

## Ferryhill Primary School Head Teacher's Weekly Newsletter

**Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

We're conducting a 2minute survey to ask parents how they'd prefer to receive news and communications from school but have only had 18 responses. Please complete the survey by clicking: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/22HDDH6>

We enjoyed another good meeting with our Parent Council this week talking about some of the possible events we might have in the coming months. Thanks to the Parent Council who've helped us out when we've desperately needed volunteers for visits out of school. It's been greatly appreciated.

### **Around the Classes**

Primary 1 have come to the end of our Dinosaur topic. The children are very knowledgeable about the different types of dinosaurs and know lots of interesting facts. We even made our own salt dough dinosaur fossils. Primary 1/ 2 and Primary 2 have been thinking about being thankful as part of the health and well-being focus. We have discussed what and who we are thankful for and shared ways in which we can show our thanks and appreciation. In class we have set up an 'appreciation station' to post and share notes of thanks to others. P3A have been learning about Viking jewellery. We have designed Viking pendants and made them out of modelling dough. P3B really enjoyed their play day on Wednesday. We had games in the playground together, relay races and played board games in class. Ludo, Catchphrase & Monopoly were great games to play. There was a lot of good sharing, turn taking, counting and communication. We have started our recorder lessons in class. We had a really good first lesson and many of us were able to play the notes B and A in a simple tune. We hope all the grown ups at home have got earplugs for all the practising the children can do at home. Primary 4A had a fantastic morning at the swimming pool. One group was working on making different shapes in the swimming pool, pushing from the edge and gliding and the other group was working on jumping into the pool and concentrating on front crawl. As part of our "Look on the Bright Side" Health and Wellbeing topic, P5A children have designed and created a "Class Appreciation Station". The children have been posting lots of notes about things they appreciate during the school day. It is wonderful to read them all. P5B thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Global Play Day. There was lots of crafting and construction going on. It was great to watch the children take the lead in their own play and use their imaginations. P6A have been taking part in persuasive writing activities this week. We have created posters in class to advertise a product using persuasive language. As part of our Climate Change topic we have been looking at the Arctic and Antarctic this week and how the melting ice caps are impacting on the animals that live there. This week P6B have been creating Aborigine Totem art work and learning about Aborigine Dream stories. We have also been learning about static electricity and how it effects different objects. Primary 7A have enjoyed swapping stories after their return from Benmore last week and are looking forward to sharing some of their learning at their forthcoming assembly on Thursday 27th February. They also attended an 'Art of Listening' workshop up at the Hub on Monday and took part in a range of events. On Tuesday they all had time cooking in small groups with Mrs Bannerman where they each made a delicious tomato pasta dish! P7b have been creating poems about their experiences at Benmore Outdoor Education Centre. There has been lots of scope for using all their senses and hands on experiences in their descriptions. Some of these will be read at Friday's assembly. They've been researching and creating characters for their imaginative writing and even went on a trip to the Music Hub. However, they have had a well-earned break from their hard work today by spending the afternoon playing with each other in our school woods as part of National Play Day- it seems Benmore has had a great impact on developing their love of the outdoors. In PE this week P1-3

classes have been working on their leadership and speed skills with a focus on court games. Pupils have been playing passing games and dodgeball like games to build skills as they progress in Ferryhill. Older classes have been playing court games such as benchball, dodgeball and completing team challengers to develop their responsibility and leadership skills. Pupils in P5-p7 have continued to take on roles as scorekeepers and timekeepers.

We hope everyone enjoys the February holiday. We're all back to school on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> February.

*Stewart Crabb - Head Teacher*

[www.ferryhill.edin.sch.uk](http://www.ferryhill.edin.sch.uk)