

## Lights, Camera, Action!

Nursery, Reception and Year 1 children were delighted to perform their festive productions to parents at the start of December. We had a trip into the woods with Little Red Riding Hood and Nursery children who sang beautiful songs along to the traditional tale. Reception children told the traditional story of the birth of Jesus in the fantastic Big Little Nativity, narrating and singing very catchy songs. Jetting around the world, Year 1 took us on a journey with angels to learn more about Christmas traditions across the globe in Children of the World.

We were so proud of all of the children who gave such wonderful performances and we were very glad to be able to invite a small, socially distanced audience to support them. A huge well done and thank you!



## I want to ride my bike!

Kielder Water was the spectacular setting of the Year 6 cycling trip. The most amazing day was had by all the children who were able to cycle almost 13 miles! Year 6 demonstrated superb teamwork, cheering each other on up the challenging inclines. It was an exhilarating and action-packed day filled with determination, perseverance and lots of tasty snacks.



We are delighted to be able to report the results of this year's Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge organised by Oxford University. This takes the form of a quiz during Computing lessons and tests various computational thinking and problem-solving skills.

In the Juniors (age 10 to 12) category, Year 6 achieved a fantastic average score of 92.4 compared to a national average of 83.5. This is exceptionally pleasing when taking into account the fact that many children taking part are in Year 7. Ethan, Adam and Louise achieved qualification for the second stage of the competition by achieving some of the top scores nationally.

Our Year 4 and 5 children, in the Castors (age 8 to 10) section, scored an average of 106.7 compared to a national average score of 87.1. Ethan & Shang in Year 4 and Joseph & Lex in Year 5 achieved full marks.

In the Kits (age 6 to 8) event our Year 3 children performed very well indeed with an average of 78.3 compared to a national average of 58.6. Matilda and Poppy scored an amazing 100%.

## Children in Need

The children of NPS had a bear-illiant time celebrating all things Pudsey on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November. A spotty non-uniform theme could be seen throughout the school and all year groups enjoyed games prepared by the Year 6 House Captains. A grand total of £767 was donated - thank you for your generosity.



## Primary Maths Challenge

Year 6, and some brave challengers from Year 5, took part in the Mathematical Association's Primary Maths Challenge in November. This annual competition is a national, fun and exciting mathematical challenge aimed at pupils aged 9 - 11 years old.

It is designed to encourage enthusiasm, boost confidence in mathematics and show the different ways questions can be asked. We were delighted that lots of our children qualified for gold, silver and bronze certificates!



Louise, George and Anya - Year 6 Gold Award Winners

## Year 3 Victorian Day

Year 3 had a wonderful time celebrating 'A Victorian Christmas'. They sang Christmas carols, played parlour games, created Christmas crafts and even had a festive toast! Everyone made a huge effort with their costumes and looked brilliant. What a fabulous way to bring a term of learning to life!



## Sports Update

After a difficult year for sport and team games, NPS have started the Autumn sporting season in excellent form. In November, the U11 rugby team even hosted a touring side from Cargilfield, Edinburgh. We have had incredible success at festivals in both hockey and rugby of which children should be very proud. Not only have the boys and girls played with talent, skill and sportsmanship, but all children have represented the core values that the NPS ethos is built on.

With many fixtures being cancelled, we have been pleased to still be able to offer specialist teaching using local facilities, including Year 3 squash lessons at the Northumberland Club. The children have really enjoyed this opportunity and showed real potential!

After Christmas, during our spring term, we have numerous Football and Netball fixtures to look forward to. Bring on 2022!

