



RGS

# Junior School Bulletin

“Strong, Able, Calm, Kind.”



Friday 26th March 2021  
Spring Term  
Volume 9



## STAFFING UPDATE

Writing this short article brings all kinds of emotions to the fore as we welcome back Mrs McCulloch from maternity (joy), say farewell to Mrs Craig (sadness) and congratulate Mrs Dean on her permanent appointment (happiness).

Mrs Dean fought off 4 fantastic candidates on a day containing 2 interviews and 4 lesson observations to secure her appointment. Since starting in January, Mrs Dean has been in charge of 3D and she has impressed us with... just about everything!

Mrs McCulloch returns 4 days a week to teach a mixed timetable with a focus on 4M, for whom she will be form teacher on a Monday and Friday – welcome back Mrs M! Many thanks to Mrs Hogg for her extra Mondays and to Miss Noble for her supreme art and DT co-ordination.

Mrs Craig has been with us for over a year and has done a stellar job with her mixed timetable and a focus on 4M. We will be very sad to see Mrs Craig leaving but something tells me it won't be the last we see of her...

Mr Miller



## COMIC RELIEF: RED NOSE DAY

Friday 19th March 2021

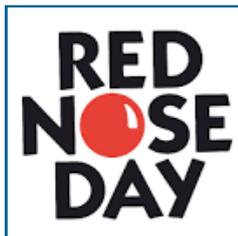
A **HUGE** thank you to everyone who supported **Comic Relief** last Friday by making an online donation for the non-uniform day that we held in school. The Junior School has so far raised a magnificent total of **£975** which, I'm sure, will be put to excellent use by this very worthy charity.

If you haven't yet made a donation, it's not too late to do so! Here's the link to our *JustGiving* page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rgsjuniorsnd>

Thank you.

Mrs Baker



## PRACTICAL SCIENCE

Last week, Class 3D enjoyed exploring light and mirrors outside during their science lesson.

Mrs Cree



Well done, Class 3D - that looks fun!



## CLASS TOKENS COMPETITION

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Class 5S who were last week's winners of the class tokens competition.

Tokens are awarded to classes when they move around school quietly and calmly and when they keep their classrooms tidy.

As you can see from this photo, Class 5S thoroughly enjoyed their well-deserved breakfast last Friday!



Don't forget that there will also be an end of year reward for the class that is awarded the most tokens over the course of the year .... so keep up the good work, children, and 'do your bit' to help your class win this much-coveted reward!

Mrs Cree

## A DELICIOUS TEA FOR TWO

Dear Miss Gravely,

Over the weekend I enjoyed cooking dinner for my sister and me. I made a ham and cheese omelette with pitta bread.

From

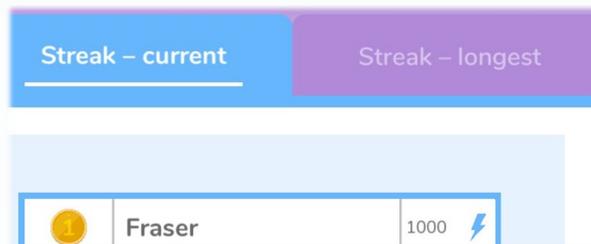
Kathy P (5C)



Your omelette looks absolutely delicious, Kathy - well done!

## CONGRATULATIONS....

.... to Fraser H (6L) who recently made it to a 1000 day streak on DoodleMaths:



Well done, Fraser - keep on Doodling!

## CHESS CLUBS

Please note that Chess Clubs for all year groups will start up again after the Easter break.

Thank you.



## CONGRATULATIONS....

... to Nanxizi Z (5S) who recently passed her Grade 1 Violin exam with **Distinction**.



Well done, Sisi - what a great result!

## FABULOUS ART WORK

Simran T (4AW) recently drew this fabulous Harry Potter picture:



Well done. Simran - you've done Harry P proud!

## CONGRATULATIONS....

.... to George C (3D) who recently passed his Grade 2 Piano exam with Distinction.



Well done, George - what a great achievement!

## THE PATTERNS IN MUSIC AND ALL THE ARTS

 ARE THE KEYS TO LEARNING (PLATO) 

Before the end of term, we will be presenting not one, not two, not three but four concerts! We have the Friday Café coming out today and then next week the Year 3 and Year 4 Spring Concert will be coming out on Monday, the Y5 Spring Concert on Tuesday and the Y6 Spring Concert on Wednesday. These concerts will showcase a whopping 64 performers from the Junior School!

