



## PRACTICE MAKES BETTER

'Whoever said that *practice makes perfect* is a bozo' is a quote from a TV show I have been watching and I'll tell you why I love it. It goes on to say that saying *practice makes better* which is verbatim what we have talked about this year already – I nearly fell off my sofa with delight!

As we are not machines, the quest for perfection is rather flawed (in my opinion) and a touch dangerous so let's eliminate it from our lexicon. Excellence, yes, effort, yes, progress, yes, improvement, yes  
- perfection, no thanks!



Mr Miller

## Y5 TRIP TO ROBINWOOD

We went to Robinwood for 3 days and 2 nights recently - it was so much fun!

We were separated into groups with other children and each group had a teacher and a member of Robinwood staff to help and guide us. We did activities like canoeing, zip wire, trapeze, archery, climbing and dungeon. My favourite was the giant swing!! A lot of these activities looked scary to me at first but, because I was attached to a harness and I had a helmet on, I felt really safe.

The Piranha pool was shallow and freezing but there were no piranhas in it.

The weather was good, although a few places were muddy. The food was delicious too.

I enjoyed my Robinwood trip and I wish I could go back there again.

Shloka S (5B)



## RGS TEDDIES FOR SALE!

- ♦ Struggling with Christmas present ideas?
- ♦ Looking for a stocking filler?
- ♦ How about an irresistible RGS Teddy?



**ONLY £20.00!**

If interested, please contact the School Office.

All orders and payment need to be received by  
**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December** for delivery before the end of term.

**Please note that no Christmas orders can be received after this date.**

Please pay by either cash or cheque. Cheques to be made payable to **Old Novocastrians' Association**, please.

Thank you



## CLASS TOKENS COMPETITION



A **BIG** well done to 6N who won the *Class Tokens Competition* last week.

Here's a photo of the children enjoying their well-deserved breakfast:



Mrs Cree



## GO GREEN THIS CHRISTMAS!

Have you started to write your Christmas list? You can make it more eco-friendly to help save the planet and animals.

Think about asking for:

- second hand toys and books (sometimes it doesn't matter if something has been used or not);
- toys made in the UK or Europe (less travel = smaller carbon footprint);
- books printed in the UK (so they don't have to be shipped from somewhere outside of Europe);
- good quality toys which last for longer (you usually can't recycle plastic toys so they end up in landfill or, even worse, the Ocean);
- no plastic toys in your stocking, or even you can think about not using stockings at all (to avoid getting small toys which quickly ending up in the bin);
- instead of one of your presents you can ask for an adoption of the animal (you can virtually adopt for example a dolphin, a tiger, an otter and many other animals plus you can get cuddly toys, together with an adoption certificate - check WWF or The Wildlife Trust).

Have you got a toy you don't like? Don't bin it! Sell it, give it away or, best, donate to a charity.

Bernard S (5C)



## PROJECT SANTA



Dear RGS Family,

I am sure most of you have all started to think about Christmas and how it is fast approaching. I am sure we are all ready to try and have a normal post Covid Christmas this year with meeting our families, sharing amazing food and gifts with each other.

However, Christmas always makes me stop and take a moment to think of those that struggle to celebrate Christmas. Those who can't buy presents or food for their children and each year this pains me a little more.

A team of friends get together every year with local schools to collect for children and their families who are known to their schools and social workers to be living in poverty. The team, known as *Project Santa*, facilitate gifts and food hampers for these identified families and this year, we are trying to help 402 children with gifts bags and over 184 families with food hampers to help feed the families during the holidays. This includes treats during the festive season.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP

As you can imagine, this is no mean feat. We are reaching out to our networks to help us put smiles on those little children's faces. We are looking for gifts for children aged 6-16yrs for both boys and girls as well as monetary donations for food hampers.

If you can help by providing a gift (usually a toy or age-appropriate main gift, a sweet treat and something to keep them warm) the school have very kindly offered to take the presents in at the Junior School reception and I will collect these at the end of each school day. Please could I request that you do not wrap these gifts and simply place in a gift bag with the age of the child and if it's for a boy or girl on the tag. **The deadline for donations is Fri 3rd December.**

Monetary donations can be made via our just giving account (use the QR code below) or directly into the *Project Santa* account.

Thank you in advance as any help that you can give makes a huge difference and we really appreciate any gift, money or just spreading the word.

Seema  
Mum of Jay V (Y4)



## NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR MUSIC-RELATED EMAILS

From now on, if you have any music-related queries, please could you use the following email address, rather than emailing the office staff directly:

**JSMusic@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk**

Many thanks.

**Mrs Clappison**



£3,751



**BBC**  
**Children  
in Need**



Last Friday saw the children all coming to school in their pyjamas and dressing gowns! Were they just being lazy? No, it was all to raise money for Children in Need and what a fantastic total they raised! We had set a target of £500, but then joined together with the Senior School in our fundraising efforts and absolutely smashed it, raising an impressive £3,751 altogether – this money is making its way to the charity and will be used to help children all over the UK.

We also had donations of advent calendars, which are going to be given out in food parcels by St Vincent's in Byker. Sixth former, Sophie Balmer, came and spoke to Junior School in our assembly last week about her own experiences of using food banks and the children were motivated to help. We managed to collect 400 calendars, which went down to the food bank earlier this week, ready to be given out to families in the local area. Sophie was a great inspiration and we look forward to helping her in the future – thanks, Sophie, for allowing us to be involved!

