



Birley Spa Primary Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

Newsletter

18th June 2021

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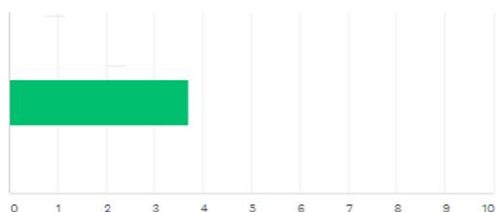
Dear Parents and carers,

Welcome back everyone! The children have settled back into school beautifully following the half term break. Our pupils are eager and engaged in all aspects of learning for the final Summer term. We would like to welcome Mr Hogben, our interim Assistant Head of School to our staff team. Mr Hogben will be working closely with key stage 1 pupils and staff over coming months. Mr Hogben has already met lots of our wonderful children and families throughout school and he has really praised our KS1 pupils' positive attitudes towards learning.

Before the holiday we sent out a survey monkey to gather parents' thoughts and suggestions on the sports provision we offer in school. We would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete our survey as we really appreciate your valuable feedback. Please see the following extract from our survey results, as we aim to develop our sports provision to be the finest provision it can be for pupils' health and well-being.

On a scale of 1 – 5, how much has your child enjoyed participating in sports-based activities this year? 1 - Don't Know 2 - Poor 3 - Average 4 - Good 5 - Excellent

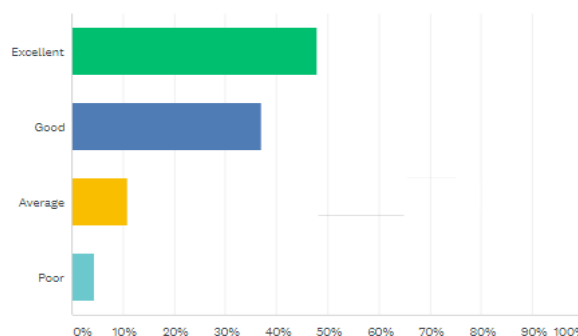
Answered: 46 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
Responses	4	170	46
Total Respondents: 46			

Our commitment to providing high level sports provision includes: working with SUFC, SJD Sports, Yoga Sessions, Canoville Coaching - how does your child enjoy these sessions?

Answered: 46 Skipped: 0



As a result of listening to our families feedback, we are delighted to inform you that from September 2021, we will be working together with SJD Sports provider to offer our families a sports led Breakfast and Afterschool club provision. This provision will further incorporate some of the suggestions that you have kindly put forward.



Healthy Breakfast

At Birley Spa Academy we wish to convey the positive message that a healthy and strong heart maintains healthy and strong minds. We believe everyone should start the day with a healthy breakfast, and this is the message that we are encouraging throughout our community. It is important for children to have breakfast every day, but what they eat in the morning is crucial too. Choosing breakfast foods that are rich in whole grains, fiber and protein while low in added sugar helps boost children's attention span, concentration and memory which they need to learn in school. We will be sending out a leaflet along side this weeks newsletter with more information and some amazing top tips to help you with creative breakfast ideas for home.

We would like to thank: Yousuf's family in Year 2, for being so kind and wonderful and spreading the joy of Eid with Endcliffe class. Yousuf's family kindly sent Eid presents to the whole class. Eid marks the end of Ramadan, the Muslim holy month of fasting, and is celebrated during the first three days of Shawwal, the 10th month of the Islamic calendar. Eid is a time of official receptions and private visits, when friends greet one another, presents are given, new clothes are worn, and the graves of relatives are visited. How truly generous of Yoursuf and his family.

COVID 19

Continuing with our commitment to minimise contact between pupils within alternate bubbles, we will continue with our current COVID arrangements until at least the end of the academic year. This includes wearing face coverings whilst on the school premises, following the one way systems and leaving the school grounds as soon as your child has been dropped off with their class teacher. We have worked so hard to minimise the risk of contamination and eliminate closure of any class bubbles and it would be such a shame to increase the potential transmission at this stage of the school year. We would like to thank parents for thieir patience and understanding.

Regarding staggered drop off and start times, hopefully, further Government guidance will be released over the summer and we will work within recommendations. Transition days, new classes for (2021/22) and key information for pupils and their families will be shared with parents next week.

Finally, to ensure our families are kept safe and free from harm, can we kindly ask that parents refrain from using the staff car park to enter the school grounds. Please only use this gate if you have a parking permit issued by the school. All parking permits will expire at the end of the school year.

