



## COMMUNITY, SUPPORT & CARE

# NEWSLETTER

## WELCOME

Dear Parents, Carers and the Community,

The Trust has great pleasure in sharing with you some of the learning, events and opportunities held across the academies this term.

The commitment we have to working with a range of local organisations, in order to support you, the children and our communities remains as strong as ever. Thank you to those who help create and organise the events and to all of you for attending and sharing. An area the children seemed particularly enjoy celebrating this half term, was the coronation. Seeing how they, the academies and so many local communities came together was wonderful. I hope you enjoy the newsletter and we look forward to sharing the summer activities soon.

All best wishes,



**Miss K Morley**  
CEO  
Tees Valley Education

### PROUD TO BE PART OF TEES VALLEY EDUCATION







## BRAMBLES PRIMARY ACADEMY

### Coronation

On Friday 5th May, our children took part in our coronation celebrations, to commemorate the pending coronation of King Charles III. Each year group created something to remember the day by: Year 3 created some felt brooches, Year 5 designed and made new thrones and Year 6 designed the stage coach of the future. This was followed by afternoon tea put on by our fantastic kitchen staff, if only the weather had been better, we could have had a picnic lunch in the quad.



### SEND/Inclusion Coffee Morning

Brambles opened their doors to parents and carers for an open coffee morning. Cakes, biscuits, teas and coffees were provided, as well as information from a number of our agency partners. There were representatives from Early Help, Middlesbrough MACH, Middlesbrough SEND Team and two representatives from the Middlesbrough Neurodevelopmental Team. They provided key information to parents about their roles and how they can be used to support them at home and with their children. It was a great opportunity for parents to ask any questions that they had in an open, welcoming and safe environment. Rebecca, our Inside Out councillor joined the meeting to.



## BRAMBLES PRIMARY ACADEMY



### Dogs Trust

The Dog's Trust visited the academy to provide some guidance on looking after and handling dogs. This started with an assembly and was then followed by workshops with each year group. The children learnt about the work that the Dog's Trust do, how they care for and support dogs and their owners as well as some simple tips for dealing with dogs both outside and in their own homes to help them feel safe and secure. The children had a lovely time and were only disappointed that there wasn't a real dog in attendance.

### Fit for Life Day

Our Key Stage 1 children took part in a Fit for Life day with Go Well. The children learned about how different exercises can increase your heart rate and took part in some exercises such as squats, chest press and heel flicks. After the children thought about how their heart rate had changed once the exercise was finished. It was a brilliant day which we are going to build on through the use of our subscription with GoWell's Fit for Life which provides a range of workouts, brain breaks and classroom exercises to promote mental and physical health and wellbeing.







## DISCOVERY SPECIAL ACADEMY

### The Coronation of King Charles III

To recognise the coronation of King Charles III, Discovery pupils and staff came together on the afternoon of Friday 5th May for a celebration party. Some pupils wore colours of the Union Jack flag of red, white or blue and they all enjoyed learning about the royal family and playing royal party games. Pupils have been learning the words and Makaton signs for the National Anthem and it was a wonderful sight to see everyone taking part in this special national celebration.



### My Boro My Shirt Design Competition

Pupils at Discovery enjoyed creating designs of the local area and transferring their ideas onto t-shirts. This involved a lot of research by pupils about Middlesbrough landmarks and then thinking about what they like about where they live. The opportunity allowed pupils to use their retrieval skills to recall educational visits to places like the Dorman Museum and Middlesbrough Central Library and use this knowledge in their creations. Some classes used the colours of Middlesbrough Football Club to create fantastic designs with feathers, ribbons and fabric.



### Inclusion Quality Mark

Our academy has gained further recognition from the Inclusion Quality Mark assessment process and maintained its status as a centre of excellence as we continue to support our children and families, and each other. The assessment recognised how we value positive relationships and well-being for all. Pupils gave their views on the academy, their love of learning and the opportunities they are given. One pupil explained, "This is a cool school. Everything is exciting." Throughout the review, pupils demonstrated that they feel safe in school and value their opportunities to develop and learn. Pupils talked about how they enjoy learning and that



## DISCOVERY SPECIAL ACADEMY



### Larchfield Community Café

We are very proud to be working with the Larchfield Community in Middlesbrough to support all our students in their preparation for adulthood. Students have been visiting the restaurant and learning life skills when ordering food and supporting staff with clearing tables etc. A Larchfield member has visited the academy to meet more of our students and to plan regular visits to both sites in the future. Community links such as this inspire our students and encourage them to appreciate their place in the local community and beyond, with one student acknowledging, "I will work when I am older."



