



Birley Spa Primary Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

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# Newsletter

2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021



## Deputy Headteacher Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are now approaching the final few weeks of this term – where has this school year gone? As I am sure you can imagine, we have lots of exciting things coming up in the remaining weeks of this term and I would like to take this opportunity to share some of these with you.

Next week, we will be informing all parents of their child's class teacher(s) for September. This will be followed by a transition morning in which children will have an opportunity to meet their next class teacher(s) and to explore a range of learning tasks, games and activities, in preparation for the autumn term. During the transition morning, children will learn more about their first topic in September and will be given some home learning (to be completed over the summer holidays). I am sure that the children will return to school, after the summer break, already knowledgeable about their initial topic and raring to go!

We are looking forward to and preparing in school for our Sports Days that will take place over the next two weeks. Owing to our rigorous risk assessments regarding Covid-19, I am sure you will appreciate that we need to organise this event differently this year. A separate letter has been sent out today to share with you further details regarding the planning of Sports Day for this year. Thank you in advance for your understanding with this event.

As always, it is an absolute pleasure to visit classes and to talk to children about their learning. It is really noticeable now, when I ask children about their learning, how enthusiastic they are about their topics in class. Furthermore, it is great to see children articulating their learning to visitors in school and feeling really positive about their work. I know that our hardworking staff are already starting to reflect on how we can further tweak our topics and learning ready for September and feedback from our children forms a key part of this process.

Finally, I would like to thank you again for all your continued support this term in school. Should you have any further questions about your child's learning please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.

Mr Smith  
(Deputy Headteacher)

# 'Parents Together' Workshop

An online workshop opportunity called 'Changing Faces'. This workshop is full of advice and top practical tips to support parents and carers of children and young people, who have a scar, mark or condition on their face or body that makes them look different. The workshop will take place on Tuesday 13th July 2021, 7.30pm via Zoom.

The workshop will include:

- Techniques on building confidence for you and your child.
- Tips on how to handle staring and awkward social situations.
- Guest speakers talking about their experiences of living with a visible difference.

To book your place please email: [yandh@changingfaces.org.uk](mailto:yandh@changingfaces.org.uk)



[www.changingfaces.org.uk](http://www.changingfaces.org.uk)

## Safeguarding Concerns and support during the school holiday

Whilst the summer holidays are often looked forward to as a time to relax and a time to spend with family and friends, they can also be very daunting.

The Sheffield Multi-Agency Support Team (MAST) are still available throughout the Summer Holiday to access for support. This may be on a range of common family problems such as:

- Bedtime routines
- Challenging behaviour
- Eating and diet
- Divorce/separation
- Domestic violence
- Toileting
- Bereavement
- Finances
- And many more.....

Whilst school is closed over the Summer should you wish to access their support you can self refer to MAST on 0114 2053635.

Other numbers you can contact for advice and support are;

**Sheffield Safeguarding Hub:** 0114 2734855 / **NSPCC:** 0800 8005000 / [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)  
<https://www.birleyspaacademy.co.uk/>

If you have any safeguarding concerns regarding a child over the summer break you can still report this to school by using the report a concern button on the school website. Alternatively, you can contact either the safeguarding hub or the NSPCC on the numbers above to discuss your concerns.

## FS1

This week we, have had the opportunity to do learning in the classroom and at home. We have been learning all about the numeral 3 and the story 'The Little Red Hen' and talking about which of the characters we like best in the story and why.



Annabelle made a fantastic Little Red Hen explaining how she made it. "I used some red paint on a paper plate. I then got some glue and put it on the red paint. I used some tissue paper for the feathers."



We have been learning all about the numeral 3, what it looks like and what other numbers are hiding in the numeral.



Darcey found the numeral 3 in the building area and said "2 and 1 more makes 3".

## FS2 & Year 1

We have been learning all about Space Explorers! The explorers in Whirlow class have been finding out facts about the moon from our book of the week 'On the Moon' by Anna Milbourne and Benji Davies. We know that it takes 4 whole days to get to the moon! We have been practising taking away by counting back along a number track and counting down from 10,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1 lift off!



