



NEWSLETTER

JUL 2023



A message from our headteacher...

What a fantastic year we have had at Diamond Hall Junior Academy. Our staff and pupils have worked incredibly hard this year to ensure our school is a fun, engaging and productive place to be. I am so proud of their efforts and the developments we are making as a school.

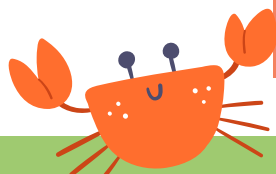
Our pupils have taken part in many exciting trips this term: Year 3 pupils visited Broom House Farm and Vindolanda, Year 4 have been to a skipping festival and enjoyed a trip along the river to the beach, Year 5 visited Roker Beach, Harehope Quarry and the Stadium of Light and some Year 5 and 6 pupils enjoyed a fun-filled residential to Derwent Hill.

As part of our new attendance initiative 180 pupils also chose to use their Diamond Dollars to attend Barnes Park as an end of term trip.

Recently, some of our pupils had the opportunity to attend The Sage and performed as part of the NELT Summer Concert. I am sure those of you who attended will agree the children were absolutely fantastic and we are very proud of them. They are already excited at the opportunity to take part again next year!

As the year comes to an end, our Year 6 pupils will be leaving us to move onto secondary school and we wish them all the very best. We hope they remember all they have learned at DHJA and can take this with them into the next stages of their lives, along with some fond memories.

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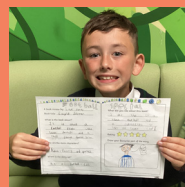
A night at the musicals

Our children wowed the audience at the Sage Gateshead during the NELT summer concert!



A trip to remember

This term our children made memories at Derwent Hill on an unforgettable trip!



The reviews are in

Not sure what to read next? Check out what our pupils have to say about their latest reads!



Great gardening!

Our green fingered children have been back in the garden growing vegetables.

Pupils wow the audience at the Sage!

WOW, what a night! The term came to an amazing end when our pupils came together with children from across the North East Learning Trust for the fantastic NELT annual summer concert at the Sage Gateshead where they blew the audience away!

The atmosphere was electric as our students performed hit songs, Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious and Step in Time, from much-loved musical Mary Poppins. Our superstars' talent and enthusiasm shone throughout the evening, resulting in a roaring applause and standing ovation as they took to the stage together for their finals bows.

A huge congratulations to everyone who performed and a massive thank you to all those who organised and supported the incredible evening.



Head's message continued...

Sadly, as the summer term ends we will also be saying goodbye to two members of staff: Mr Guthrie who has been at here for 8 years and has taken up a position in another school and Mrs Knowles who has been here for 3 years and will be enjoying retirement. They will be greatly missed by staff, pupils and their families and we hope they enjoy their next steps! To our families, we wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer break and look forward to seeing the children back in September.

F Hoare

Fioana Hoare
Headteacher

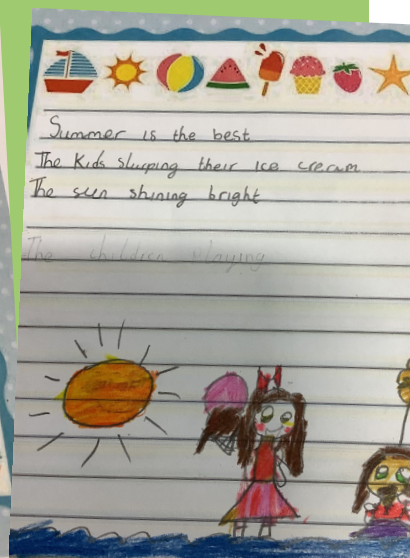
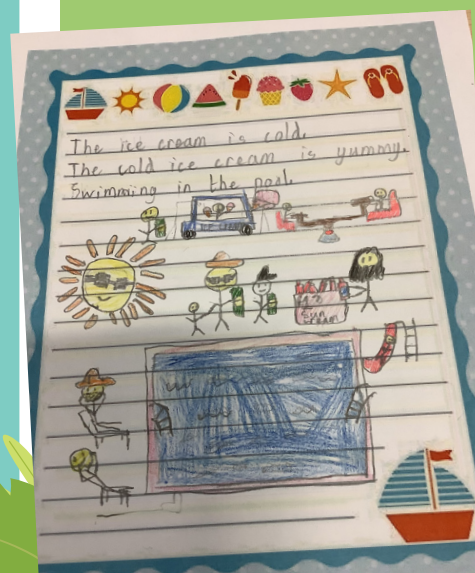
Great gardening!

Our green-fingered gardeners have been having an excellent time this term at Gardening Club. With support from Josh from Oases, everyone learned about growing and looking after different fruits and vegetables such as potatoes, cabbage, beetroot, peas, broccoli, strawberries and various herbs. They have then been sampling our freshly grown products and learning about different tastes as well as learning how to cook healthy dishes using the ingredients.