### Youth Focus North East

Students from Discovery Special Academy Year 7 have been working hard on a project to support their school community. They have partnered with Youth Focus North East who have kindly offered us some funding to make our ideas a reality.

Students had to pitch their ideas for how they would like to improve something about their community – they chose to rejuvenate the sensory shed and to make the woodland area more attractive for wildlife – and they had to go through a Dragon's Den style scenario to secure the funding.

The students have worked together, as a team, and have really taken control of the projects. They are learning many skills, not least independence, resilience and making a positive contribution – all great areas in their preparation for adulthood.







## DORMANSTOWN PRIMARY ACADEMY

## Parental Engagement

We have opened up the doors to our community this term for some incredible enrichment activities. Our staff have planned a range of tasks which can be completed together and it has been wonderful to see both the collaboration and sense of fun between families as they complete the challenges as a group.



## A Right Royal Party

As part of the coronation celebrations taking place nationally this term, school invited in parents and carers to make the day special. Children completed craft activities including designing crowns and flags, before parading the yard together in front of a crowd of hundreds, before finally signing a hearty verse of God Save The King together on the yard. Mellors, our amazing kitchen staff put together a feast of royal proportions, and the whole day was a lovely chance to celebrate the momentous event together.



## Sculpture Competition

Our local councillor Mrs Cawley joined us in school to introduce an exciting competition this term, based on designing a sculpture which represents Dormanstown. We were inundated with designs, which were sent off and judged – before the winner, Imogen was selected. We are now waiting to see her creation turned into a steel sculpture and displayed for everyone to see!



## Flower Beds

Our friends at Westfield Farm have done an amazing job this spring in weeding and repairing our flower beds. We are incredibly excited to see what the children have planted with them, and for the first shoots of colour to arrive as the summer weather beckons!



## Play With Passion Not Fire

Redcar Fire Brigade sent two of their staff, Rita and Grace to school to speak about their new initiative to get children playing football, whilst being aware of fire safety. We learnt about the hard work the service do when dealing with grass fires, and also how to report any incidents in our local area. We were also left footballs (and more were given out on the fire engine) to help spread the message!



## Easter!

Easter is a fantastic chance to bring the whole community together, and this year was no exception! We had a fabulous bonnet competition, with children creating their headwear at home, before parading the grounds to show off their creations. Thanks to our friends at Niche Education, we also ran an Easter egg design event, which was won by Oakley!







## PENNYMAN PRIMARY ACADEMY

### Ahlberg Class – Care Home Visit

As part of our RE topic, Ahlberg class learned about Ramadan and how Muslims give to others during this time. We decided to make pictures to share with the residence of our local care home to support our community. The children gave their pictures to the residence and spent time with them eating biscuits and drinking juice. It was a lovely afternoon sharing generations and caring together. The children have asked when we can go back again.



### Athlete visit

Children across the academy were very excited to welcome Lucy Turner into school. Lucy represented Team GB in 2017 and has her sights set on competing at the Commonwealth Games, European and World Championships and Olympic Games. Lucy spoke to the children about the highs and lows of her career and how she has overcome obstacles to get to the level she is at. Everyone participated (even teachers!) in a mini HIIT circuit with Lucy completing a variety of exercises. All children enjoyed the event and as a school we raised a massive £1599.63. We would like to thank all families for their support with this event and their generosity shown.



### Eid celebrations

Jeffers class enjoyed learning all about Eid. It was wonderful to learn about the beliefs of some of our friends. The children decorated cards to give to the family at home. We were very lucky to have families prepare some traditional food shared at Eid for us to try – they even made extra for the staff. It was delicious!



### Everyone at Pennyman loves to read!

At Pennyman we are very proud to promote reading in all areas of the academy. We provide books in our reception area for waiting parents and children. Apparently, even when workmen come to visit they can't resist a good book!



### My Boro, My shirt

In Spring term, we took part in a local competition. The whole academy were able to design a T-Shirt and children from years 3, 4 and 5 worked with their parents to design an actual T-Shirt for the 'My Boro, My Shirt' competition; inspired by everything that makes them proud to be from Teesside. The project aims to increase access to, and participation in, local arts and cultural activities and all entries will be used to form an upcoming exhibition. We had a fantastic day filled with lots of creativity and hard work! We had some very artistic children and competitive parents and carers.



