

Broad and Balanced Curriculum at Bullion Lane Primary School

The following information details some of the many ways we ensure a broad and balanced curriculum is delivered at Bullion Lane Primary School.

Each December the whole of KS1 and 2 visit a local theatre to watch a pantomime. This is often the only experience of a theatre our children encounter.

Sports festivals are attended by children of all ages as part of our sports provision. Coaches also provide lessons to classes on a weekly basis.

Performing Arts club is ran after school and any child in Years 3 – 6 may attend. This culminates in two performances a year.

All classes have the opportunity to work in our school garden (Years 1 – 6) with Mrs Lewis on a Friday afternoon. This is linked to garden maintenance, planting, harvesting and science. Produce is also sold after school (link to maths).

A Pupil Support worker is employed to work with pupils who require social, emotional and well-being support. She runs different programmes such as Lego Therapy, Getting along Gang and has a 'Discuss with Gus' worry monster where pupils can post any worries, which she can then follow up.

We have a number of visitors who come into school to delivery assemblies, linked to our local church, the police and different charities.

Each year we support a number of different charities including Children in Need, Christmas Jumper day, Comic Relief, Sport Relief, MacMillan Coffee morning, NSPCC, Dogs Trust.

Different activities are used to celebrate World Book Day.

Anti-bullying and mental health issues are made relevant by a whole school competition / exhibition displayed in the corridor.

All children have swimming lessons (reception – Year 6) throughout the year.

Each Christmas we hold a concert at the church where parents are invited to watch. (Years 1 – 6).

Each class from year 2 upwards nominate a school councillor who are involved in decision making which effect the whole school.

Intra-school sporting festivals take place each year, including the Seeley Cup and sponsored events.

Each year children in Year 6 have the opportunity to become a House Captain, playground leader or Buddy.

- o Creative themed weeks (before the end of each half term).

- Autumn 1 – Multicultural

- Autumn 2 – Christmas

- Spring 1 – Pupil choice

- Spring 2 – Easter

Summer 1 – Staff Choice

Summer 2 – Health and fitness

Below is a list, which documents many of the specific subjects / themes we have used to broaden our pupils' understanding of the world in which they live.

Nursery

- Visits from Jet and Ben and their police handler to talk about being safe.
- Visits from Mrs Phelps the Crossing Patrol Lady
- Visits from the Fire Brigade.
- Visits from a mum and her baby to find out about looking after babies.
- Celebrating Christmas –parties, cards, Santa Clause
- Celebrating Diwali makings cards, sweets decorations, music and dancing
- Celebrating Chinese New Year –food, decorations, card, dressing up and dancing.
- Performing a Royal Wedding for Harry and Meghan
- Performing Nativity play for parents.
- Easter Performances for parents.
- Music from different cultures during festivals and celebrations.
- Water Party
- Pirate Party
- Living Eggs –hatching live chicks
- Planting bulbs and seeds.
- Growing tomato and pepper plants to sell
- Growing bean plants
- Working in the garden.
- Visits to Hall Hill Farm
- Visits to Rainton Meadows Nature Reserve –bug hunting, den building
- Visits to Gibside –National Trust bug hunting and flora and fauna collecting
- Forest School Insect Lore –Live caterpillars turning into butterflies.
- Harvest Festival
- Macmillan Coffee Mornings
- Sport Relief Children In Need
- Animalea visit
- Circus Visit

Reception

Visits to:

- Hamsterley Forest
- Local hairdressers
- Local garage
- Local dentist
- Church
- Looking for Sammy and Sarah the quad seagulls in the local area
- Sainsbury's
- Morrison's

- PE festival organized by Durham Sports Partnership

Visitors including:

- Dentist
- Spread the happiness team (collecting for happiness hampers)
- Community police
- The Gruffalo!
- The Gingerbread Man!

And other activities including:

- Dough disco
- Making cakes for McMillan coffee morning
- Spread the happiness activities leading to an award
- Bird watching
- Using the school field for a variety of activities e.g. seasonal walks, fireworks, picnics, Gingerbread man hunt.

Year 1 and 2

- Studied Kenya in Creative week and made traditional jewellery. We learnt a complicated action song and performed it in Assembly.
- During a study of the weather, a record was kept of the conditions 4 times a day for 2 weeks. Opened children's eyes to the changes in weather around us.
- Christopher Columbus / Neil Armstrong explorers. Made a boat out of an enormous box and role-played Columbus and various crewmembers. Made artefacts too.
- Used graded shades of green (from an art unit) to create Christmas trees which we decorated and turned into cards.
- Made four seasonal trees linked to weather work and turned them into calendars.
- Use of Katie Morag to link English, geography, DT and every child matters discussing her behaviour and angst.
- Made fishing rods to accompany work on the River Wear and visited the Riverside Park.
- Made fish using collage techniques.
- Sang Singing kettle action songs and made props to perform in assembly during creative week – teacher's choice.
- DT, planned and made a fruit salad, linked to healthy eating.
- Dance – Sambelele. Studied Brazil in Creative week and learnt the song as well as telling the story through dance.
- Study of St Marys and St Cuthbert's as a significant place in our locality and visited before our school concert in December, plans to repeat this year.
- Visited Wharton Park in Durham – significant individual in our locality (William Wharton). Amongst other things, he donated land and pushed for a train station to be built in Durham. Also linked to garden as shown round their community garden by two retired teachers. New experience for many children as went by train.
- Phones in the past – changes in living memory. Children brought in old phones and accompanying memories. Tracked the size and function of phones. Fascinating for all.
- Used the school garden and linked Science to growing our own produce. Then had a healthy picnic at the end of the year.

