

APRIL 2017



# Robert Ferguson Primary School



The quality of written work this term has been similarly impressive. Best-selling author, Philippa Gregory visited and encouraged the children to "read, read, read" if they want to become really good writers. See our video on the school website.

## Celebrating a Colourful and Creative Spring Term

Our eventful spring term has had many highlights, but none of them more colourful than our new, and incredibly popular traversing wall - except perhaps the dressing-up on World Book Day.

We have been very impressed with the quality of homework the children have been producing, including models, fact-files, posters, and even homework of the edible kind!

Meanwhile, what better way to mark the changing seasons than to get busy harvesting spring vegetables, and planting potatoes, carrots and onions?



# TV Appearance for Year 5



On 27th February, Year 5 made an appearance on BBC Inside Out. The programme told the story of the UK's first black policeman, John Kent. Best selling author, Philippa Gregory presented the programme which also featured comedian, Lenny Henry. This was in connection with lessons about diversity and racism,

part of a joint project with AWAZ Cumbria.

## Café Connect

The project included a competition to create a poster, story or poem on the subject of "Uniting Communities", with prizes including tablet computers and gift vouchers. Mr Khan from AWAZ joined us to present the prizes.

The main event was our Café Connect which was an informal social event with lots of delicious food which brought people together from across our diverse community, including Denton Holme councillor, Ruth Alcroft.



Café Connect was a relaxed social gathering with food!

## Fairtrade Fortnight

During Fairtrade Fortnight the children showed their support for the farmers and workers who grow our food in developing countries. They learned what Fairtrade means and took part in workshops, creative lessons, visits to the Co-op, a Fairtrade football tournament and a 'Great Fair

Bake off.' All of the children's work was proudly displayed in our Fairtrade gallery; the standard of work was very impressive. We will be working with a network of schools in Carlisle on further Fairtrade projects later this year.





# YEAR 6 YORK RESIDENTIAL



Outside Clifford's  
Tower, York.

Our Year 6 children enjoyed a fun-filled 3 days in York this year. The sun shone brightly as we walked around the historic walls and visited the Minster, Yorkshire Museum, York Art Gallery and National Railway Museum.

Our fun-packed evenings involved an engaging ghost walk and a cruise down the river Ouse. The children thoroughly enjoyed our accommodation, The Fort, right in the heart of the city. Holly said "My favourite thing was the ghost walk as I'd never done anything like that before!" Louis agreed, saying "It was really funny."

"My favourite part was the tour of York Minster - it was like a palace inside," said Elizabeth. "It was like a parent-free holiday; it was great fun!"



The spring term began with the teachers trailing the term ahead with a fun video. Nursery have shared "Stories That We Love", Reception learned about "Traditional Tales", Year 1 went "All Around the World", Year 2 learned about "The Sun, Moon and Stars" and Year 3's topic was "Weather". For Year 4 the topic was "India", for Year 5, "Ancient Egypt" and Year 6 learned about "Ancient China".



Well done to the Year 3 and 4 dancers who represented us at Big Dance 2017 at the Sands Centre in March. This was the first time Robert Ferguson had entered the competition and we were very excited to be winners in 4 categories: most original concept, costume, soundtrack and entertainment.

In 2015, we raised an amazing £1260 for Comic Relief, they were so impressed with this total they awarded us with the title of a 'Super School' for fundraising.



This year the School Council organised a mannequin challenge and flash mob dance choreographed by Mrs Craig. The event was a great success and everyone involved had an amazing time. School Council thank you for all of your sponsors and support with our fundraising. Our grand total for this year is a staggering £1580!



There were assemblies on the theme of "democracy" this term, with children voting on fish and chips vs pizza. Pizza won, leaving the pizza voters triumphant and the fish and chip supporters disappointed! Mr Frost's visit to the Houses of Parliament to represent Cumbrian schools was topical. Mr Frost met with Schools Minister Nick Gibb and Cumbrian politicians including Tim Farron (pictured), but unfortunately neither pizza nor fish and chips were on the agenda.



Our new minibus was purchased for £11,500, with £5,500 from Friends of Robert Ferguson fundraising, plus donations: £3000 (Story Homes), £300 (Co-op), £100 donation (anonymous) and £2,600 from School Funds. We bade our old minibus a fond farewell after a great many years and miles of service to the school!

### Attendance - Spring Term 2017

Well done to the 46 children who still have 100% attendance since the beginning of September. Our total attendance for the Spring Term is 95.4%. There really is a link between pupil progress and good, regular attendance, so lets see if we can improve attendance and punctuality in the summer term, please.

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
% Attendance	89.1%	95.9%	95.6%	95.5%	96.4%	95.5%	94.0%	96.6%
No. of lates this term	35	138	75	39	49	58	21	55