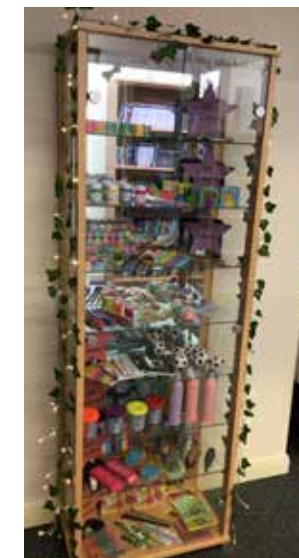
### Invitation to Test New Toys

We are always looking for ways to involve our children in the wider world and to have a say in things beyond them. Year 4 have been invited by Come Round UK and Canal Toys Global to test out some new toys.....this time it's #airbrushplus. The children have the opportunity to test out, play and review the toys for the companies.



### Attendance and Punctuality Reward Shop

The children have been really motivated to get to school every day and on time to spend their well-earned attendance and punctuality tokens at the end of a half term on a range of treats in a brand-new Reward Shop. The children receive tokens daily and bonus tokens for a full week based on their own personal attendance and punctuality. There is a fantastic excitement amongst the children as they discuss whether to spend or save. Even the parents are joining in too.



**'Love this idea!'**  
(Y1 parent)

**'I wish I was still a child so I could get those fantastic prizes!'**  
(Y3 parent)







## WILTON PRIMARY ACADEMY

### Roary Visits us

To support our PE offer this year we have been using the MFC Foundation. Sophie has done some excellent work for us in lessons and after-school clubs, and to finish the term we had a special visitor. Roary the Lion, the Middlesbrough mascot, came to visit the academy! He visited each class and gave every child a packet on pencils to keep. It was a fantastic afternoon and the children were so excited to actually meet Roary! We have also received lots of tickets for Middlesbrough games that we have been able to share with our families so we are very appreciative of their support and the opportunities we are able to offer our families.



### Silver Award

After achieving our Bronze healthy school award in Autumn, we are proud to share that we have now been awarded the Silver award. This takes into consideration active lifestyles, mental health support for both staff and pupils, and also looking at our PSHE curriculum offer. We are hoping to complete the final modules to achieve our gold award in the summer.



### Maths Motion Competition

As part of a trust maths event, a team of 4 boys took part in a Maths in Motion competition at Brambles Primary Academy. They spent the day programming a formula one car, making tweaks after practice rounds until they were ready for the final race. After a nail-biting 30 minutes race, which saw Ruben and Joseph crash out, we are proud to share that Rafe finished an overall 4th place and Riccardo made steady progress throughout the race to eventually finish in 1st place. Well done boys. Your determination to make changes to your car was worth it!



## WILTON PRIMARY ACADEMY



### Food Donation by Lazenby Village Hall

Lazenby Village Hall do a lot to support the village and we were very pleased to be able to share a huge food donation from them to our families. We know our families are grateful for the support.



### Coronation Party

To celebrate the coronation of King Charles III, we held a party in the academy for our children and their families. The children sang some songs, including a special coronation song, and then shared some food together. The academy was filled with noise and laughter and we love to be able to invite our families in to share these special moments with us. To commemorate the occasion, Lazenby Village Hall provided a teddy for all children in EYFS and KS1 and children in KS2 received a mug as a keepsake of the day.





## TEES VALLEY EDUCATION

### Staying safe when playing out alone

With the arrival of the lighter nights, and hopefully better weather and the forthcoming half term holidays, more children will be playing out without an adult. To help you have conversations together about staying safe, here are some questions you might want to share:

**If you decide that your child is ready to take on this responsibility, there is some questions you should ask before they go out:**

- Where do they want to go?
- What do they want to do?
- Who will they be with?
- How far away from home will they go?
- How long do they want to stay out for?

**There are also some things you should ensure your child knows before they go out:**

- Their full name
- Their address
- Two trusted adults phone numbers
- How to cross roads safely

**Talk to your children about the risks of being alone, not to scare them but to prepare them and help keep them safe. Have conversations like:**

- A stranger tries to talk to them, or take them somewhere?
- Someone they know tries to take them somewhere, without asking you?
- Someone bullies them?
- Someone asks them to do something they are uncomfortable with?
- They or one of their friends get hurt?