Many thanks to everyone who gave generously – you all deserve a 'kind' sticker from Mr Miller!

**Mrs Baker**



## VACANCY FOR SENIOR SCHOOL SUPERVISORY ASSISTANT

Monday – Friday, 12.30pm - 2pm (7.5 hrs per week)

- Term time only
- £9.36 per hour
- Closing date 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021

If interested, please click on the following link for further information:

<https://www.rgs.newcastle.sch.uk/join-us/work-for-us>

**Thank you.**



## MATHS PUZZLE OF THE WEEK



### Last week's puzzle and solution:

#### Great Picnic Puzzle

The Puzzle:



When they started off on the great annual picnic every wagon in town was pressed into service, each one carrying the same number of people.

Half way to the picnic ground ten wagons broke down, so it was necessary for each of the remaining wagons to carry one more person.

When they started for home it was discovered that fifteen more wagons were out of commission, so on the return trip there were three persons more in each wagon than when they started out in the morning.

Now who can tell how many people attended the great annual picnic?

Our Solution:

There must have been 900 picnickers who would be seated 9 to a wagon if there were 100 vehicles, or 10 to a wagon after 10 of the wagons had broken.

When they started for home with 75 wagons, it was necessary for 12 persons to ride in each wagon (3 more than the 9 per wagon in the morning).

### This week's puzzle

#### Four People Travel Puzzle

The Puzzle:



Four people are traveling to different places on different types of transport.

Their names are: Rachel, John, Mr. Jones and Cindy.

They either went on train, car, plane or ship.

- Mr. Jones hates flying
- Cindy has to rent her vehicle
- John gets seasick

How did they each travel?

Please submit your answer, along with any of your own, real-life puzzles (and answers!), to me:

**t.loyd@rgs.newcastle.sch.uk**

**Thank you.**

**Mr Lloyd**



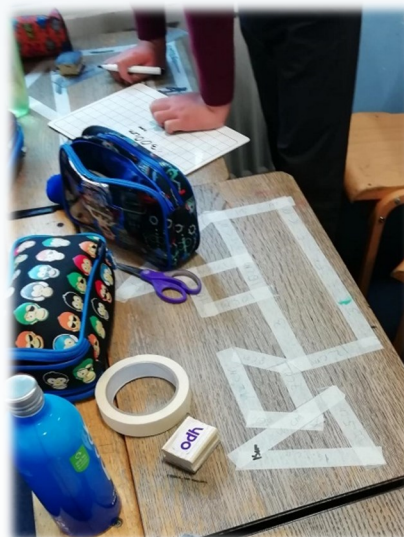
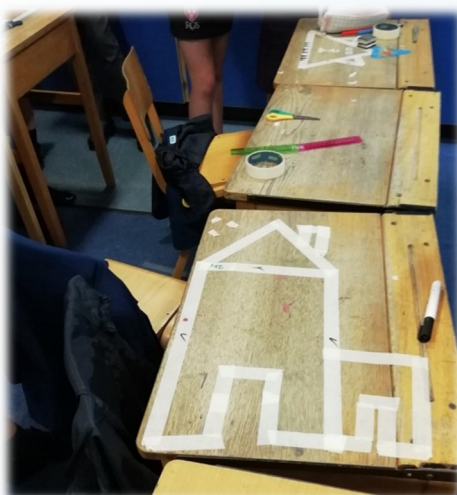
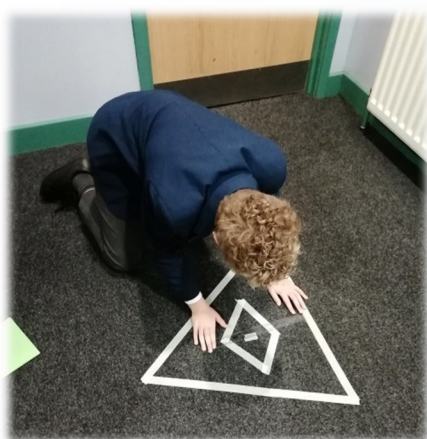
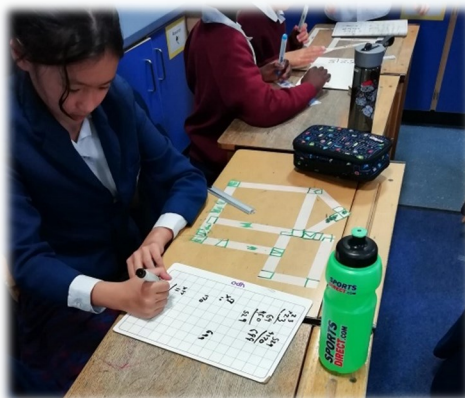
## YEAR 6 MATHS



Last week, Year 6 were investigating the area and perimeter of compound shapes. We decided to take it out on the corridor and just look at the creativity and mathematics on show!

Top work Year 6!

Mr Lloyd





## FRIDAY CAFÉ



I can hardly believe it happened – it was like a dream come true! A concert with real live musicians and a real live audience... and it was actually on a Friday!

Our Friday Cafés are renowned for their relaxed and friendly atmosphere, showcasing a variety of musical genres, as well as including performers from all age groups; this Friday Café was no exception! From Vivaldi to Van Halen, and everything in between, the children sang, strummed, played and bowed their way through a musical extravaganza.

A huge thank you to all performers for making it such a fabulous morning and another huge thank you to our super audience members for creating such a warm and positive environment for the children.

*Mrs Clappison*

