



Fellside Community Primary School

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Fellside Matters

Commitment, Confidence, Change, Creativity, Challenge, Collaboration, Curiosity.

Ambition for all.

9th January 2026

Mrs Green's Weekly Message:

Happy New Year everyone. What a pleasure it has been to welcome our children back to school, full of enthusiasm for learning and with incredibly positive attitudes.

This week, we launched our Visiting Adults pack; this is designed to support any adult in school to have the same high expectations as our staff team and includes where to find important information about specific pupils so that all children are supported to learn appropriately.

We also finalised our maths curriculum overview and I'm happy to let you know that it is going 'live' on our website tomorrow. Everything on there is what we are aiming towards doing therefore some aspects may not sound familiar – they will be very familiar soon!

We welcomed Mr Donaghy to our school this week. He is our Year Six Class Teacher, our SENDCo and Inclusion Lead and Assistant Head Teacher. He has jumped straight into life at Fellside and has already made a great impression with the children and the staff team. He has been incredibly impressed with the calm ethos and kindness we show around school, with children and staff team alike really demonstrating what makes us at Fellside special.

We have noticed a steady increase in the amount of big bags which children are bringing into school, especially in Key Stage Two. We do not have enough room for each child to bring a bag in every day. We appreciate that some children bring in a book, some children bring a packed lunch, some bring clothes to take to their second home and Year Four goes swimming on a Tuesday but, other than that, most children really do not need to bring the bags they are bringing in. We have tried to support storage by buying large blue boxes; this still meant that their corridors were full and we are now in the process of putting up extra pegs and removing furniture which has been part of Fellside for decades in the hope that this stops the corridor from being so crowded. Now we are asking you and your children to help us by assessing whether they really do need to bring in their large bags (in fact, some of the girls are bring in large handbags, which actually have nothing in at all). Thank you in anticipation of this change.

Another request is regarding plimsolls / sandshoes. Long before I joined Fellside, the PE kit consisted of black sandshoes when PE is inside and we are asking for your support in this once again. Some year groups have them while there are some children who don't. If you need support to finance this, or any other aspect of your child's PE kit, let us know as we are in a position to offer this help confidentially.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend – keep warm!

Mrs Green

Key Dates

Monday 12th January

- Year 4 Ukelele Performance for families

Tuesday 13th January

- Reception and Year Six heights and weights
- Year 5 at Whickham School for a Science lesson

Thursday 15th January

- Year 5 SEN parents' meetings

Please continue to check our website, which is updated regularly with key dates.

[Fellside Community Primary School - Home](#)

Nursery

Nursery children have enjoyed sharing “We’re Going on a Bear Hunt” and joining in with number rhymes. They have painted bear pictures and played many circle games, taking turns nicely. During dance sessions, they really enjoyed ‘Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes’. Nursery welcomed some new friends this week – how lovely!
Message from the team: Library Day is changing to a Wednesday from next week.

Curiosity winner: Zhayr M

Year One

Our Year One class have shared “Three Little Pigs” as a class book and also sequenced the events of the story, ready for their own rewriting. In maths, children have focused on addition and subtraction within twenty while, in history, children started to learn all about the Great Fire of London. Within RE, the story about Jesus feeding the 5,000 was shared and, in PSHE, children focused on our school Character Compass.

Curiosity winner: Edie M

ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS: 100%

Year Three

Year Three are determined to finish the book they began last half term, “The Christmasaurus”. In their own writing, they have been identifying verbs and subjects within sentences, as well as using possessive apostrophes. In maths, children looked at length, measuring in metres, centimetres and millimetres while, in art and design, they learnt about L.S. Lowry. During computing, the class learnt how to use a search engine to find out information and, in PSHE, they discussed the importance of showing respect in different situations. Year Three had their first dance lesson with Mrs Green, creating a bank of actions to perform to a beat.

Curiosity winner: Joseph S

ATTENDANCE TARGET: 96%

Year Five

In writing, Year Five started to plan their writing all about where snow angels go – creating mystery filled storylines. Children have begun to learn about Brazil, with comparisons being made to the United Kingdom, within their geography lessons. In computing lessons, the class have been creating codes to use and build robots while, in PE, they have started to learn about ‘flag football’ (American Football), which has gone down a storm!

Curiosity winner: Isabelle H

Reception

Children in Reception have shared the book “The Big Dark”. In their own writing, they have shared their New Year’s Resolutions and written the sound in the words. During early maths, the class talked about number order and successfully identified missing numbers. Using the outdoors as inspiration, they painted pictures of Winter trees and also created images using tools on Kidspix, with mouse control. Reception enjoyed their first Little Kickers lesson, which was a great deal of fun, and children discovered their new role play area, which has become an explorer’s hut.

Curiosity winner: Jacob B

Year Two

Year Two pupils have shared the book “Clean Up!”, by Nathan Bryon, and “Grandad’s Secret Giant” by David Litchfield. To begin their own writing planning, they predicted what might happen a story and also used adjectives to create noun phrases. In maths, children learnt about vertical lines of symmetry in some 2D shapes and the faces, vertices and edges of 3D shapes. Children were introduced to Purple Mash, creating their own avatars, in computing and, in music, they have been learning ‘Carnival of the Animals’ on the recorders.

Curiosity winner: Daniel B

Year Four

Children in Year Four have shared the book “The Great Chocoplot” – they discovered that all of the chocolate in the world was going to disappear... so they had their very last pieces, yummy! As part of writing, they learnt a fun song about prepositions, which they used to discover more about the word type. In maths, children looked at money and solved money problems while, in geography, they discovered exactly what a mountain is and, in art and design, discovered how to collage. Year Four thought about a key life skill in PSHE – how to budget.

Curiosity winner: William G

Year Six

Year Six’s first week with their new teacher has been an incredibly successful one. They have been introduced to Macbeth and are looking forward to their upcoming theatre trip to watch a musical based on Shakespeare’s play. In maths, children have learnt about factors and fractions while, in computing, they have extended on their coding skills. Children discussed Hinduism in RE and the concept of diversity in PSHE while, in PE, they enjoyed dance and netball.

Curiosity winner: Sienna K