The explorers in Heeley and Sheaf class have been reading 'The Man in the Moon' by Simon Bartram. They have been finding out about the planets and doing some amazing art work. Some spectacular models of spaceships have been made and Scott extended his learning at home by making his own rocket.

Well done to all our Space Explorers!



Ms Peck, Miss Whitworth and Mrs Allan



## Year 2

This week in Year 2, we have continued our learning about money. We have built on our knowledge of the value of coins and notes by adding them together in order to find the total. We have also practised making a given amount in different ways, for example we now know we can make 25p with a 20p coin and a 5p coin or by using five 5p coins.

In English, we have continued to learn the story 'The Pirate Cruncher' and have been retelling the story in our own words. When writing, we have ensured we have used a wide range of description and vocabulary in order to excite the reader. We are now working towards writing our own version of the story where we will change the ending.

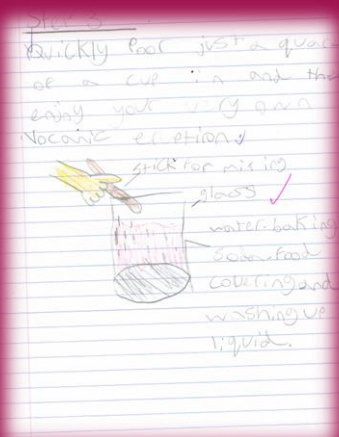
In our topic lessons, we have designed and created our very own treasure maps! First, we looked at and discussed a range of examples and used them to generate some ideas. We also made a list of possible things to include and suggested symbols to use to represent them. Once we had designed our treasure map, we created our final piece by using tea bags to stain the paper and gently tearing it around the edges - this made the paper look really old! We carefully drew on the features we had chosen and made sure we included an 'x' to mark where the treasure was hiding.



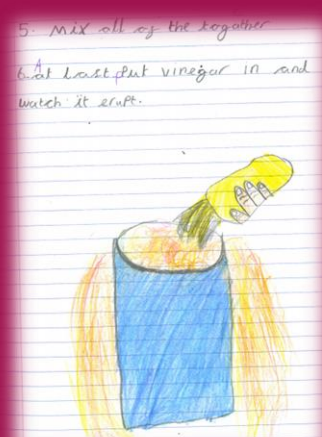
Mrs Unwin and Miss Wilson

## Year 3

In Year 3, the children have been learning all about volcanoes. In reading, they have found out what the parts of a volcano are and what each part does. In Geography lessons, children have used 'Google Earth' to explore where the different volcanoes are in the world. Children have been very excited to learn about one volcano in Indonesia which is featured in the setting of our class novel the 'Firework Maker's Daughter.' The volcano is called Mount Merapi. The children are really enjoying the book as the main character Lila makes her way to the volcano to meet the 'fire fiend' and learn the secret of making fireworks.



Children followed instructions to make some mini eruptions in Science.



## Year 4

Over the last few weeks, Year 4 have continued to enjoy exploring our learning topic, 'What's the best way to travel across America?'

The children have enjoyed learning about key places of interest and are beginning to showcase their understanding by producing some high-quality topic work. In Art lessons, the children have continued to explore drawing using a range of mediums, particularly excelling at showing detail and precision, when producing observational drawings based on the Empire State building.

Within Science lessons, the children have also demonstrated fantastic engagement, when learning about 'Electricity' and they showed great understanding, enthusiasm and knowledge when discussing potential dangers.

Meanwhile, in music lessons the children have demonstrated lots of creativity and resilience when producing a piece of music using instruments. The Sheffield Music Hub were extremely pleased with the attitude and engagement illustrated by all pupils.

Well done on a great week Year 4, we have been particularly proud of all your engagement in our foundation subjects over the last week!

Mr Blake, Miss Harper and Mrs Williamson

## Year 5

It has been another busy and productive week in Year 5. We have really enjoyed taking our maths lessons outside into the school grounds. We can measure the height of a tree by walking away from it and looking through our legs at a 45 degree angle! During these sessions we investigated making a kite out of everyday objects in nature, measuring the angles and tying with string!

