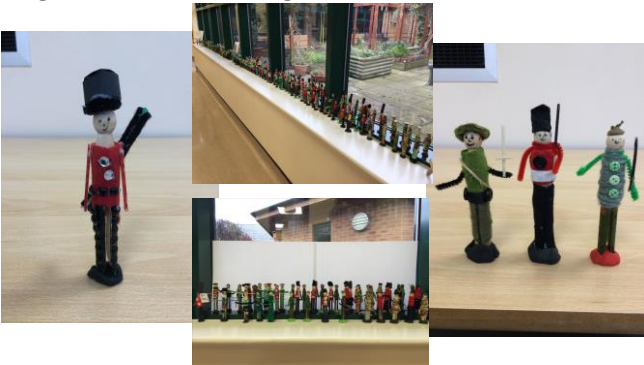
We wanted to create something that would be meaningful, memorable and to make an impact to help our children understand the significance of this anniversary.

Many thousands of soldiers lost their lives during the various wars over the years and this is sometimes difficult to visualise large numbers.

So we have created our own visual army. Each child and adult were given a wooden dolly peg and asked to design their own soldier to be part of a battalion.

They considered the facial expressions on their soldier, researched uniforms from past and present, discussed colours including camouflage and the King's guard colours, thought about extra details such as helmets, berets and backpacks and carefully considered the materials they would need to create their peg doll soldier.

The care and consideration taken whilst making each soldier was incredible and the children are very proud of their creations. I am sure you will agree the impact of our battalion of soldiers together is astonishing!



Outdoor Adventures

Earlier this term, some of the Y4, Y5 and Y6 children were taught different survival skills for living outdoors. They now know a range of different commands such as: take a knee, disperse, take cover, break cover and drone and can camouflage themselves in any eventuality! On week 3, the children were very excited to build a fire and learn about smoke signals; they even enjoyed toasting marshmallows. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Fencing

Children in Year 3 to Year 5 had the opportunity to experience a new sport - fencing.

Children learned how important discipline is within the sport and they also learned the basic moves involved in a mini dual.

The coaches who delivered the fencing lessons were very impressed by children's behaviour and attitude towards this new experience.

Move with Max

This half term the children in reception are taking part in Move with Max - a physical activity program to help young children to develop their movement skills. The children are thoroughly enjoying the activities all based around an under the sea theme. Each week the children have worked on different skills and are confident in how to jump, balance, climb and move in and out of spaces carefully. For many children in reception, PE is a new experience but they have all certainly had lots of fun, developed lots of skills and worked really hard.

Sports Hall Athletics

A team of year 5 and year 6 children took part in the Darlington Sportshall Athletic Competition at the Dolphin centre. The children took part in running, throwing and jumping events. Points are awarded for each event and our school earned enough points to finish in second place, which means that the children have qualified for the Sportshall final taking place on Tuesday 22nd November.



In2 Project

Zest Theatre Group visited Year 6 children to gain their views on our ever-changing world.

Some of their opinions have been displayed on banners and posters in and around school - please take time to read them.

At the Hippodrome, the children thoroughly enjoyed a mindfulness session, creating totems with artists and also worked with an aromatherapist to create their own oil inhaler.

The children are excited about the upcoming circus workshops and pantomime performance - oh yes, they are!