

NEWS-BRANCEPETH

SPRING TERM 2 2025



EYFS

In Reception, our timetable has been jam-packed with exciting activities and many opportunities to explore our topic: 'Food'. We have explored this topic in all aspects of our learning and have enjoyed reading a range of books linked to this theme including 'Welcome to our Table', 'The Giant Jam Sandwich' and 'Faruq and the Wiri Wiri'. We have also made a variety of delicious food items including Guyanese lime cookies, pancakes, fruit salad and cupcakes. We also enjoyed preparing food for, and hosting, our own coffee morning for an important person in our life. In Phonics, we are no longer learning any new sounds and instead are now focusing on consolidating and applying the sounds we already know. We have recently enjoyed reading a range of story-mapping books including 'Monkey Puzzle', 'No-Bot' and 'Falling for Rapunzel'. We have explored 3D-shapes and making numbers to 10 in Maths.

Our Spring term ended with an exciting visit to Broom House Farm! Have a lovely break and see you all in the summer term.

Miss Robertson

Our Bumblebees have been very busy!

We have worked hard to develop our self-help skills lately. We are now trying to put our own coats and wellies on independently. We are also looking at using our manners and can say please /thank you during snack time. We have sang a range of nursery rhymes, too, including 'Five Fat Sausages', 'Baa, Baa Black Sheep' and 'Humpty Dumpty'. Please enjoy singing these songs with us at home! We are now sitting at the carpet and listening to a story. Some of our favourites include 'Goat Goes to Playgroup', 'Elmer's Hide and Seek' and 'Five Little Ducks'. In addition, we continue to access a range of sensory based activities daily.

Miss Robertson and Mrs Palmer



Nursery 2

Caterpillar class have really enjoyed learning all about 'Food' this half-term. We have read a range of texts linked to this topic including 'Sam's Sandwich', 'Kitchen Disco' and 'The Little Red Hen'. We have also prepared a variety of food items including sandwiches, cupcakes and pancakes. We liked making food for our adults to enjoy at our very own coffee morning! Last week, we went on a spring walk around our school grounds. We were so excited to discover that our plants have started to grow! We can't wait to see what else might be growing in our outdoor areas as we start our new topic 'Minibeasts' next half-term.

Miss Robertson and Miss Fenwick



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YEARS 1&2



We have been really busy this term and do not know where the time has gone to!

We have been working hard on our phonics and looking at all alternate sounds; we now know lots of different ways to make the /ee/ sound. We have been practising reading words with these sounds.

In Story Mapping we have enjoyed looking at two video clips from Literacy Shed - *Bubbles* and the *Clock Tower*. We have been trying to write sentences including a capital letter and a full stop. We have been doing lots of work on our handwriting too!

In Maths we have been looking at numbers beyond 10, writing them and looking at how they are made up of 10s and 1s.



Year 2 have have been very busy this term!

Children have enjoyed reading *The Owl and the Pussy-Cat* and *The Further Adventures of the Owl and the Pussy-Cat*. Children have produced some excellent pieces of writing and have enjoyed exploring vocabulary from the poetry.

In Maths we have been learning about Multiplication and Division. Children have used manipulatives to create equal groups and use these to support with multiplication as well as using manipulatives to support with division.

In our spelling lessons children are have been learning to apply spelling rules when adding suffixes '-ing', '-ed' and '-er'.

In History, children have been learning about how transport has changed. and enjoyed a trip to Locomotion where they saw George Stephenson's invention, The Rocket!

In our Science topic, children have been learning about the weather and seasonal changes between Winter and Spring. Children have enjoyed monitoring the weather daily and creating block charts of the temperature and rainfall! In DT, children have explored making axels and attaching these to boxes to create a moving vehicle.

We are looking forward to Easter and chocolate! We hope you have a fantastic break.

Miss Hodgson & Miss Horrocks



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SPRING TERM 2 2025

YEARS 3&4

Year 3 and 4 have been very busy this half term!

During our English lessons, we have continued reading 'Secrets of a Sun King' and we have produced some excellent writing linked to this. We were all surprised by the ending of the story! In our Maths lessons, we have been looking at fractions (Year 4 have also looked at decimals). We have been solving lots of problems linked to this and have also been busy trying to improve our times table facts.

During our D&T lessons, we made a bag. The children all sewed their own bags after designing them and they were all very proud of what they had produced. In History this term, we have been looking at the Anglo-Saxons including where they came from, what they did and how they have impacted on us today. In Science, we are busy investigating rocks and soils and we are looking at how all rocks are different. We are all looking forward to the Easter holidays and having a rest before coming back to school for a fabulous final term!

Miss Plummer



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SPRING TERM 2 2025

YEARS 5&6

We have had such a busy half-term in Year 5 and 6!

In English, we have been reading the novel, 'The Girl of Ink and Stars'. We have produced lots of our own writing, taking inspiration from this exciting adventure story.

In Maths, Fox Class have been working on multiplication and division, fractions, decimals and percentages, perimeter and area, and statistics. Badger Class have worked hard to complete the remaining maths topics for year 6. They have spent lots of time preparing for the SATs next term.

In Science, we have carried out experiments to explore reversible and irreversible changes. In RE, we have learned about the 'Last Supper' and its importance to Christians. In Design and Technology, our brief was to design, make, test and evaluate a scale model for a new bridge in Durham City. We have come up with some very creative and interesting designs! Our history work focused on what life was like in Victorian times. Our visit to Cragside helped us to understand some of the amazing inventions from the Victorian period from our local area that influenced life today! Finally, in Computing, we have been working on creating our own databases and have worked on our programming skills using 'Kodu'.

We hope you all enjoy the Easter break.

Mrs J Heron and Miss S Hodgson

