



Hotspur

Bulletin

Friday 8th February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a sad week in school, following the tragic news that I wrote to you about on Monday that our colleague and friend Donna Ruddick had died last Friday. Thank you to the many people who have offered condolences and support to members of staff and children. Donna's husband Tony also passes on his thanks as the messages have been very comforting. The funeral is next Friday (15th) at 10:15am at the West Road Crematorium. This is a Training Day so children were already not going to be in school. Treehouse will however also be closed as staff also wish to attend the funeral.

School Council and members of staff have been thinking of ideas to commemorate and celebrate Donna's 16 year contribution to the life of our school. We will firm these up after half term but they will centre around outside learning space and supporting a cancer charity. Donna's young sons are keen to raise some money so that other children don't have to experience the death of their mums in the future.

The sadness has been amplified as we learned this week that the mum one of our children had sadly died on Sunday and other children were affected by close family deaths. Our thoughts are with everyone involved this week.

I was in London yesterday for a meeting with OFSTED and Arts Council. It was a 'consultation' on the new inspection framework and how the arts would fit into this. 20 Headteachers from schools deemed nationally to be very good at cultural learning were brought together with Sean Harford, Director of Research at Ofsted and Anne Appelbaum, Director, Children & Young People at Arts Council England. Whilst I was pleased that we were included in this it is tricky to hear the views of 20 vocal and passionate school leaders. Sean may have regretted referring to us as one of many 'pressure groups' but I hope he took away some thoughts about testing regimes, EBacc and the variation found between inspectors.



Miles Wallis-Clarke
Headteacher

Our City Our Story

This is an event organised by City of Dreams and is a ten year programme to develop cultural activities for children and young people. 50 projects made with or by young people are being presented at Live Theatre on Thursday 7th March. This will include two contributions from Hotspur – the Y6 children who formed the theatre company 'The Buzzard's Wings' who will perform part of their play about refugees, and the film about our Malcolm Street project.



Events next week

STEM Week

Monday

- 13:45-15:00—Family Groups

Tuesday

- 09:30-11:15—Family Groups
- 12:30pm—Y5/6 Great North Museum Visit

Wednesday

- 12pm Y5/6 Badminton
- 12:30pm Y5/6 Netball finals
- 1:30pm Y3-6 at Newcastle University

Thursday

- 10am—Rec-Y2 Great North Museum Visit
- 12:30pm Y3/4 Great North Museum Visit

Attendance Award winner; 3Y

Golden Children This Week



Nursery 2019

Apply now for 30 hour funding.



Get your 30 hours code
in good time for next term:
apply by 28 February.
childcarechoices.gov.uk



A week filled with; musical theatre, contemporary;
street dance, drama and music.

The week will end with a performance
at Gosforth Civic Theatre

IGNITE

Mon 8th - Fri 12th April 9am - 5pm
Drop off from 8.30am
£105 per child - sibling discount available

Venue: Hotspur Primary School
Booking & Info at:
claire.danceteacher@hotmail.com



Next week we are hosting our annual STEM week. Each class will visit the Great North Museum and there will be a range of exciting visitors and STEM related activities within school. On Wednesday we will be hosting a rocket launching competition and would appreciate donations of empty 2 litre pop bottles. Your children will be coming home on Monday with a 'Family Investigation Book' and we encourage all children to complete this every evening.

Finally, we are hosting a Science Selfie competition. Please take a photograph of yourself working scientifically and send them to our admin address (admin@hotspur.newcastle.sch.uk). If any parents work in STEM related jobs we would love to receive your entries. Don't forget to add your hashtag so we know what you have been up to or what you work as.

If any parents are available to assist during the visits to the Great North Museum please speak to your child's teacher.

www.hotspurprimary.com

Find us on
facebook

follow us on
twitter