Year 3's poetry

Year 3 learnt about Haiku poems this term and discovered that the first and third lined have five syllables whereas the second line has seven syllables. Pupils clapped along to make sure their summer themed poems had the correct amount. Check them out below!



Summer careers

Let's take a look at some careers that really come into focus during the summer months.

Pilot: A newly qualified captain can earn between £54 and £75,000. For experienced captains, this can rise up to £140,000. Before you can fly a plane, you must gain an Airline Transport Pilot Licence by completing a modular or integrated course.

Coastguard: The busiest time of year for Coastguards is during summer. A Coastguard sends out weather and tidal reports, responds to emergency distress calls, offers navigational advice along certain stretches of sea, monitors radio and satellite communications and gives information about coastal and sea

safety.

Rollercoaster designer: Did you know that having a degree in electrical, structural or mechanical engineering could lead you to a career in designing rollercoasters? The salary for this unique careers is around

Diamonds at Derwent!

This term saw a group of our Year 5 and 6 pupils make the most of the lovely weather during an exciting trip to Derwent Hill Outdoor Centre in the Lake District where they enjoyed range of thrilling activities! Check out some of the super snaps!



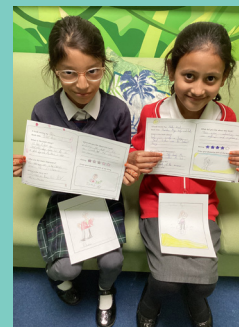
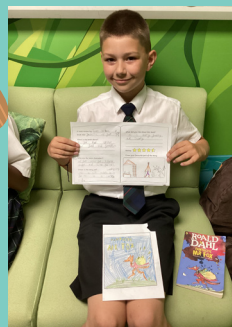
Summer 'to do's

We've put together a list of fun activities that you can do with a friend or grown up during the holidays. How many can you complete?

- Bake a sweet treat
- Collect shells on the beach
- Do something kind for someone else
- Ready a book
- Host a movie night
- Feed ducks (peas are the healthiest food for ducks - not bread!)
- Make a den
- Paint rocks
- Take a walk or ride a bike through nature
- Set up a treasure hunt

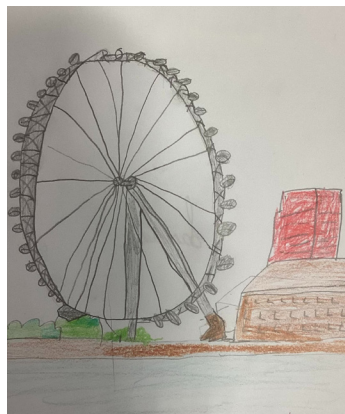
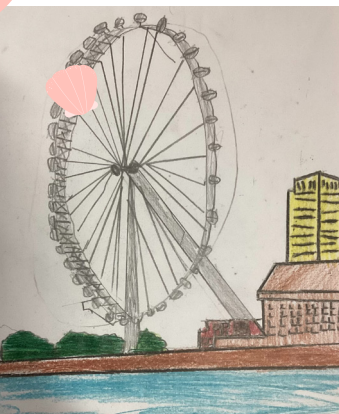
Year 4's book reviews

We love to read here at Diamond Hall, especially Year 4! Miss Robinson's class selected a story they had recently read and described the plot, drew a picture of their favourite part of the story and gave it a rating out of five stars. Here's what Leon had to say about the book Doughnut Dilemma: "I like that the book is about football and an adventure to the league cup! Five out of five stars." Georgia, who reviewed the story Molly and the Witch's Kitten, said: "This book is about a girl called Molly who finds a grey kitten surprisingly. She can speak to it and needs to help it. I like that the kitten (Sparkles) is owned by a friendly witch."



Year 5's big build

Year 5 enjoyed reading *The London Eye Mystery* by Siobhan Dowd so much that they did some artwork inspired by the famous landmark. Some pupils sketched and some took a 3D sculpture approach by using items from around the classroom! Check out the outcomes below.



DATES

FOR YOUR DIARY

21 JUL – Break up for Summer

05 SEP – Back to school

20 OCT – Break up for half term

30 OCT – Back to school

Year 6 spread their wings

As Year 6 prepare to spread their wings, they explored what happens during the transition from primary to secondary school this term.

Our children shared their worries, concerns and fears about the change and as a class, talked about how to overcome some of these concerns by creating a list of strategies that could help. Pupils then created poems about new beginnings in pairs before they impressed everyone with their confident and enthusiastic readings.

A trip to the marina

Year 5 ventured out to Sunderland Marina this term to explore the positive impact of oysters on the environment.

