



Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### Newsletter

What a great start to the week we had with our year 3-6 children visiting Tullie House to learn more about Tudor life in Carlisle. Thank you to our parent volunteers who helped us facilitate this trip.

Also, a big thank you to the everyone who was able to attend our parents anti-bullying workshop, we hope you found it useful.

There are lots to look forward to during our final week of this half-term.

### Curriculum presentation for parents

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 2:30pm, parents are invited into school for a presentation about our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 curriculum. Reception parents are welcome to join us as it will be relevant for your children in September. This is a great opportunity for you to understand the curriculum we deliver and how we ensure coverage for each year group.

### PTFA

We would like to thank the PTFA who do such a great job at supporting the wider curriculum at Castle Carrock. They have very kindly given us £500 to spend on books, the children have been busy planning how we will spend this money. They have also given us £400 to spend on musical instruments and music stands – we will let you know what we spend this money on. The list doesn't end there! They have given us the money for the Tudor workshop as well as agreeing to pay to hire some bikes when Honeybee class visit Watchtree on Tuesday!

Thank you to the PTFA for their generosity and to all of you for supporting the events the PTFA organise.

### Individual Music Lessons

Jerry King has decided that next week (Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May) will be his last week delivering music lessons at Castle Carrock. Jerry has decided to reduce his workload. We would like to thank Jerry for helping us to develop our musical talents at Castle Carrock.

From September, we will have a new peripatetic music teacher joining us, Mr David Wood. David is a musician and teacher with a lifetime of experience in music. He studied music at university and performed in bands in his home city of Bristol. His writing and performing opened up really exciting experiences and allowed him to perform with some big names across the South of England and Wales. In 2016 he moved to Cumbria to work at William Howard School where he has taught music to students from the age of 11 all the way up to A-Level. David cannot wait to start at Castle Carrock. Children from years 3-6 have already met and worked with David as he supported us during our performance at The University of Cumbria.

### Staffing update

I am delighted to confirm, that after a successful recruitment we have appointed Mrs Megan Baker-Bell as our new part-time teaching assistant. Megan will join our team in September 2023.

### September 2023

**Headteacher** – Miss Carroll

**Queen Bee Class (Year 4/5/6)** – Mr Flanagan

**Bumblebee Class (Year 1/2/3)** – Miss Moynan

**Honeybee Class (Nursery and Reception)** – Mrs Helliwell/Miss Carroll

**Higher-level teaching assistant** – Mrs Docherty

**Teaching assistant** – Miss Bowman

**Part-time teaching assistant** – Mrs Baker-Bell

## **Class News**

### **Honeybee Class**

We have been finding out all about buses this week as part of our Transport topic and have used two fabulous picture books – The Hundred Decker Bus by Mike Smith and The Naughty Bus by Jan and Jerry Oke - to help the children grow their literacy skills. Our reception children have been writing their own adventure story inspired by the Hundred Decker Bus, whilst our nursery children have been making hot air balloons and playing with toy buses, just like the boy in The Naughty Bus. On Monday afternoon, we took a stroll around the village to see if we could spot a bus stop in Castle Carrock. We found one and discovered it passes through our village twice weekly on the way to and from Carlisle. In maths, the focus has been about doubling numbers and the reception children now recognise doubles up to 5. They are very keen to learn up to 10 and have enjoyed playing the Topmarks game, Hit the Button. We have also been busy this week planting seed potatoes, making sure our tadpoles have enough food to help them grow and keeping an eye on a blackbird who appears to have nested in the school grounds.

### **Bumblebee Class**

This week in Bumblebees we have planned and written our set of instructions on how to wash a woolly mammoth. The children used the skills we had previously practised to help them entertain and inform the reader. In Maths we have continued practising our addition and subtraction skills which involved money questions to make sure children have a deeper understanding. In history this week we learnt all about two explorers Matthew Henson and Robert Falcon Scott, we researched about their expeditions and compared both expeditions by identifying the similarities and differences between them. On Monday, the year 3 children enjoyed learning morning about Tudor life in Carlisle during their visit to Tullie House. The year 2 children continue to make great progress at swimming pushing themselves to swim a little bit further each week.

### **Queen Bee Class**

In Queen Bee Class this week we started with some excitement on our trip to Tullie House and Carlisle library. A great day was had by all; we were able to handle objects from Tudor-age Carlisle and see the Tudor history of Carlisle as we explored the city centre. It was back to the classroom for the rest of the week where the children have been learning how to use inverted commas to advance action in their writing and learning how to use different reporting clauses as they build dialogue. In Maths, we have been further consolidating our understanding of multiplication – using problem solving questions to cement our understanding. In Science this week, we have been investigating microorganisms under our amazing school microscopes with the aim of identifying the type of micro-organism we are observing based on its shape, structure and pattern.

King Regards,

Miss A. Carroll



Head of School