We wish our whole Birley Spa Community a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

Mrs Pemberton
Executive Headteacher

FS1

I would like to start by saying a huge thank you for all of your kind donations of flowers and vegetables for the children to plant in our outdoor area. They have loved becoming gardeners this week, that is linked to our story 'Oliver's Vegetables'.

We have learnt where vegetables grow (under the soil or on top of the soil) and used our senses to describe the different vegetables from the story.

They have been learning all about how to plant a seed and what is needed to make it grow. We planted some Cress each in a plant pot and found out how we can make it grow.

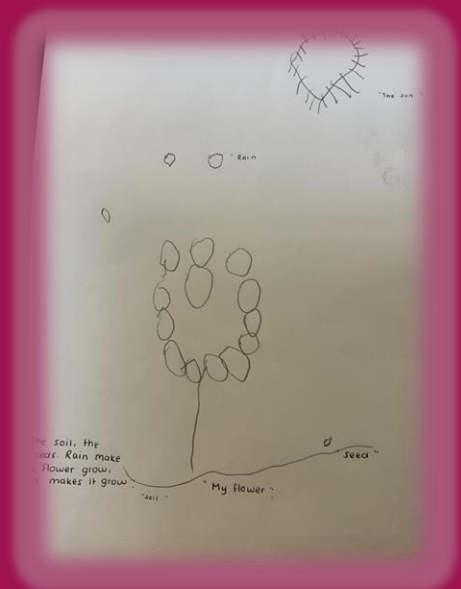
We looked carefully at how our cress had grown and noticed some had grown more than others. We thought about what we knew about things that grow and came up with some answers.



Annabelle said "it's had more sun and water so they have grown more."

Ezra said "It is because there are not enough seeds or soil for it to grow."

Madison - followed the instructions and planted her cress seeds. "I put soil in it, that's the seeds."



Viena drew a picture of what a plant needed to grow.

FS2 & Y1

We are starting our last theme for the year and we are going to be Explorers! For the next two weeks we will be learning all about space and the planets. We will be making plans and building spaceships in the classroom and in the outside area and role playing in our very own classroom spaceship.

Our book of the week is *Whatever Next* by Jill Murphy and we will be retelling the story and thinking about all the things that Baby Bear will need to take with him to space. In maths we have been learning to add and take away by counting on and back on the number track and playing lots of number track games.

Please continue to ask your children all about their new learning at the end of each day so that they can amaze you with their skills and knowledge!

Ms Peck, Miss Whitworth, Miss Chadwick & Mrs Dharmi



Year 2

Since returning from the half term break, Y2 have enjoyed learning our new topic “How do boats float?”. We have begun by looking at the life of a pirate and also famous pirates such as Captain Blackbeard.

In English, we have been left a letter from Captain Purple beard along with a map directing us to a piece of treasure (not the shiny kind). We followed the map to the location and found our new book “The Pirate Cruncher”. We thoroughly enjoyed being immersed into the book and we are now starting to retell the story and will create our own versions.

In Maths, learning in Y2 we have been continuing our learning on Money. We have learnt to recognise coins and notes and how to count in pounds and pence. We will be moving our learning on by looking at finding total amounts and finding change from a given amount.

Well done Norfolk and Endcliffe Class for a fantastic start back after the half term break!