Oysters are almost extinct in the UK wild and therefore projects like the 'Oyster Project' are hugely important to our coastline as they breed and protect oysters in our local waters. The group learnt a lot about oysters, for example did you know that one oyster filters around 200 litres of water every day? Such a fun and interesting day out!



Goodbye Year 6

As our Year 6 pupils prepare to spread their wings and start their journey at secondary school, we asked the group what their favourite memories from school are. Here's what they had to say...

"Playing football for the school team this year is a memory I will never forget. It has been great playing alongside my friends". (JACK C)

"I enjoyed playing basketball. I have liked learning how to play different sports." (Harley)

"I have enjoyed learning how to play different sports. Rounders has been my favourite! I enjoyed making a home run quicker than the teachers!" (Amaziah)

"My favourite moment was representing the school football team. I felt so proud pulling on the football strip." (SAM P)

"I have enjoyed all the sports at Diamond Hall! I enjoyed playing cricket and scoring more runs than Mr Nord." (Collins)

"I am going to miss my favourite sport – netball where I have loved scoring hoops, passing to others and supporting teammates." (CHINEDUM)

"The thing I will remember most from Diamond Hall is making my debut for the school football team. We won 4-2!" (Jack H)

"My favourite sport has to be football. I have definitely improved my skills ... and my goal celebration!" (Maxwell)

"Swimming in year 3 and year 4 was amazing as that is where I learned to swim and I loved challenging myself during the lessons" (RYLEY B)

"My favourite memory was swimming in year three. It was super fun and I loved having a splashing time with my friends!" (James K)

"I can remember when we were in Y3 and one particular swimming lesson. My friend and I had a race which I managed to win – but only

just!" (JANE)

"I have loved representing my school during netball tournaments. I felt really proud and enjoyed competing against other schools." (Lucy S)

"The best part of Diamond Hall was when the adventure playground was built. It's incredible!" (Josh D)

"From joining the school in 2022, I have made many friendships. I did find it scary starting a new school but my new friends made me feel happy and settled." (Silvanus)

"I started Diamond Hall this year and it was nerve wracking being new. However, I have been so grateful to my classmates Astin, Eleanor, Gracie, Hannah and Alaina who have all helped me so much. Thank you." (JENELIA)

"I will miss my friends when I leave Diamond Hall because they were always kind and helpful to me." (Matthew)

"Meeting Dominic and Riley has been the best part of Diamond Hall. They have become my best friends and I hope we continue to be as we go to secondary school." (Harvey)

"I have made so many memories during my time at Diamond Hall. I will treasure my memories that I created with my friends – Lyte, Matthew, Jamie, Noah - for life!" (Daniel Akin)

"Meeting Tyler and Josh has been a great memory of Diamond Hall. Friends make school special!" (Stefan)

"My favourite memory at Diamond Hall is being with my friends here and spending time in school with them." (Jenson)

"I have made really good friendships at Diamond Hall. I have definitely made memories that I will remember for a long time!" (Logan)

"I started Diamond Hall in Year 5. I was very nervous. My first friend was Collins. He made me feel really welcome. I quickly made other friends and they are definitely friends for life." (Lyte)

"I loved when Mrs Brown used to take us to the art room and we would do paintings and sketches." (Mia)

"My favourite memory has been making a lot of friends. I'd like to

say thank you to for making me a successful boy!" (Abdullah)

"I have made some excellent friendships at Diamond Hall. I know that everything is going to change but I know I can think back to my friendships that I made and that will help me in my new school" (Corey)

"I have really good friendship at Diamond Hall. My friends have always helped me and supported me. (Jamie)

"A funny memory for me is when Tilly and I went to the girls' toilet during break time. Tilly was about to open a cubicle door but as soon as she touched it, the door fell off." (PAIGE)

"Paige and myself started dying of laughter whilst Lily ran out to tell a teacher. The teacher came in whilst I was still holding the door and still laughing. She didn't know what to say or do!" (TILLY)

"When Akorede made the claim that he was faster than Mr Guthrie, and so Mr Guthrie challenged him to a race. What was really funny was the fact that Akorede chickened out and it turned out to be a race between Mr Guthrie and Mr Nord." (Lilly D)

"When Lillie and I sat next to each other in Y4 but we were moved as we were a little too chatty. Nothing changes!" (ALAINA)

"There was a funny moment when both my friend and myself were laughing so hard that we were crying. It resulted in Jane falling back on her chair. Cue more laughter! (ASTIN)

"This year, I accidentally tripped over the leg of Daniel's desk and hurt my leg but it was funny because it resulted in me sticking my thumb and pointy finger in my face. (BONNIE)

"Although teachers constantly remind me not to swing on my chair, it was quite funny when I fell off mine, causing Bonnie to fall into Daniel's chair." (ANTON)