



Birley Spa Primary Academy  
A L.E.A.D. Academy



# Newsletter

26<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## Children In Need

It was lovely to see all the children dressed up in their spotty outfits for Children In Need last Friday – we raised a massive £451.20! Well done everyone.

We had some amazing pictures from the children that took part in the drawing competition! Take a look at some of the runner up entries.



Well done to the winners Ivan, Ben and Harper!

## Christmas Lunch

Our Christmas lunch this year will be on Wednesday 8th December. Please ensure that you have booked your child's lunch via School Comms. Alternatively please contact the school office by text or email.

## Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 10th December, we will be having our Christmas jumper day, where we invite pupils to come to school wearing their favourite Christmas jumper and bring in £1.00 which will be donated to 'Save the Children' charity. Alternatively, you can donate via our just giving page by the following link.  
<https://christmas.savethechildren.org.uk/fundraising/cid/210014668>.

## School Uniform

It has been lovely to see so many of our children looking very smart in their school uniform and P.E. Kits, this makes such a difference to our school community. Please may we remind you that uniform is clearly expressed within our school policy. Sports clothes and sports hoodies are only to be worn on P.E. days. Uniform is for everyone and it is an important part of our school ethos and standards. Please make sure that you follow our uniform policy guidelines at all times.

If you find yourself struggling to purchase uniform, please contact school as we have had some parents kindly donate their outgrown uniform which may be suitable.

Additionally, due to our total commitment to ensure the highest levels of safeguarding, as well as health and safety for all pupils, we strictly request that only minimal jewellery is worn to school each day - items such as a small pair of stud earrings or watch, for example. Regarding child safety, we ask that pupils do not attend school wearing fake nails or any makeup, and hair must be of natural colour and not dyed. I am positive that parents and carers can appreciate our concerns and support us in maintaining the highest calibre of safeguarding for our pupils' welfare care.

## Christmas Crafts and Panto

We would like to invite parents into their child's classroom where you will have the opportunity to purchase Christmas crafts that your child has made in school for a cost of £2.00., please see our recent letter for further details. All contributions will be put towards a pantomime for our children to watch in school.

