



WINTER 2017



ARTSMARK GOLD

Pupils and staff at Furrowfield are celebrating after receiving a prestigious Gold Artsmark Award. Artsmark is Arts Council England's award for schools that champion the arts and strive for excellence. It celebrates schools that embrace the arts across the curriculum, bringing them to life for children and young people. In order to become an Artsmark school we had to develop our arts and culture provision to achieve a broad and balanced curriculum. Through Artsmark we will continue to incorporate art and culture into every pupil's life, learning, knowledge and understanding, helping them to build skills, resilience, confidence and character.

Panto 17

I have been delighted with how Furrowfield students have put themselves forward for the pantomime this year. This is my first year leading the production and I was worried at first that there would not be enough pupils feeling brave enough to take to the stage. I didn't need to worry!

Our play is Cinderella (with a twist) and as I put the finishing touches to the sparkly costumes I am really looking forward to Thursday morning when we will perform for students and staff. So, let me introduce our cast;

- Chardy Dixon takes on the dual roles of Lady Gripington and the Queen.
 - Beren Jones completes their great double act as Lord Gripington and the King.
 - Their son, the vain and foolish Prince Charming, is played by Reece Leck and
 - His sidekick, the long suffering Dandini is Leon Grayson.
 - Our lovely Cinders, transformed from rags to red carpet glamour, is Kara Turnbull and
 - Her trusty friend Buttons is Kai Newbold.
 - Lady in waiting and Fairy Godmother are played with great comedy timing by Ellie Parkinson
 - With Michael Patton and Conner Ritzema as the hilarious ugly sisters!
 - Bethany Wails is the Announcer and News presenter and hair and make up expert
 - With Cameron Walling and Kieran Gordon on keyboard and drums.
- It promises to be an excellent performance!

Happy Christmas from Mrs Boyd
(English teacher)



Dino Jaws

Ten pupils who worked extremely hard in Science were rewarded with a trip to see **Dino Jaws**, an amazing exhibition from the Natural History Museum, featuring life-size animatronic dinosaur heads - including the terrifying T. rex at the Life Science Centre. Pupils were able to explore the sometimes gruesome, always fascinating, subject of dinosaurs and their food. From the notorious flesh-eating habits of T. rex to the vegetarian tastes of Iguanodon, dinosaurs had many interesting ways of catching their meals and eating them.

They witnessed up-close how their teeth and jaws moved together to tear, grind and chew food. They also explored intriguing fossil evidence, hands-on exhibits and fascinating scientific insights that reveal everything we know about what and how dinosaurs ate. Pupils also experienced every twist, turn, high and low as their seat moved in time to the 3D action of *The Polar Express* on screen in a 4D Motion Ride whilst being blasted with wind and smoke. After lunch we took our seats for a science show of practical experiments completed using real tools and materials led by real life working scientists. It was an explosion of colour!

Both staff and pupils had an amazing and fun packed day. A huge well done to all pupils from Miss Donaldson and Mr. Bell.



'Congratulations to all the pupils and adults of Furrowfield School on achieving the Level 1 Rights Respecting School Award'. UNICEF UK

Furrowfield School has been working with UNICEF UK since 2016. We are celebrating our achievement in reaching the Level 1 of the Rights Respecting Schools Award following an assessment by a UNICEF assessor on 12th December 2017. Unicef is the world's leading organisation working for children and their rights. The Rights Respecting Schools Award is granted to schools that show commitment to promoting and realising children's rights and encouraging adults, children and young people to respect the rights of others in school. The Level 1 Award is given to schools that make good progress towards embedding the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child into its ethos and curriculum. There are over one thousand schools across England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales that have received the Level 1 Award, and over three hundred schools that have been awarded a Level 2 Award, the next step up and highest accolade granted by Unicef UK. Furrowfield School is now on their journey towards achieving a Level 2 Award.

'Thank you so much for hosting the UNICEF visit last week. The assessor was very impressed at the progress you have made and particularly at the knowledge of rights and the respectful behaviour shown by pupils during her visit. Keep up the fantastic work and we look forward to supporting you move forward to Level 2.'

Kathy Allan RRSA Professional Advisor.

'I would like to confirm that Furrowfield IS the first Gateshead special and secondary school to achieve RRSA Level 1!! Well done!'

A Bathen RRSA Assessor.