Curriculum News November 2014

Inspirational Visit to Farfield

18 year old former pupil Nile Wilson returned to school in triumph laden with gymnastics medals from European, Commonwealth and World Championships. Nile spoke with all the children in assemblies and visited classes for further Q&A sessions. Many children got to handle bronze, silver and gold medals and Nile was able to explain his success in terms of all our 'Learning Hive' ethos statements.

We are all very proud of Nile: as well as being a world class gymnast, he appears to be a first class young man. His determination and resilience should be an inspiration for all our school community to be 'The Best that We Can Be.'



Lorraine Woodley retires

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The first British gymnast ever to win five gold medals at the <u>European Junior</u> <u>Gymnastics Championships</u> in 2014, Nile went on to win two <u>Commonwealth Games</u> gold medals, and four medals in total, on his senior debut for <u>England</u>. Nile is the reigning Commonwealth Games champion on Horizontal Bar and came fourth in World Championships on the same apparatus - a fantastic achievement, especially in his first year in adult competition!

After twenty five years of fabulous service, Lorraine Woodley has retired from her role as Infant Lunchtime Supervisor. Children lined up to thank Mrs Woodley in a special assembly and we all wish Lorraine a very happy and healthy retirement.



Farsley Farfield Primary School



New Chair of Governors

Rob Coldicott has not sought re-election as Chair of Governors and stepped down at last week's governor meeting. Rob has been a governor for eight years or so and has been Chair for more than half of those years. We are very grateful for the great service to the school and the support and challenge that he has given us over many years. We wish him the very best of luck for the future.

Rob Heap has been elected as the new chair of governors with immediate effect. Rob has been chair of Resources Committee for some time - a role that he has taken on with very positive effect - and he is likely to be a very positive and strong chair of governors. Rob can be contacted through the school office.

The governing body remains an asset to the school and we will work together for a very successful future.

Sports News

In this new term, the children have already been involved in lots of competitions. The Year 5 and 6 football team started its defence of the West Leeds 7 a side competition at Priesthorpe and after two rounds of matches, they top the table. Some children have competed very well at a tag rugby event at Stanningley Rugby League Cup and a group of children participated in a cross country event at Priesthorpe. Last week, Springbank Junior school brought their year 5 cohort to Farfield for a one off outdoor orienteering competition. A lucky group of children (below) competed in a junior triathlon at the John Charles Centre and met the world-famous Brownlee brothers.



PTA news

After another successful year of fund-raising, the PTA have an exciting plan of events for 2014-5 including another exciting Farfield Camp-Over planned for June 2015. The new audio-visual equipment in the Junior hall was recently part-funded by the PTA, and they plan to spend more money on the development of the school grounds over the coming year.

Up-coming events include the Chilli and Quiz night on Friday November 28th and the Christmas Fair after school on Wednesday 10th December. Please support the PTA - it makes a difference!



Trips this term...

Already this term, all classes have enjoyed at least one educational visit around Yorkshire. Many thanks to all the parents that have been able to support these visits - some trips couldn't take place without your help.



Y2 learning about food at Toby Carvery



Y1 at a theatre



Cogs and gears at the Bradford Industrial Museum



Y5/6 Lego workshop at Crawshaw High School



Fun for Y4 at Skelton Grange



Some Reception children at 'Build a Bear'

Training Day reminders

There are two training days this month: Friday 21st November and Wednesday 26th November.

The final TD of this academic year is planned for Monday 19th January.





Y3 at the Media Museum





We have trained six additional minibus drivers this term to assist classes planning to take their children out to enhance their curriculum.



School News

'Community of Writers' Project

A number of classes across the school are benefitting from an on-going partnership between Farfield and Leeds Beckett University to deliver a series of creative writing workshops. Look out for the publication of writing on the blogs.



Thousands of new additions to the school!

Over the summer, we were delighted to welcome a bee hive onto site in partnership with parents Nicole Gilhooley and Susan Laurie.

Nicole and Susan have delivered bee-related learning sessions in many classes, and they also brought an observation hive into the farm greenhouse for children to visit. The children, and staff, have found the bees absolutely fascinating and they are a very welcome addition to the school for both horticultural and educational reasons. Follow the bees on their own Facebook <u>Beeing Sweet</u> blog.



New Y6 classroom

Our new Y6 classroom is now completed but it won't actually be used for a class until next September. We have also benefitted from some remodelling of the space outside the new building which will become a playground 'quieter zone' for children away from the 'hustle and bustle' of the main yard.