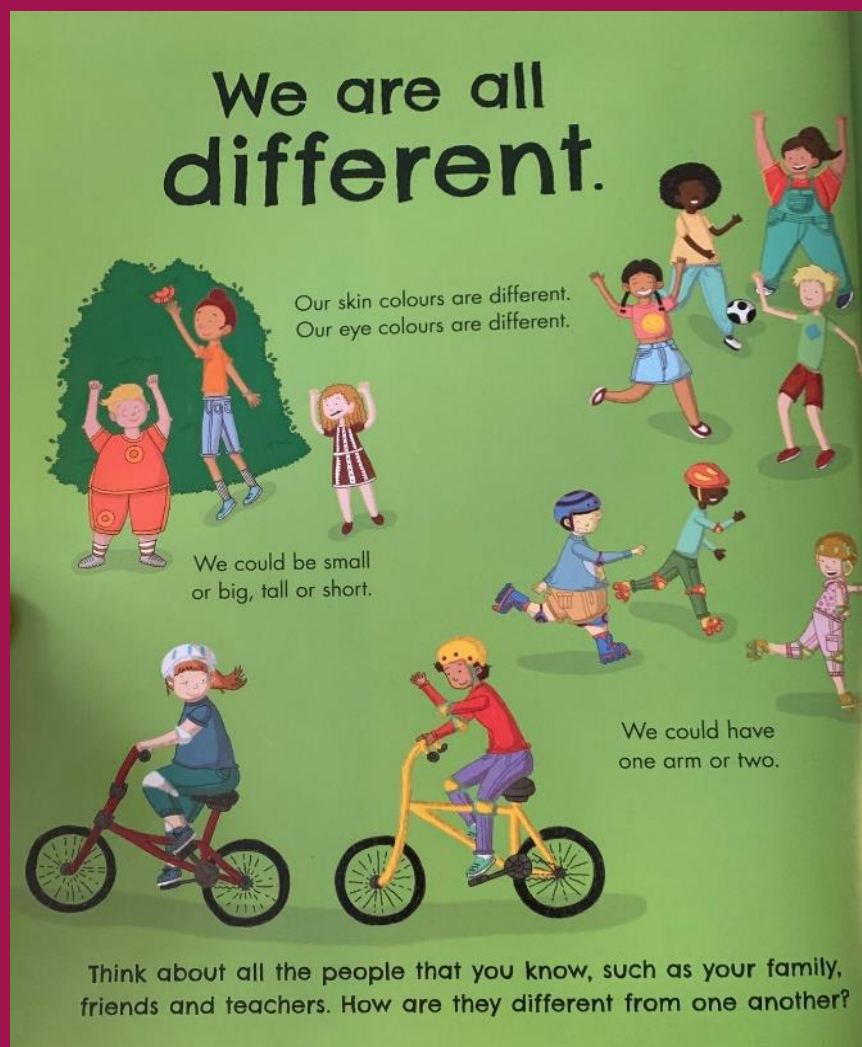
## My Skin, Your Skin

This week, each class has had an assembly and shared reading of “My Skin, Your Skin: Let’s talk about race, racism and empowerment” by award-winning author, Laura Henry-Allain MBE.

My Skin Your Skin is a powerful book that helps children and adults have meaningful discussions about race and racism.

The book empowers children to be the best versions of themselves – to have self-love, self-esteem and self-worth, irrespective of their skin colour.

Each class had a joint discussion as part of the session, examining questions such as: “What makes your family unique?”, and “Which special festivals do you and your family celebrate?”



## EYFS

This week we have been learning all about Diwali! We have read and acted out the story of 'Rama and Sita' and made sparkly diva lamps to light their way home. We have been looking at lots of different kinds of lights and asking the question, where does the light come from? This has led to learning about how electricity and batteries are used to provide light.

We had a great time in EYFS raising money for Children in Need. Thank you for all the loose change. The children had fun using it to cover the Pudsey pictures. We were very proud of Harper who was the winner of the spotty drawing competition and won a new book to enjoy. Well done Harper!

Ms Peck and Mrs Thomas



## Sheaf

The children in Sheaf Class have loved learning all about castles, as part of our topic 'How have queens changed over time?' We have learnt about the key parts of a castle and what they were used for, in preparation to start building their own this week, using spare recycling materials.

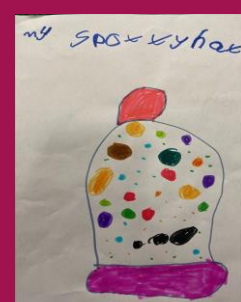
In English, we have continued to look at the story of 'Rapunzel' by Bethan Woolvin. We have been using our understanding of the original story, to plan and write our own version. The children enjoyed planning their own adventures and thought about what new characters we could add to our own version of the story.

As part of our maths learning this week we have been developing our knowledge of 3D shapes. We have been talking about their properties, looking for everyday objects for each 3D shape and we have made 3D shapes using play dough to identify what 2D shapes faces are within them.

As part of our reward system, the children received another fifty Pom-poms in our jar. The children chose to do some biscuit decorating as part of our reward afternoon. We did this in the theme of 'Children in Need' and decorated our biscuits in spots!

I would also like this opportunity to thank all the children that took part in the Children In Need competition, I was so amazed by all of your entries.

Miss Whitworth





## Endcliffe

Endcliffe class have been inventing their own stories this week. Using our class story 'Rapunzel' as a basis, the children have been using their imagination to write creatively. They have invented their own character and imagined a new story setting to design their original versions of the story.

In maths, our Year 2's have been learning about statistics and have enjoyed learning how to interpret data. They have then used this knowledge to make tally charts, giving the children opportunity to count in 5's for a different purpose. The Year 1 children have been practising one more and one less, and have also been counting in 2's and 5's. This is a skill you could practise at home too!