**Before they go out, set some rules, and if they don't follow the rules reevaluate whether or not they can be trusted to go out alone yet? Some rules to consider are:**

- How far can they go from home?
- How long can they stay out?
- Who can they go out with or meet?
- When is their agreed home time?
- What activities are ok for them to do?



## TEES VALLEY EDUCATION

### Supporting Year 6 with their transition to secondary school

Starting secondary school can be scary for some children. New experiences, new people and the unknown is daunting for even adults. Start talking to your year 6 child now so by September they feel confident and ready for this new phase of their life. BBC Bitesize has pulled together some resources to help them through the transition, with topics like making new friends, a day in the life of a Year 7, myths about secondary school, emotional support advice from Dr Radha and even advice from celebrities.

**Some small ways to make the first few days as stress free as possible:**

- Practice the route to their new school together. For many children it might be their first time walking to school alone or getting a bus. Practicing a few times with an adult can boost their confidence and lower stress and unfamiliarity on the big day.
- Go shopping together for new school supplies. Picking out stationary, bags and anything else they may need can get them excited to start their new school!
- Pack their bag together for the first day so they know that they have everything they need. Forgetting something is usually a minor inconvenience but in a new situation could cause anxiety and upset.
- If their uniform has a tie – teach them how to tie it! Small things like this can help a child feel independent and mature which will give them the confidence to be around older children.

**Visit BBC Bitesize for more support:**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zh4wy9q/starting-secondary-school/1>



TEES VALLEY EDUCATION

Recipes

Fajitas



Follow these 8 easy steps for some delicious chicken fajitas!

Ingredients

- 4 chicken breasts, cut into chunks
- olive oil, for frying
- For the marinade
- 4 limes, juice only
- 2 tsp fajita seasoning
- 4 spring onions, finely sliced
- 1 fat garlic clove, crushed
- For the salsa
- 1 red pepper
- ½ jar roasted pepper (we used Gaea Red Peppers Flame Roasted 290g)
- 1 small apple, peeled
- 4 ripe tomatoes
- ½ lime, juice only
- small bunch coriander, leaves picked
- chilli sauce, to taste (optional)
- For the guacamole
- 2 very ripe avocados, halved and stone removed
- ½ lime, juice only
- grated cheese, to serve
- To serve
- 6 - 8 tortillas (you can now get mini tortillas for kids)
- soured cream (optional)

Method

STEP 1

**Grown-ups:** Put the chicken and marinade ingredients in a bowl and cover. Put in the fridge for at least two hours.

STEP 2

**Children:** If your children are 5 or over, you can get them to roughly chop the pepper, roasted pepper, apple and tomatoes for the salsa using a good quality firm plastic knife or cutlery knife. Otherwise do this yourself. Younger children can pick the leaves from the coriander and mix them into the salsa.

STEP 3

**Grown-ups:** Tip the salsa ingredients into a food processor, along with the lime juice and a little seasoning and pulse until finely chopped. Take out 2 large spoons of the mixture for younger children, then add chilli sauce, if using, and pulse again to combine.

STEP 4

**Children:** Squeeze or spoon the avocado into a bowl and use a potato masher to mash it. Stir in the lime juice and some black pepper with a spoon. Lime juice can sting so grown-ups may want to squeeze them for younger children.

STEP 5

**Grown-ups:** Heat a little olive oil in a frying pan and pour the contents of the chicken bowl into the pan. Cook for 5- 8 minutes or until the chicken chunks are cooked through.

STEP 6

**Children:** Put the grated cheese, salsa (for grown-ups and children), guacamole and sour cream in separate colourful bowls to put on the table.

STEP 7

**Grown-ups:** Heat the tortillas according to the pack instructions and put the cooked chicken in a bowl. Show children how to fill and roll their tortilla.

STEP 8

**Children:** Lay out your tortilla, choose your toppings, roll them up and eat!

TEES VALLEY EDUCATION

Wordsearch

Can you find these words in the Tees Valley Education word search? Words can go forwards, backwards, diagonally and even cross through each other!