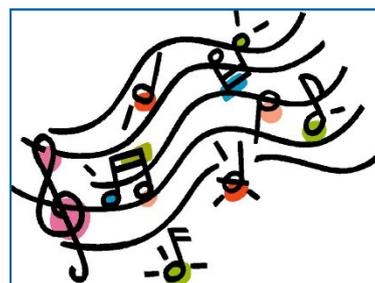
In a year where music and the arts have suffered hugely, I am so proud to say we have been able to keep music going in one format or another. I would like to say a huge thank you to parents for encouraging their children to continue with their practice and supporting them with it. I would also like to say a very big thank you to our team of Visiting Music Teachers who have worked so hard to keep the individual lessons going throughout lockdown. It is quite remarkable how much progress some pupils have made on their instruments in this time. Finally, and most importantly, enormous thanks to you, the pupils, for being so motivated and enthusiastic about music. Without your energy and commitment to music, none of these concerts could have happened which would have been a great shame; I know just how much joy they have brought to so many.

Playing an instrument has so many benefits, as proven by research, in terms of cognitive function, stress relief, confidence building and most importantly, the sheer enjoyment and fun of it. I would urge everyone to give it a go! You too parents - it's never too late!

If anyone is keen to learn an instrument then please drop me an email ([k.clappison@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:k.clappison@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk)) and we can have lessons

arranged for you in school (pupils that is - not for the parents I'm afraid!)

*Mrs Clappison*



## KEEP DOODLING!



Hi there!

Between the **1st April and 30th April**, Doodle will be running a **DoodleMaths Challenge**. The Challenge encourages children to use Doodle for a few minutes each day, helping them to **maintain confidence** and **stay on track** in their learning. Best of all, those who take part can earn a free pin badge and certificate!

**How to take part:** From the **1st of April**, visit [parents.doodlemaths.com](https://parents.doodlemaths.com) and press **Register** next to your child's name. Then, encourage your child to **earn 450 stars** (or **350 stars** if they were born on or after 01/09/13) and **achieve a 7-day streak** in DoodleMaths and/or DoodleEnglish. Once they've reached their target, you'll be able to claim their reward by logging in to the Dashboard and pressing **Claim reward**.

**Good luck and keep doodling!**

*Mr Lloyd*

## WHAT A BUSY BEE!

Elizabeth O'G (3T) has been very busy recently helping to paint the garage door, learning to play the piano with her Grandma and building R2-D2 with an electronics kit:



**Well done, Elizabeth - you have been keeping busy!**



## AMELIA WALKS TO SUPPORT CANCER RESEARCH



Amelia R (5B) recently signed herself up for 10,000 steps a day every day for the month of March for *Cancer Research* (Walking All Over Cancer) in order to try and raise some money for a very worthy cause.

The first week of the challenge was during lockdown, which was doubly difficult, but it's amazing to see how many steps they get in at school running around at playtime!

In addition to this, she's also been walking in and out of school and doing the 'night time' walk with her Dad and Otis the dog.

Not long to go now...



Well done,

Amelia -

## MORE ARTWORK FROM ISHAAN

Ishaan O (3S) has been enjoying doing some more art at home - he especially loves drawing/painting cars and would like to share one of his latest efforts, a BMW i8:



**Well done, Ishaan - another masterpiece!**



## ROAD SAFETY

Keeping everyone safe and calm at pick up and drop off is very important and we all have a role to play in that. We have been talking to students about the dangers of crossing roads between cars and stressing the importance of using a crossing. It's helpful to the children if teachers and parents model that safe behaviour – I hope you agree!

## RESIDENT PARKING

I fully understand the difficulty with parking in and around school but I must ask you to (literally!) steer clear of resident parking bays. One particular resident hasn't been able to get their car out in order to attend hospital appointments.



*Mr Miller*

## VIRTUAL CROSS COUNTRY EVENT

A little while back, the Junior School entered a virtual cross-country event with Ashville College and a number of other schools. The large amount of entries from our students was exceptionally heart-warming and just reminded me how much our students love sport and fitness.

A special mention to the following students whose times put them at the top of various leader boards across the competition:

Yannick H (3D), Taylor M (6N), Frankie F (6W) and Elliott B (6W).

**Well done to everyone who took part!**

*Mr Cragg*



## ALEXANDER BAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE!

Alexander M (4LW) and his brother recently decided to build a pizza oven. They used bricks and paving slabs from B & Q and built it themselves, using their own design. They were able to cook stone baked pizza - the base was crunchy and delicious! Here are some pictures from start to finish:



**Well done, Alexander - a great oven and even greater pizza!**