

NEWSLETTER – 9.10.2026

Blue 4

As part of our Harvest topic in our Blue 4, we enjoyed a hands-on sensory exploration of a variety of vegetables. We were encouraged to investigate the vegetables using our senses, exploring different smells, tastes and textures. We had opportunities to touch, squeeze, smell and, taste the vegetables, discovering similarities and differences between them and developing their curiosity about the world around us, as well as listening and dancing along to fun Harvest songs, like the Harvest Samba!

We then took our vegetable exploration a step further by using the vegetables to create prints with paint. We experimented with pressing, dabbing and moving the vegetables onto paper, exploring the different marks, shapes and patterns they could make. We discovered how different vegetables created different prints and enjoyed seeing the effects of their actions.



GOLDEN WELLY



James has scooped the Golden Welly award this week for always being so happy and creative when outside. He always manages to find different pieces of equipment to play with in different ways.





FISO SUPPORT

As a school, we are working with Durham County Council and the Financial Inclusion Support (FIS) Programme to provide support for families within our school community. As a result, we have been allocated a **Financial Inclusion Support Officer (FISO), Claire Bissett**, who can offer advice and support with **any financial concerns**. She can also offer **full welfare benefit checks and assist with applying for welfare benefits, disability benefits and grants**. Claire can also support with **referrals for debt, housing and employability** and give advice around the changes to **free school meals**.

Accessing this provision is **completely confidential**.

If you would like your details passing on, we can do this on your behalf- just contact your **child's class teacher or ring school and speak to Michaela Kerr**.

Alternatively, you can arrange an appointment by completing the online referral form by scanning the QR code.

Claire can also be available in school via a pre-bookable appointment if a face-to-face appointment is preferred.



HARVEST DONATIONS

We will be collecting donations for our local food bank as part of our Harvest celebrations.

If you can, please send any tinned/packet/long life food or toiletries/sanitary items to school by Friday 16th October.



REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

REMEMBRANCE EVENTS

Remembrance Sunday Service

Sunday 8th November 2026
10 am - Service in Town Hall

Admission will close when Town Hall reaches maximum capacity. A lift is available for anyone who needs access to 1st floor.

10.45 am - Line up & parade to War Memorial for remainder of service

To lay a wreath / bring a standard **ONLY** (no banners) please contact the Town Council by Friday 30th October 2026 on: 01388 815276 extension 2. Anyone who has not registered may lay their wreath at the end of the service.

Armistice Day Service

Wednesday 11th November 2026
10.50 am at War Memorial

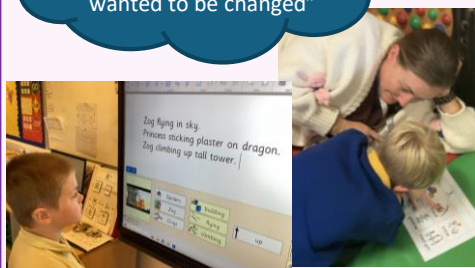
Town Hall, Spennymoor, Co. Durham DL16 6DG / War Memorial adjacent to Grand Electric Hall

To keep updated visit:
Website: www.spennymoor-tc.gov.uk
Facebook: Heart of Spennymoor
Instagram: heart_of_spennymoor

SPENNYMOOR TOWN COUNCIL

HeART of Spennymoor

"Today James used his communication book to tell us his clothes were wet and he wanted to be changed"



"Toby used his switch to share with staff that it was his birthday!"



This month is **AAC Awareness Month**, and at Evergreen we are celebrating all the amazing communication that takes place in school every day!

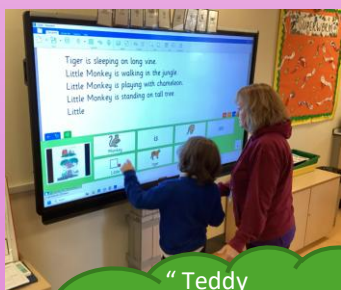
AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) is embedded throughout everything we do and helps our pupils to express themselves, make choices, build relationships and take an active part in their learning. We are proud to use a wide range of communication methods to support our learners, including **objects of reference, symbols, communication boards, iPad communication apps, switches, gestures, clicker and Makaton.**

Communication looks different for every child, and every way of communicating is valuable. Throughout October, we will be celebrating the many ways our pupils share their thoughts, feelings, wants and needs. We would love to celebrate communication beyond the classroom too.

Please share examples of your child's communication at home on the **Evidence for Learning** app. This might be using signs, symbols, a communication device, pointing, choosing, gestures, photographs, objects of reference or any other way they communicate with you.

We are also planning a **Halloween-themed AAC Day** at the end of term, with lots of fun communication-focused activities. Further details will be sent home soon.

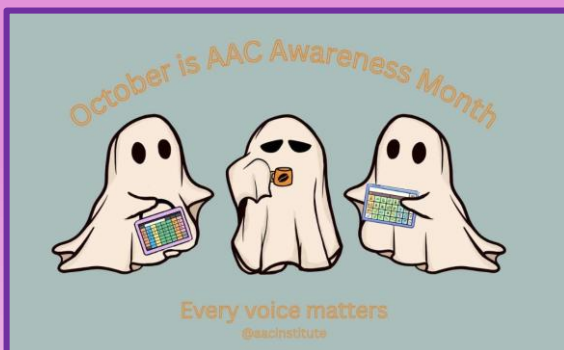
At Evergreen, communication is at the heart of everything we do, and AAC helps make every voice heard. We look forward to celebrating AAC Awareness Month with all of our pupils and families! 🍁❤️📢



"Teddy independently looked around the room to find a symbol and asked to go to the toilet"



"He looked at our whole class timetable, he then copied and drew the symbols creating his own timetable in his notebook"



DATES TO REMEMBER

School holidays for the 2026/2027 academic year

Holiday	Closing Date	Date Re-opens for Teaching Purposes
Autumn Half-Term 2026 (1 week)	Friday 23 rd October 2026	Monday 2 nd November 2026
Christmas 2026 (2 weeks)	Friday 18 th December 2026	Wednesday 6 th January 2027
Spring Half-Term 2027 (1 week)	Friday 12 th February 2027	Monday 22 nd February 2027
Easter 2027 (2 weeks 1 day)	Wednesday 24 th March 2027	Monday 12 th April 2027
May Bank Holiday 2027 (1 day)	Friday 30 th April 2027	Tuesday 4 th May 2027
Summer Half-Term 2027 (1 week)	Friday 28 th May 2027	Monday 7 th June 2027
Summer 2027	Wednesday 21 st July 2027	Friday 3 rd September (To Be Confirmed)

PD Days are as follows- children are **NOT** in school these days:

~~Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September 2026~~ | Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th January 2027 | Thursday 25th March 2027

Dates for your Diary 2026.

- **Harvest Festival Celebration:** *W/C Monday 12th October-* we will be collecting food bank donations in school 😊
- **The Oaks Y5/6 Open Evening:** Wednesday 14th October- 5-6pm.
- **Parent/Carer Evening:** *Tuesday 10th November from 3.15pm-* letters will be distributed in due course.
- **Year 6 Panto Trip-** Friday 4th December- Details to follow.