

# THE EARLY YEARS ECHO

## TRANSITION

### ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!

As we are nearing the end of your child's reception time in our foundation stage, we would like to share with parents some of the arrangements and changes that will affect your child in September.

Your child has already begun continuity activities and has started to spend time within the key stage 1 area, meeting staff and seeing where things are. Several learning opportunities have been mirrored within the Year 1 day, to reflect your child's experiences within the early years foundation stage and to help them settled into a new routine. For example, your child will continue to be offered the opportunity to visit Beach School, however there will be an increased focus on Geography and other specific curriculum areas. These will be shared in greater detail at our continuity meeting – which we hope that everyone can attend [either virtually or in person].

Y1 continuity meeting 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 starting at 4pm

\*Please enter via the school main office. If you need to require virtually, please email the school office and we will arrange a MS TEAMS invitation to be sent.

As your child's cohort is the first cohort in the school's increased PAN [published admission number], your child's class will benefit from smaller than average class sizes at several points throughout their time at Benedict Biscop. This is a huge benefit and will enable children to receive more adult support.

### Y1 continuity meeting 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 starting at 4pm

. Next year there will be two smaller cohorts with class sizes of 23 pupils and 22 pupils, each with their own class teacher. As agreed with the wider community during our expansion consultation, the cohorts when grouped into two class will be grouped according to age. This ensures the process is fair and is a process that many schools adopt when moving to mixed year groups/have higher PANs. Your child will be informed of their class and teacher before our whole school continuity day – where children will spend a full day in their new class [please note they will enter and leave via the foundation stage as usual practice].

During the foundation stage, your child will have already been taught in mixed age groups, changing each year. This has enabled them to socialise with more pupils and helped develop language and communication skills – learning from older peers or by supporting younger peers. Their continuity in key stage 1 will be an extension of this.

Throughout the school, pupils are provided with talk partners in class. These change throughout the year, helping the children to form relationships with other children in the class [again this is no different to the foundation stage].

Children will get the opportunity to work with several different pupils. When the children have social times e.g. break time and lunchtime, the children are able to access the whole of our outdoor space and have the opportunity to socialise with pupils across both key stage 1 and key stage 2. We run an OPAL playtime [Outdoor Play and Learning] which is very similar to your child's early years outdoor experience. Children are able to make dens, climb trees, ride bikes etc. If you would like further information regarding this, then please visit the school's website.

The two cohorts will enter via one of two doors [both accessed at the rear of the school – more information given at continuity meeting]. There will be a filtered drop off from 8:45am-8:55am. Your child will then be escorted to a gate of your choice [back, middle or front gate] at 3:25pm to be collected at the end of the day. Please note, this is a slight change in timing from previous years.

If you have any specific questions that you would like answering, please email them to [BBinfo@nllt.co.uk](mailto:BBinfo@nllt.co.uk) and we will try to ensure that these are covered within the continuity meeting or in the written information we provide to parents before the end of the year.

# THE EARLY YEARS ECHO

## BEACH SCHOOL

**DISCOVERING OUR WORLD ONE DAY AT A TIME**

After a lovely Easter break, Mrs Dawson's family group were eager for Beach School this week.

Once we arrived at the beach, we briefly recapped the rules and dangers we might come across at the beach. We then set off down the many stairs and re-grouped at the bottom to discuss the session's activities.

"No jumping off the cliffs into the sea or you'll get swept away." Thomas

"Listen to your teachers or you might get hurt." Lily

This week, we headed South due to there being a high tide. The children were challenged to draw a shape in the sand using a stick, and then create a piece of art using resources they could find at the beach.

The children gathered supplies such as seaweed, drift wood, stones and sea glass. Oliver even found some old rope which he used as a beard for his art.

**"The best classroom and the richest cupboard is roofed only by the sky."**



"I've used green sea glass for the eyes of my person."

Olive

"I've made a face and used rocks for eyes and a stick for his nose." Oliver

"I'm using seaweed in my picture." Lily

"This is planet Earth, this stick is the bridge." Zakk

"I'm using these sticks for the dogs legs." Scarlett

"I'm making a face like Oliver, I used a stick for the mouth." Thomas



***READ ALL ABOUT IT!***

**SUMMER TERM  
ADVENTURES**

**EMERGING INTERESTS**

**WHAT WE ARE LEARNING  
ABOUT**

# INVESTIGATION STATION

## THE CHILDRE HAVE BEEN INVESTINGATING THE QUESTION, WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF...

This half term, in the Garden Room, the children have been experimenting with colours. They have used pipettes and spoons to carefully choose their ingredients and watched what happened when they mixed them.

What will happen if we mix red and yellow? Abigail.