S E T N E M T I M M O C  
C A R E A G O A A N B A  
S Y H C M G A A R C R G  
F R O C O S O C R L A R  
P E N N Y M A N O E M A  
U V S H W I L T O N B N  
N O D I A M O N D R L L  
N C N T V N A X N T E M  
Y S C O U R A G E H S A  
P I I E O S N S E E R H  
A D O R M A N S T O W N  
S C U R I O S I T Y N T

Brambles  
Care  
Commitment  
Courage

Curiosity  
Diamond  
Discovery  
Dormanstown

Pennyman  
Wilton

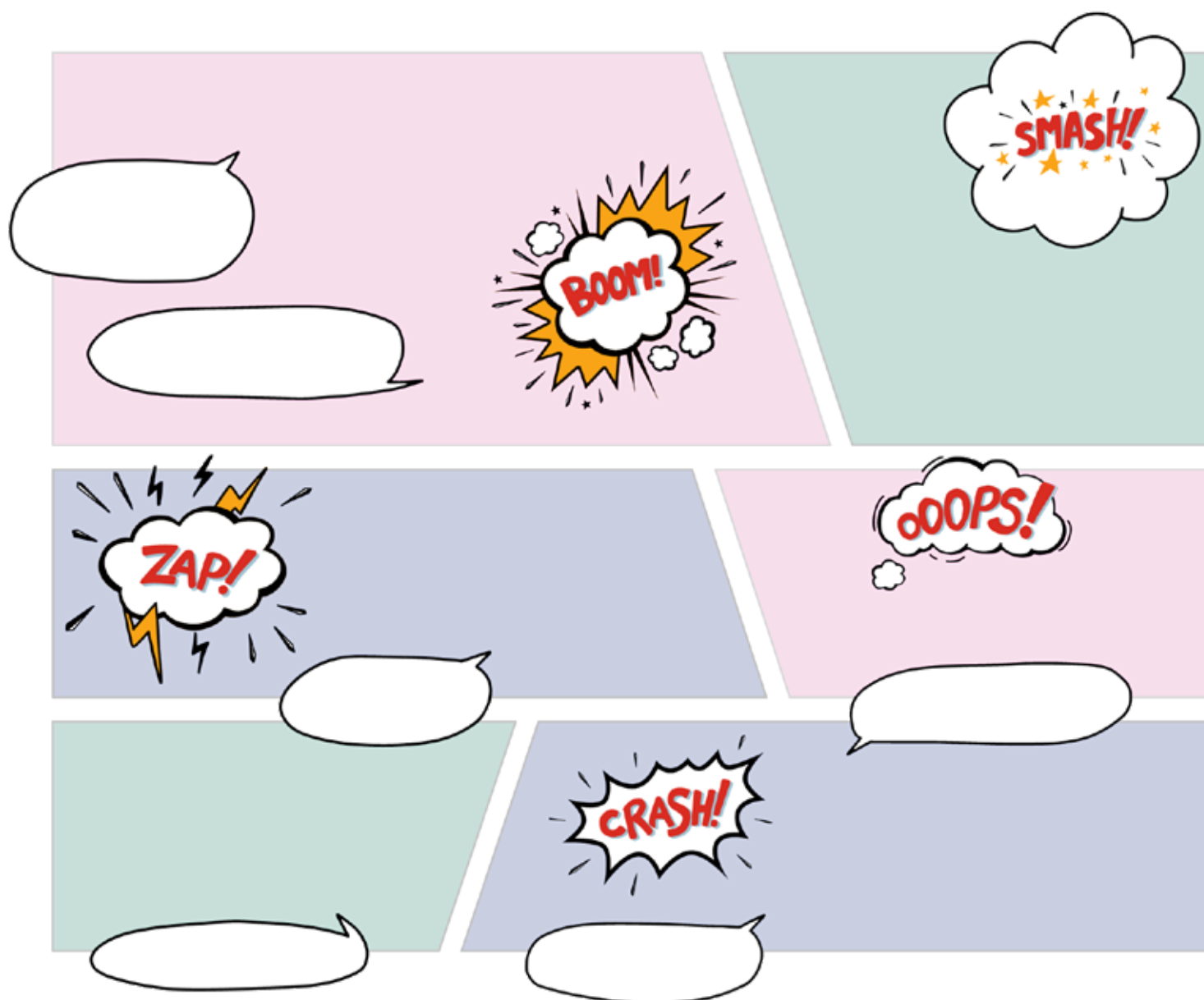


# Comic strip

Write your own comic strip in these boxes.

Fill in the speech and thinking bubbles and use your drawings to tell a story!

Bring your creations in to show your teachers – they will be especially impressed if you link your comic strip to one of your class topics!



TEES VALLEY EDUCATION