In Topic this week we have been learning about homes in the past and present comparing castles to modern housing. All in preparation for creating our own junk model castles in the coming weeks. Please remember to send in card tubes and small cardboard boxes to help us with this project. Thank you.

## Mrs Allan and Mrs Horsfall

## Norfolk

Norfolk class have enjoyed continuing with their learning about our topic “How have queens changed over time?”. We have been looking in greater detail at castles and the parts of them. We labelled the parts and then described what each part was used for. We found this extremely interesting.

Jenson said "I found the Portcullis interesting because I didn't know anything about it"

Arianna said "I liked the arrow slits which are used for defence".

We have used this knowledge to design our own castle which we will begin making next week. The children are also looking forward to our visit to Manor Castle on the 29th of November.

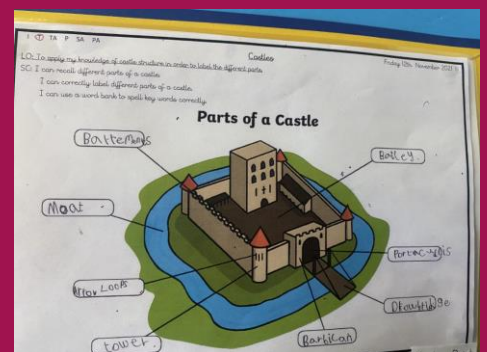
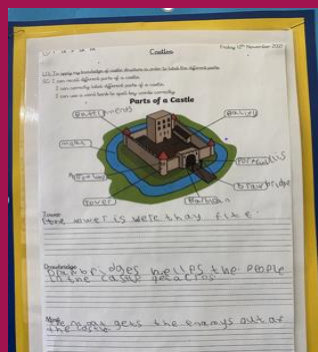
In English, we have been writing our own versions of 'Rapunzel' by Bethan Woollvin in which we innovated the story by changing the ending. The children showed some great independence skills during this week and used some lovely expanded noun phrases to add detail.

For our maths learning we have been looking at statistics. We began by looking at Tally charts and constructing our own before moving onto Pictograms. The children have enjoyed gathering their own data to create their charts such as finding out individuals' favourite colours.

Just a reminder that children need to bring their reading books to school every day as they are used daily. Also, I am using Showbie to set homework weekly which needs completing alongside reading eggs. If anyone has lost their logins/passwords for either Showbie or Reading Eggs please let me know.

Keep up the hard work Norfolk Class!

## Miss Wilson

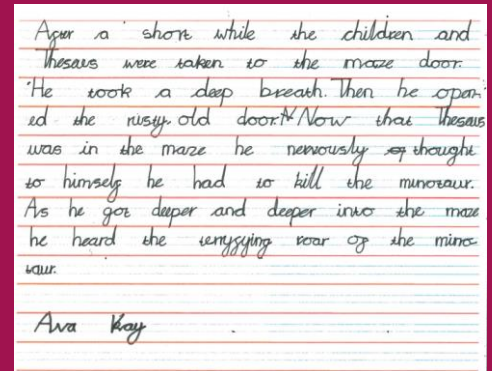


## Year 3

In year 3, the children have been busy starting their new maths topic on multiplication and division. They have written a mythical story called Theseus and the Minotaur. Please take some time to look at the children's stories and see if you can spot some of the fabulous, expanded noun phrases and adverbials for when, where and how that the children have used.

The children have been very excited to learn about how the Ancient Greeks have influenced our life today. They have studied the origins of our alphabet and the Olympics. Did you know that the Ancient Greeks competed naked in the Olympics! Children are very excited to learn about many of the Ancient Greek inventors during the Ancient Greek day on Thursday 25th November.