“Why don’t we find out?” I asked. Everyone nodded in agreement that they wanted to find out and started to scoop yellow and red into their jars. Amelie used a spoon to carefully spoon red into her jar. Abigail and Isla used pipets and showed good control while using them.

Amelie said, “It’s getting lighter and lighter when I’m putting more yellow in.”

“It’s kind of like this colour,” she pointed to the red stripe on the bag of flour.

“Ah! Something is happening but I don’t know what yet. I need to get a spoon so I can mix mine up,” said Abigail.

“Isla what colours are you mixing?”

“Red and blue,” replied Isla.

“Oh let’s see what happens if I add white,” Amelie said.

She carefully scooped some of the white liquid into her jar. “It’s going a bit orange.”

“What will happen if you add more yellow?” I asked Amelie.

“I think it will get more orange” Amelie carefully spooned more yellow into her jar.

## Science is like magic, only it is real

“Yes it’s getting more orange!”

“I wonder what happens if I add blue?”

Amelie then added blue to her mixture, stirred it.

She watched what happened to her liquid.

“It’s going a bit green now.”

“Isla, what has happened to yours?” I asked.

“It’s a bit purple and dark red,” Isla replied.

## *This lead to investigations using vinegar and bicarbonate of soda.*



First, the children made their own colourful liquid mixture using the different colours of vinegar. Once they were happy with their mixture, they used some bicarbonate of soda to make it fizz.



The children explored what happened if they added different amounts of powder and what happened if they stirred it. Olive has enjoyed experimenting in the discovery station and today was no different! She carefully chose her coloured liquids transferring them carefully from the larger container into her smaller container, using one-handed tools like spoons and pipettes. Once she was happy she added the bicarbonate of soda. Olive gasped when she put the powder in pointing at it as it fizzed to the top of her container.

“It’s Exploding!” Said Olive.

“When does it explode Olive?”

“When you add too much powder!”

## READ ALL ABOUT IT!

**SUMMER TERM  
ADVENTURES**

**EMERGING INTERESTS**

**WHAT WE ARE LEARNING  
ABOUT**

## EASTER PRAYER SPACE!

### *Prayer unites the soul to God*

Before Easter, the children have taken part in our first Prayer Space. We were helped by our Year 6 Light House Leaders. We took a special trip to the learning centre and listened to a retelling of The Easter Story – this brought together our worships from the whole half term.



Each station of the Prayer Space was a different part of the story: In the Garden of Gethsemane we said the name of someone we would like to pray for and planted a stick into the ground. Whilst beside the cross, we thought about something we would like to ask for forgiveness for by drawing a picture of it on the shared paper. When we visited the tomb, we took some time to reflect on what we are grateful for and said a prayer to thank God for it.

Finally, as we thought about when Jesus had risen, we talked about what change we would like to make on the world.



## YOUR TRASH IS OUR TREASURE!

Please think of us before you bin it.

- We are looking for;
  - Dinosaurs
  - House hold items such as cups, plates, bowls, cutlery, utensils and pots and pans
  - Diggers (large and small)
  - Trucks (large and small)
  - Cars (large and small)
  - Seeds – flower, vegetable etc.
  - Junk modelling
    - Taxidermy
    - Artificial plants

Thank you for your continued support!

# GOD SAVE THE QUEEN



The children have taken part in our whole school celebration of the Queen's platinum Jubilee.

In the week leading up to the celebration the children have been making decorations and learning all about the Queen's life. They learned facts such as she loves dogs, especially Corgies.



## 70 years!



The children then spent time having a special party in the hall playing traditional party games, such as musical statues and corners.

Each year group learned a montage of songs from each decade of the Queen's reign. EYFS have learned songs from the 2010's to the present day, these included The Wellerman, Happy and many more. The children went into the hall together with the rest of the school, for a whole school picnic.



Later in the afternoon, the children spent time exploring the main school yard! They loved playing in the tunnel and the sandpit.

# What's going on?

## The weather forecast!

The weather is getting warm now so can we please ask that the children come to school with suncream on that we can top up at lunchtime.

If possible, please send an old cap into school that can remain on their peg for those unexpected sunny days.

**EXCUSE THE MESS  
WE'RE MAKING MEMORIES!**

## LET'S GET MESSY!

The children LOVE to explore with paint, glue and mud! They may come home a little dirty but we use ready mixed washable paint and they have made memories for life!

As the warmer weather comes we can spend more time outside enjoying sand and water! We use wetsuits to keep the children as dry as possible but please send your children into school with a draw string bag with a couple of changes of clothes, **especially socks!**

## Beach School Dates

- Monday 20th June 2022 Miss Johnston
  - Monday 27th June Mrs Dawson
  - Monday 4th July Miss Liddle TBC
  - Monday 11th July Miss Hair TBC