- Wrote to local shops persuading them to donate bird food to keep birds away from our garden with huge success. Still using all the donations now!
- Studied India in Creative week, tasting a variety of food and trying on saris.
- Studied Flat Stanley and were very interested in kites. Investigated and made kites as DT project and then flew them on the field. Also looked at kite poetry and described kites for our wall display.
- Read the trouble with dogs and wrote own stories. Researched how to care for dogs and made moving pictures with pivots and levers.
- Visit to CLS to look at local history following lessons tracking CLS back to Roman times, then St. Cuthbert and Lindisfarne gospels. Many churches and buildings with long histories, including river being covered over in the Market place. Early footage/photos of Football in the market place. Significance of war memorial.
- Author Nick Sharratt! Very enthused by his books and love stories at the end of the day.

Year 3 and 4

Trips to the following:

- Church as part of R.E
- Visit to Angel of the North
- Visit to Shipley art gallery
- Visit to Oriental Museum as part of Ancient Egypt topic
- Gymnastics festival
- Mini Olympics,
- Tri golf
- Skipping day festival
- Visit to Chester-le-Street (Romans)
- Gala visit to watch Pantomime
- Animalea (animals visiting school)
- Animal experience visit to class
- Brass band
- Natalingo French bus
- Library visits
- Angel of the North visit.
- Gibside visit.

As well as:

- Woolly Mammoth excavation – Non-chronological report links.
- Dressing up as characters from stories for role play
- Stories linked to topics e.g. Egyptian Cinderella, Stone Age Boy, Escape from Pompeii.
- Making volcanoes linked to Escape from Pompeii
- BFG drama instructions
- Roald Dahl – BFG making and taste testing Froboscottle
- Making 3d shapes out of sweets and cocktail sticks

- Fraction investigation to write a letter to Starbust or Smarties
- Alien landing perimeter video
- Big maths beat that challenge and dance
- Creating own board games
- Shape hunts outside
- Collecting data outside
- Make your own fossil using sweets
- Making chocolate rocks to show sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic and how they change.
- Foil sculptures
- Making roman shields and recreating a battle
- Creating our own cave wall signature panel
- Creating a jungle survival guide linked to original jungle book story
- Mexican fiesta day and day of the dead masks
- 100 acts of kindness/concentration/happiness
- Making outdoor shelters/bush craft
- Mini beast hunt outdoors
- Sketching the local area
- Developing a local area map
- 30 Days of June (Woodland Trust)
- French Breakfast
- French Boulangerie and Patisserie day (making and selling French cakes and pastries)
- Egyptian Breakfast
- Roman days
- Made jewellery to sell for the RSPCA
- Baked cakes to raise money for RSPCA
- Compassionate Class – RSPCA challenge
- Class hamster
- Raise butterflies to release into the wild
- Picked dandelions and turned them into dandelion honey
- Secret Seven Club month
- French Club
- Magic Sunglasses project (PSHCE)
- French selfie booths
- Bill's New Frock – gender awareness
- Different families same love project
- Reptiles in school
- Made stink bombs
- Made Cleopatra's bubble bath
- Hide the Rock project
- Class production of Cinderella (Performed for parents)
- Mindful Yoga
- Natta-Lingo (French Bus)
- Pantomimes in school from different companies
- Performed show in French during creative week of the Hungry Caterpillar with accompanying shadow show.

Year 5 and 6

- Mini Police project with local police officers.
- Creation of E-safety robot to promote on-line safety
- Snowman biscuits
- Cricket festival
- Hockey festival
- Mini-Olympics festival
- In class animal party
- Hoopstars
- Visiting author – Anthony Wooton
- RE-writing verses for Rocking Around the Christmas Tree in music
- Safety Carousel visit

- Leavers service at Durham Cathedral
- Centre for Life - visits to the general exhibitions & workshops
- DT - made bean bags, felt- making
- Smart science - e.g. hedgehog investigation, Giant science - scaled -up the colour burst investigation using a huge tray
- Drama activities to explore moving on to secondary school, Anglo-Saxons and Ancient Greece
- Outside sketching for science classification topic
- PE coach - gymnastics, games, etc.,
- Smooth Radio workshop on our neighbourhoods
- Barclays bank code playground
- Art sketching - building up a portfolio of ideas before creating a printing block
- Music - creating and performing rounds
- Robinwood outdoor education residential
- Design and make a maths game for a younger pupil.
- Use of Harry Potter to engage and broaden Year 6 English curriculum
- Imaginary class member – Trev!
- Use of puppets
- Visiting French teacher from local comprehensive
- Go Outdoors (outdoor education providers) to work on bush craft, team building, self-confidence using a wide variety of activities
- Simply Sport clubs and festivals (both inter school and with other schools)
- Big Maths tests with 'fun' dances / movements to motivate
- Use of Accelerated Reading programme to promote independent reading
- Sumdog maths activities (on-line)
- Gardening club
- Lunchtime jobs to develop responsibilities
- Superhero work – linking English and art
- Swimming
- Peer tutoring in maths (year 6 children working with foundation and KS1 pupils)
- £5 Challenge
- Designed and made art mosaic linked to internet safety
- Maths work linked to mobile phone contracts and value for money
- Lifesaving skills

- Enrichment / transition visits to feeder comprehensives – The Hermitage Academy and Park View.
- Cultural and Educational global opportunities visits to Australia.