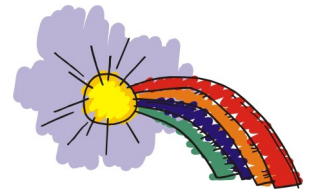


# Unity Centre Newsletter

January 26th, 2012, Volume 15



## New Pupil

**BIDDICK**  
SCHOOL SPORTS COLLEGE



*Fluffy*

The Unity Centre has a very special new pupil - Fluffy the Bear!

Fluffy was donated from the Build a Bear Factory at Gateshead Metro Centre in

memory of Anne Cutmore, a member of Biddick staff who sadly died this summer. Mrs Welsh has very kindly provided Fluffy with appropriate school uniform (although we might need to see if we can find him some trousers!) and he is very happy to join our school family.

Fluffy was named by Emma Slater after all

Unity Centre students put their suggestion into a hat and Emma's was picked.

Fluffy will be coming home for weekend visits with the Pupil of the Week if they want to do so!



*Fluffy off on his first visit home with last week's Pupil of the Week, Matthew Mason*

## ★ Pupil of the Week -



Sean has tried really, really hard this week. We are all very impressed with how hard he has tried and how many merits and stamps Sean has gained this week.

Sean, you have shown us how fabulous you can be this week—keep it up!!!!!! Well done!



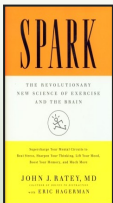
## Dad and Male Carer's Group

This group will be held monthly and is for Dads, Granddads and any other male carer of a child with autism or Asperger Syndrome. This group was originally for male carers of our provision children but after the next meeting, we will be opening it up to all dads and male carers connected to Biddick School who have a child with a diagnosis of autism or Asperger's Syndrome.

The dates for the next group :

6th March 6pm-7pm (provision pupils male Carers)

25th April 6pm -7 pm (dads and male carers of children with a diagnosis of autism who attend Biddick School or who have a sibling who attends Biddick School.



**SPARK continues to go well with pupils from the Unity Centre exercising before school on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.**

**If desired, pupils can bring in a water bottle for the fitness suite (water is also available in the Unity Centre afterwards).**



### Sibling Cafe

Brothers and sisters of a child with a diagnosis of autism can often feel left out or neglected and some report finding their sibling's behaviour embarrassing, stressful or worrying. Research has shown that the opportunity to learn more about autism and access support and information can benefit siblings .

The sibling cafe offers support , information, and time to relax and socialise with other young people who have similar circumstances. It is open to :  
Biddick School pupils who have a brother or sister with a diagnosis of autism  
Brothers or sisters of Biddick pupils who have a diagnosis of autism.



The next group will be held on March 14th at 5.30—7.30pm within the Unity Centre at Biddick School. Please feel free to contact school if you would like any more information.

### Unity Centre Parent Group

The Unity Centre Parent Group is held every half term for parents and carers of children currently attending the provision.

We aim to offer family support and information and opportunities to meet other families who have a child with a diagnosis of autism . At times we plan to invite speakers to discuss issues that are of interest to families with a child with autism.

Dates for the next Parent Group:

7th February 2012 at 11-12.30pm and 9th May 2012 at 11- 12.30pm

## This week's learning in the Unity Centre...



Connor, Sean, Callum and Emma have continued with our **Bird Topic** this week. In preparation for our Big Bird Count on Monday we have been identifying different types of common birds.

The students have also finished their food chain mobiles which look fabulous.

They have also built 'hides' for the window so the birds can't see us during our count.

In **Opening Minds** and Mr Jackson's **English** lessons students have continued with their Harry Potter topic, this week they have designed their own Quidditch pitch and in Professor Jackson's 'Potions' class we carried out a very exciting experiment with an explosive bottle of coke, wrote in invisible ink and created a rainbow in a test tube with just salt, water, food colouring and a hint of magic.

In **Maths**, Connor has been

plotting co-ordinates and carrying out long division, Keiran and Christopher have been revising for an upcoming Maths test. In Mr Houghton and Mrs Sehnal's Maths lesson pupils have been practising their multiplication tables and playing multiplication connect 4.

In **Geography** Keiran and Mason are learning about the countryside.

In **Science** Matthew and Keiran have begun to learn about cells whilst Connor, Callum, Sean and have carried out experiments to find out about Forces.

Matthew is continuing with his Charlie and the Chocolate Factory topic in Miss Sturrock's **English** group and Mrs Sehnal's **English** group have continued with 'Sam's Spitfire Summer'. Mrs Sehnal has given students a spelling book each, could students bring this back every Thursday to receive their new spellings





**Professor Jackson's  
Potions Class...**