In English, we have continued with our class novel 'Explorer', especially focussing on the Yanomami tribe and a visit they received from a certain David Beckham. The tribe are so remote that he had to explain to them who he was and even what 'football' was! We are currently in the process of writing and recording radio broadcasts about the Yanomami tribe, we can't wait to share them with you.

We are really looking forward to the last couple of weeks in Year 5 and all the fantastic activities we have planned.

## Year 6

The Year 6's have been embracing their inner pirate recently. We have been looking at the vocabulary used by pirates alongside the story 'Treasure Island' in English. In their best pirate voices, children were talking about dancing the hempen jig, eating cackle fruit, battening down the hatches and, of course, walking the plank. Using these words and phrases, the Year 6's are writing a diary entry as if they were Billy Bones.

In Maths, the children have been preparing themselves for Year 7 by completing a set of problems involving the use of calculators. The tasks require perseverance and resilience from Year 6 which they are showing in abundance.

Within topic lessons, the children have continued working on their Geography skills. They have learnt how to use lines of latitude and longitude to give coordinates for countries, cities and even landmarks. This week, we will be looking at times zones across the world and how they are determined.



Mr Walsh and Mr Litherland

## Shirebrook

This week we have been thinking about the story of "The Boy who Cried Wolf!". We learned that it is a special story called a fable. Fables help us learn important things about how we should behave. The Boy who Cried "Wolf!" helped us understand that it is really important to tell the truth. The children in Heart Group acted out the story. They were amazing!

Mrs Barrett



# Star Pupils of the Week

Whirlow	Ollie - For his positive attitude to learning and for his special efforts in using the sounds that he knows in his writing this week. Lyla - For always being a role model and for seeing when other people need her help and support.
Heeley	Libby - For listening carefully in class and for completing some super writing based on our class text 'The Man on the Moon'. Libby has used time conjunctions and adjectives to make her writing interesting. Well done Libby and keep up the great work! Scott - For extending his learning at home, focusing on our topic all about Space! Scott has carried out some research at home and has created artwork based on the eight planets. He has also used junk materials at home to create his own space rocket!
Sheaf	George – For the amazing improvement in his handwriting. Keep up the great work! Remani – For creating lovely sentences in our English lesson.
Endcliffe	Lyla-Rose - For showing great perseverance in her maths. Jacob - For taking care to improve his handwriting.
Norfolk	James - For trying extremely hard with his writing this week when writing his own version of 'The Pirate Cruncher'. Bella-Rose - For showing great understanding when adding amounts together.
Crucible	Harry - Showing good understanding and confidence when learning how to tell the time. Chloe - Trying hard with her writing in English and joining in with lessons.
Lyceum	Kaci - Getting involved during a class discussion and sharing good ideas and answers with the class. Liam - Working hard to understand how to tell the time to the nearest minute.
Kelham	Scarlet - Diligent worker in every task and always polite and compassionate towards others. Noah – For a terrific role model never gives up and challenges himself in all he does and is kind and respectful towards others.
Weston	Logan – For excellent effort during maths lessons to be the best learner he can be! Lacey – For excellent effort in English lessons to produce extended pieces of writing!
Millennium	Amelie - You stay focused and conscientious in all your lessons. For this you are a real role model to your peers. Well done! Kobey - Well done for constantly challenging yourself, particularly in maths. Added to this, you have brilliant manners and show positivity all the time - well done!
Graves	Amelie - Fantastic attitude to learning, always tries her best even when she finds things tough. Ethan - Positive attitude to everything he does, pleasant, polite, a fantastic role model.
Bolsover	Alexander - For his fantastic diary entry as Billy Bones from "Treasure Island." Millie-Mae Rodgers - for actively looking to improve her diary writing this week.
Peveril	Lillia - She has produced a wonderful piece of independent writing, using complex sentences and archaic language. Daniel - He has worked hard this week to improve the vocabulary he uses in his writing.
Shirebrook	Alfie - For always working so hard and being the best you can be!
Alternative Provision	Thomas – For always being cheerful and happy and ready to help others.