Mrs Roberts and Miss Gostelow

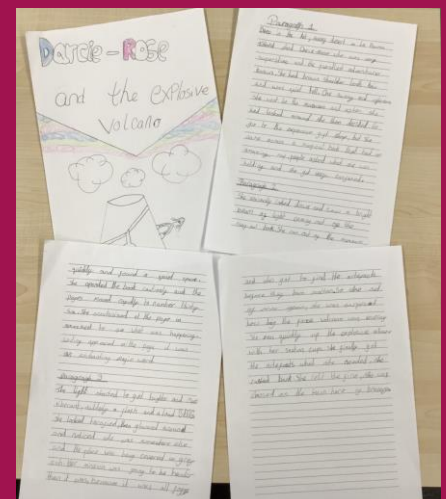
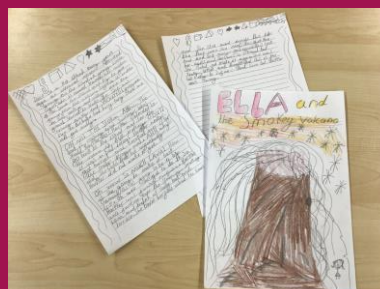
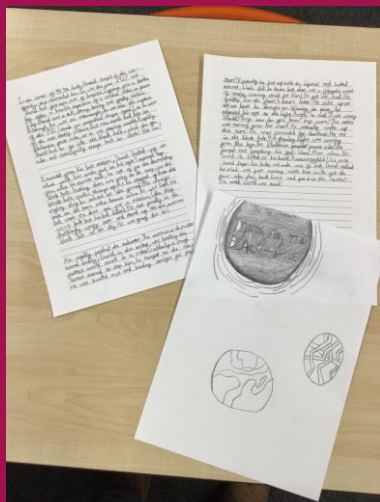


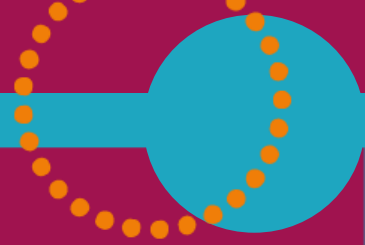
## Year 4

As always, it has been another busy week of learning in year 4. We have really enjoyed our class book, 'Arthur and his Golden Rope'. We have used our knowledge of this book to write our own narratives based around similar themes. We have looked closely at the editing process and improved our work incredibly. In Science, we have been weighing fizzy drinks to see if the bubbles make our drinks heavier or lighter. This is an experiment the children could do at home and share their findings with you. In PE we are working with the community team from Sheffield United, we are loving the sessions learning all about passing and moving. Finally, I would like to thank everyone for all your efforts towards Children In Need. The entries for the drawing competition were amazing and you all looked fantastic in your spotty clothes, a great effort by all!

Many Thanks

Miss Landowski, Mrs Powell-Ferguson and Mr Jackson





## Year 5

Year 5 have enjoyed continuing to develop an understanding of the Roman period. The children have completed in depth research based on this period in history and have continued to engage well within all lessons. The children have started to understand and appreciate examples of key Roman customs and also acknowledge key historical figures.

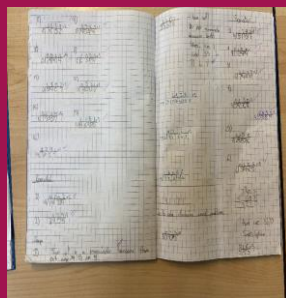
This week, the children have also enjoyed taking part in the Science day activities in association with Sheffield Hallam University, which looked at understanding the key features of polymers. The children enjoyed taking part in some fantastic experiments and acquiring new knowledge.

Within Maths lessons, the children have also started to extend and further their understanding of division, demonstrating excellent division skills to complete challenging problem-solving questions. The children really impressed us with their learning resilience, when undertaking the activities and showing fantastic levels of presentation in books.

In addition, the children also enjoyed exploring the artwork of artist Kurt Schwitters. The children enjoyed analysing and evaluating examples of collage art, whilst also understanding the life and career of key artists.

