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17th May 2019

We had a great start to the week this week with our visit to the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh. It was worth the long bus journey for the experience. We had a workshop and tour by Viv from the education team at the gardens. She told me afterwards how impressed she had been with the behaviour, knowledge and language of the children. It was a great opportunity to explore plants from other climates from around the world.

We got to see several plants which link to the spices we have been looking at as well as giant cactus, giant lily pads, bamboo and many other amazing plants. The children found out about the various different uses for plants, including and beyond food. We have put photos and a video of our trip on the website under 'News' and in the 'photo/video gallery'.



We were also delighted to welcome Pippa into school to do an interactive workshop about Indian music and art on Tuesday afternoon. The children responded brilliantly to the workshop and were keen to have a go at singing, block printing and printing using flour. It was great to add another dimension to our work on the topic of India and make further connections with what we already know and what we would still like to find out. Thank you very much Pippa for an inspiring and creative experience. Next week we will be outside on Tuesday afternoon (weather permitting) to do some cooking with spices.

On Thursday, Carol came into school as part of her ongoing support for our school garden. We made 'seed bombs' to encourage wildflowers, especially ones which insects and wildlife will enjoy. Our little garden is coming along well and we are very grateful for all the donated plants we are receiving, including tomatoes, French marigold, lupins, lambs ears, camomile and so much more! Thank you very much for your kind support.

Rebecca

Please note that there will be no swimming lesson on Wednesday (22nd May) due to essential maintenance work on the boiler at the Swan Centre. The children will go to the sports centre as normal and will have an extended session in the sports hall. The charge will be the normal £3.50 as this covers only the cost of the bus and hall hire. The swimming lesson is heavily subsidised by school.

The children therefore do not need their swimming kit on Wednesday.



Indian Banquet

We are looking forward to our Indian Banquet on Friday when the children will be able to sample a variety of dishes, both spicy and non-spicy eg korma, plain rice, bhajis, samosas, poppadums etc, followed by mango sorbet and fruit.

A huge thank you to Margaret for preparing such a feast for everyone to enjoy!



Spellings

Year 1

the digraph 'ir'

Eg girl, whirl, twirl, bird, shirt

Year 2

Homophones—words that sound the same but have different meanings

Eg here, hear, sun, son

Year 3

Prefixes

Most prefixes can be added to the root words without any changes in spelling

'super' means above

Eg supermarket, Superman, superstar,

superimposed

Parent Info

On our school website we have a feed to articles from 'Parent Info'. This is a really good source of advice and information for parents and carers to help them keep their children safe and well. It is a collaboration between 'Parent Zone' and CEOPs and draws on information from leading experts and organisations in matters related to young people and families in a digital world. This includes e-safety advice as well as information about a range of topics, including keeping active, building self esteem and having a positive digital footprint. The address for the website directly is <https://parentinfo.org/> or you can read the articles on our 'e-safety' tab on our school website.



Dates for your Diary

Friday 24th May	Indian Banquet School stops for half term week
Monday 3rd June	School restarts + Visit to Norham—nursery not going on this trip
Thursday 6th June	Visit to the Hancock Museum, Newcastle—nursery will be going on this trip
Thursday 20th June	Sports Day on Holy Island
Saturday 6th July	PTA Summer Fun Day
Friday 12th July	Cricket Festival at Etal
Thursday 18th July	Visit to Holy Island
Friday 19th July	School Stops for Summer holidays
Wed 4th Sept	Children return to school