Miss Wilson and Mrs Unwin

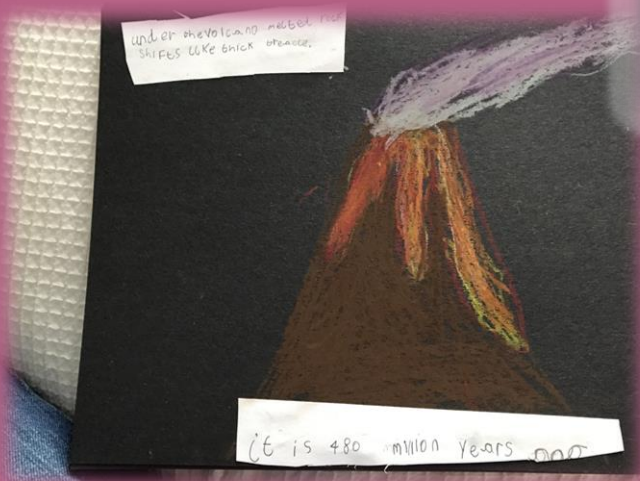
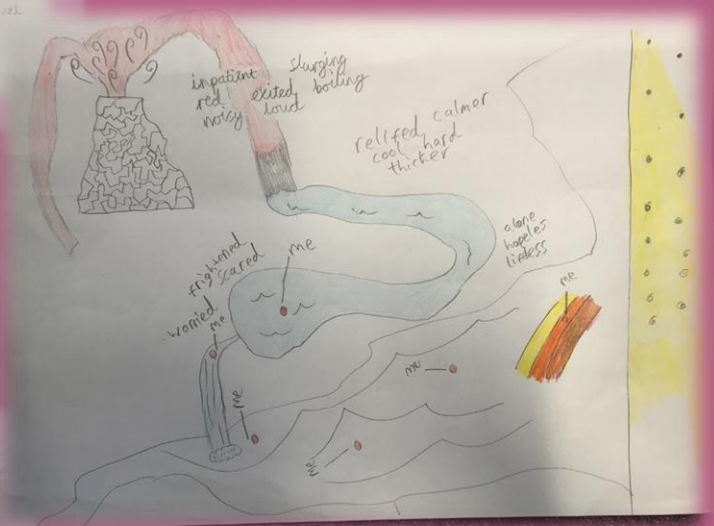
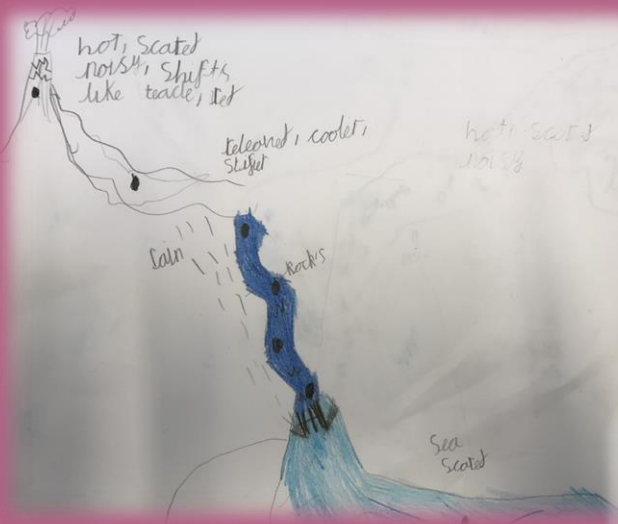
Year 3

In year 3 we are studying how extreme our earth can be. The children have been busy immersing themselves in our new topic by looking carefully at rocks and their different properties. They have discovered how rocks are formed and the 3 different types of rock. In English we are reading an interesting non-fiction book called 'A pebble in my pocket' and produced some pebble journeys from volcano to the sea.

Children have produced some visualisations of the scene in the book where the pebble is being formed deep in the magma chamber.

In Maths, we will shortly be starting our new topic on telling the time. It would be great if children could use the link below and Mathletics to get them thinking about how we tell the time.

Mrs Roberts & Miss Gostelow



Year 4

We have enjoyed welcoming Year 4 back to school after what was hopefully a restful and enjoyable half term break. The children have come back, with a great attitude to learning and have enjoyed engaging in learning based on our new topic, 'How would you travel across America?'.

As an initial starting point for the topic, the children have enjoyed taking part in some research based on America, showing a good understanding of key landmarks and important places of interest across the country.

Within English lessons, the children have started to use a short picture book, called 'Arrow to the Sun', in order to create narrative stories. All the children have engaged in drama, to obtain an understanding of the story and begin to empathize with key characters.

Furthermore, within Maths lessons the children have worked hard to recap their knowledge of multiplication and division, showing excellent understanding and great independence.

Finally, the children have also engaged well in Art lessons to produce some pen and ink 'city scapes', based on New York City. All pupils generated excellent understanding of the key techniques, whilst also displaying lots of creativity and learning resilience.

Mr Blake, Miss Harper & Mrs Williamson

Year 5

This week Y5 have enjoyed starting their new topic of Rivers. It ties in closely with our Literacy book The Explorers by Katherine Rundell, all about four children who get stranded in the Amazonian rainforest, and the adventures that ensue.

Next week we'll be researching facts about Brazil and its people in order to produce an information leaflet. They've also challenged themselves in Maths where we've spent some time looking at adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators - next we move onto multiplying fractions!

From next week we will be setting homework via Mathletics, and we would strongly encourage the children to use Reading Eggs - if you would like any help with this, please let your class teacher know.

As ever, thank you for all the support you give to the children with their learning.

Miss Landowski, Mrs Horsfall, and Mr Jackson

Year 6

It is hard to believe that this will be the last term at Birley Spa Primary Academy for our current Year 6s. We have tried to make this last term the best by filling it with as many fun activities as possible.

In English we are using Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island as a stimulus for writing. The children have already written some great character descriptions of the Captain and over the course of the next 2 weeks will be writing diary entries of his exciting journey to find buried treasure!