Additionally, please continue to encourage children to access the TT Rockstars, Mathletics and Reading Eggs learning programmes, to continue to develop their understanding of key learning skills.

Mr Blake & Mr Walsh



## Year 6

Year 6 have had a fantastic start to the week, engaging with the volunteers from the University of Sheffield to carry out a number of experiments. The children gained knowledge all about the advantages and drawbacks of using plastic. In maths, we are continuing to look at fractions, with a focus on comparing fractions by finding a common numerator or common denominator. For English, we have been building up to independently write our own playscript, using our book 'Secrets of a Sun King' as inspiration. The children have been fantastic as picking out dialogue and changing indirect speech to direct speech. In addition, they have used their retrieval skills and some creativity in order to add in the stage directions. We look forward to seeing their final piece of writing! Please continue to support your child in completing their weekly spellings and accessing Mathletics, TT Rockstars, Spag.com and reading eggs as much as possible.

Mr. Litherland and Miss Harper



# Upcoming Dates for the Diary



Manor Castle - Norfolk



Manor Castle - Endcliffe



Manor Castle - Sheaf



Y6 Ice Sheffield



Christmas Jumper Day



School Closes for Christmas



School Opens for Spring 1



Y5 Young Voices

## Last Week's Attendance Figures

**Target—96%**

**Actual— 89.9%**

R—Heeley

94.3%

R—Whirlow

90.2%

Y1—Sheaf

84.2%

Y2—Endcliffe

92.4%

Y2—Norfolk

87.1%

Y3—Crucible

95.7%

Y3—Lyceum

93.1%

Y4—Kelham

91%

Y4—Weston

85.4%

Y5—Millennium

84.8 %

Y5— Graves

88.8%

Y6—Bolsover

86.5%

Y6— Peveril

91.9%

Shirebrook

93.8%

Lets see the other classes really trying to achieve this – each day counts!



# Star Pupils of the Week



Whirlow	Ronnie - for amazing acting in the Runaway Chapati story. Viena - for her wonderful pictures and emerging writing.
Heeley	Max Booth- for confidently using his phonic knowledge to write a sentence about the Runaway Chapatti. Noah Booker- for confidently using his phonic knowledge to write a sentence about the Runaway Chapatti.
Sheaf	Lillie - for showing great independence in lessons. Lillie is using her initiative to achieve her very best. Well done Lillie, keep up the great work! Macey - for having such a positive attitude towards her learning. Macey always has a smile on her face and will always try her best, no matter how challenging the work is.
Endcliffe	Evie Rose - Always doing the right thing at the right time and putting in 100 percent effort into her learning. Oliver - Becoming more resilient in his learning and believing in his own abilities.
Norfolk	Arianna - for showing great enthusiasm when learning about Queen Elizabeth in our topic lesson. Keaton - for showing excellent resilience when completing our assessments this week.
Crucible	Chloe - Great participation in Greek Day. Oscar - Great participation in Greek Day.
Lyceum	Ronnie - Great participation in Greek Day. Isla-Rose - Great participation in Greek Day.
Kelham	Mason – for his enthusiasm in maths, it is infectious. The positivity you bring to your learning means you are a role model to everyone in your class. Kaci - you have worked very hard in understanding multiplication and division, and in explaining your reasoning.
Weston	Evelyn-Lily - Excellent effort, a real improvement in learning. Mickenzie - super improvement across all areas but particularly his independent writing.
Millennium	Flynn - for working independently in English to create fantastic poetic phrases. Freya - for creating fantastic poetic phrases and always looking to improve on her work.
Graves	Layla - for an excellent attitude to learning in every single lesson! Maxymillian – for excellent work during maths lessons and showing great independence skills to challenge himself within lessons.
Bolsover	Jorja - consistently striving to work independently and being a conscientious learner. Pharrell - for having an improved attitude toward learning, demonstrating determination in all lessons.
Peveril	
Shirebrook	Caleb - for his fantastically improved attitude for learning