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We have had a very positive week as we are getting into the swing of things back in school. The children are working well and we are making the most of the sunshine by being outdoors where possible.

Mrs Stiansen is starting a 'Times Tables Challenge' for class 2. The children will have the opportunity to earn stickers and eventually pin badges for different levels of achievement. We hope this will encourage the children to practice and improve their fluency in their tables.

Two children have earned enough starlets combined to have a '**film afternoon**' for the whole school. It is very kind of them to spend their starlets on something which everyone will be able to enjoy. We have looked at the diary and the best date which doesn't clash with visitors into school, PE, Commando Joe's or our forest school plans is **Wednesday 5th May**.

Gardening donations

We are getting our gardens looking beautiful again and going ahead with our Remembrance Garden which will be in the long grass area on the main field so that the children have easy access to it. We would be very grateful if anyone is able to donate plants, seeds, compost and equipment (watering cans for example) to us to help us along the way.

Rebecca

Stay and Play – Thursday afternoons

1.30 – 3.00pm

We have been delighted to welcome so many people to our Stay and Play sessions on Thursdays. We have decided to run the Stay and Play over the summer holiday to help mums and families with young children (from 0 – 4) to stay connected. More information will follow nearer the time.



Things we are looking forward to...

'**Active Day**' on **Friday** next week (30th April). Children will need to wear **suitable outdoor / PE clothes**. We will be celebrating our daily mile routine and doing 100 activities to support Captain Tom 100. We should be very fit (or exhausted) at the end of the day!

Teach Rex will be visiting us on Tuesday 11th May. We are very excited about this – more details to follow.

We are having a **Hula Hoop and Zumba festival** on **Tuesday 18th May**. Children will need to wear suitable PE clothing.

We will be welcoming Dane Sherrard from Fogo Kirk to talk about his pilgrimage experiences (pencilled in at the moment for Wednesday 26th May)

Thank you to Brian

After many years of working with Holy Island First School and in recent years looking after the grass, Brian has now decided it is time for him to properly retire. We are grateful for all his efforts on our behalf and wish him all the best. Holy Island school will be having a celebratory afternoon tea with him to express our thanks and best wishes.



Good bye to Linda

Linda has been a very special and important part of this school for a long time. All of us love working with her and she has been a brilliant support to us, the children and the community. I know you will all miss her too. We hope she has a wonderful retirement and will come back and visit us often!



This week we celebrated Earth Day. We discovered that the first Earth Day was 51 years ago! As we explored its meaning and talked about the 'missions' of Earth Day which are:

- 1) Plant Trees
- 2) Stop using fossil fuels and make cities run on renewable energy
- 3) Reduce greenhouse gases/ Carbon dioxide emissions

The children had some excellent questions like 'If we know that cutting down trees is bad, why do we do it so much?'

In order to take part some of the children designed and painted a new crisp packet monster for our waste, filled some bug and bee hotels with bedding (in keeping with our Biodiversity topic), and on Friday afternoon for forest schools we planted lots of veg. We hope that eventually Margaret will be able to use some of this for our dinners and snacks, reducing the amount of plastic from bought goods.

Soon we will be filling our remembrance garden with lots of lovely wildflowers and enjoying fruit from the trees that we planted.

The children have enjoyed learning about Earth Day and its importance and are enthusiastic about making change. Next week I will let you know who our new Eco-monitors will be!



In Class 2 we have launched our Multiplication Challenge. When the children know a times table, they receive a 'times table star' sticker. To be awarded with a sticker, the children need to demonstrate that they know multiplication and division facts. There are bronze, silver and gold award badges to be won and there is also a 'Red Hot Tables Star' award! The children have been very enthusiastic and have brought home a times table bookmark with their reading book so that they know which table they are focusing on.