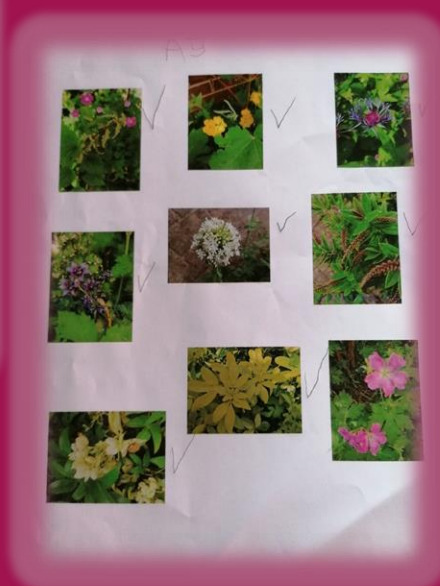
In Maths we have been learning about percentages. The children have learnt how to find percentages of amounts and how to convert fractions and decimals into percentages. We are also continuing to practise our arithmetic skills and as always, learn our times tables. The children will be completing a final set of mock SATs over the coming weeks, so continued practise of these skills is essential.

Our topic this term is called 'Is there a real treasure island out there?'. This topic is Geography based and links nicely with the European football competition taking place (which many of the children are excited about). The children will be learning about the world and how it is split up into continents, hemispheres, and time zones. They will also learn how to use an atlas and map to find certain locations and features. Please encourage your child to continue this learning at home by researching countries taking part in the Euros and presenting their findings as a poster or any other alternative way.

Finally, as you may already be aware, we are putting on an end of year production. Please help your child to learn their lines and enjoy listening to them singing along to the songs at home. Although we cannot invite people into school to watch this production, we are looking at ways to film it so you can enjoy it at home.

Shirebrook

Summer has definitely arrived in Shirebrook this week. We have used recycled materials to make these fantastic flowers to add to the glorious displays already growing in our outside provision. We went on a Scavenger hunt and Andrew managed to find all these different types of flowers. Alex used some of the natural materials growing outside to create this symmetrical butterfly. Well done everybody!



Star Pupils of the Week

Ducklings	Amelie – For being a kind friend and helping others when they are upset. Eli – For being independent at snack time opening his own straw.
Whirlow	Annalise - For always doing the right thing. For being a kind and thoughtful friend and taking responsibility for looking after the learning environment. Bryley - For developing amazing listening skills and producing some fantastic talking in his Ted Talk group.
Heeley	Kacper – For his excellent listening skills and for writing a spectacular letter to the old man in our story. Well done and keep up the good work! Alarnie- For her positive attitude towards her learning. Alarnie has been working hard this week to contribute to class discussions.
Sheaf	Elizabeth – For always working hard in literacy with beautiful neat writing and has great ideas for her sentence. Jayden – Has really improved in his Maths work over the last week, concentrating hard and working independently.
Endcliffe	Ollie – For working really hard with his phonics and independently writing his sentences. Jayce – For persevering with her maths and mastering her skills using money.
Norfolk	Chloe - For outstanding work in maths this week whilst learning about money. Sonny - For being a fantastic learner in all subjects and trying his best in all he does.
Crucible	Lily-Mae – Picking out the grammar features of our class text and using them in her writing. Olivia – Showing great learning behaviors in the class and always being ready to learn.
Lyceum	Darcie-Rose – Challenging herself with deeper understanding problems in maths. Jayden – Contributing to class discussions more.
Kelham	Liam - For going above and beyond and completing additional topic research at home. Ruby - For persevering with her maths this week and demonstrating brilliant progress.
Weston	Destiny - Always trying her best whatever the lesson and wanting to be the best learner she can be! Kyran - For showing fantastic enthusiasm in all lessons and wanting to be a positive role model for his peers. Thomas – For being an excellent ambassador.
Millennium	Max - Setting himself high standards in all aspects of his work. Matilda - Has had an all round positive attitude through Y5 with a focus on terrific presentations and quality of work.
Graves	Jorja – Fantastic presentation in all areas of the curriculum and conscientious attitude at all times. Callam – Trying so hard in maths and now constantly works at “expected”.
Bolsover	Harley – For always wanting to improve his work. Poppy – For becoming more confident in maths by asking and answering questions.
Peveril	Junior – For joining in and answering questions during the crucial crew visit. Amelia – For being a great model on our recent visit to crucial crew
Shirebrook	Ivan – For the amazing effort Ivan has put into all his school experiences this week. He is listening
Alternative Provision	Addison - For always being on task, always there to support his peers and participated fully during crucial crew activities