



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

Newsletter

21st January 2022



British Library

We are delighted to let you know that we're one of the lucky schools that will receive a British Library resource pack, to help our pupils cook up their own fairy tales. Children will be invited to make their own books, filled with stories inspired by past tales. The project will help them get familiar with much-loved stories and tell their own tales by remixing the recipes. In early February, the British Library will release a fantastic hub of new films and step-by-step tips to inspire pupils, including a new video from the fabulous Michael Rosen. Look out for further information!

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Due to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the Spring Bank Holiday has been moved to Thursday 2nd June 2022, and there will be an additional Jubilee bank holiday on Friday 3rd June 2022. As this date falls within the half term holiday, we are required to take an additional days holiday, this will be added to our Spring Bank Holiday week **as Friday 27th May**.

Parents Mental Health Awareness Day

This year is the first Parent Mental Health Day, it is to encourage understanding and awareness of the importance of parent mental health and its potential impact on the whole family system with the theme 'Balance'. The day is aimed to get parents and carers to take a moment to reflect on the balance they have in their lives, as well as how they balance looking after their family's mental health and to take steps to make positive change and 'balance out'.

Parent Mental Health Day is on 27th January and it is to shine a light on the unsung heroes who have parented under changed circumstances throughout the pandemic, but now need some focus on themselves as well as their children and young people.

If you would like any support or even just a chat with a member of staff, Mr. Jones will be available on Tuesday 25th and Friday 28th February. If you wish to book an appointment for a chat, please contact him on 07900 223045.

Communication

As a reminder, all enquiries should be directed through the main school office. This includes SEND enquiries. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office team on 0114 2399106 or via email, enquiries@birleyspaacademy.co.uk and they will be happy to assist.

Safeguarding

In order for us to safeguard our children, please remember to inform us of any changes to your home address or contact numbers. Any emergency contact numbers should also be updated when necessary.

If an unfamiliar adult is collecting your child from school, please remember to inform the class teacher when you drop off your child at school or contact the school office should there be a change in circumstances through the day.

Parental Survey

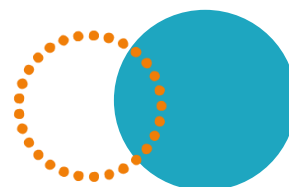
As part of our continued commitment to our pupils and families, can you please take 5 minutes to complete the attached survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/QPT2T2G>

Dates for Diary

We have lots to look forward to this year so please keep an eye out for our full "dates for diary" that will be communicated with you in the upcoming weeks.

Please see below a few of the key dates that are coming up:



2 nd February	Sheaf & Endcliffe – Visit to Shirebrook Valley
3 rd February	Norfolk Class Visit to Shirebrook Valley
7 th February	Y6 Visit to Cadbury's World
1 st & 3 rd March	Parents Evening
9 th March	Individual School Photos
27 th April	Y5 Young Voices
6 th June	Y6 Kingswood Residential

Safe to Play Campaign

Sheffield Safeguarding Children and Adult Partnership's in collaboration with the national child safeguarding charity NWG is launching the Safe to Play Campaign, providing advice to parents and carers before they let their children attend any sports or other physical activity clubs.

Sport England have collaborated with the national charity the NWG Network and the Lawn Tennis Association to develop a new safeguarding in sport campaign utilising augmented reality technology to help deliver key messages to parents, sports coaches and children about how to keep safe in sport. This is part of the Sport England's 10-year strategy with safeguarding children and adults at the heart of their plans. Here in Sheffield, we strive to make sure that every child has a positive experience when participating in sport, physical and extra-curricular activities. Everyone has a role to play in keeping others safe.

#safetoplay
#SaySomethingifYouSeeSomething
#Safeguardingsheffield

Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership and Sheffield Adult Safeguarding Partnership urge parents, carers and guardians, to look for a club, sport, activity and coach that takes the safety and wellbeing of your child seriously.

Always check whether the club or organisation is accredited or otherwise affiliated to a body (e.g. a sports governing body or national voluntary sector) as this should mean they have the right safeguarding policies and procedures in place.

Useful links:

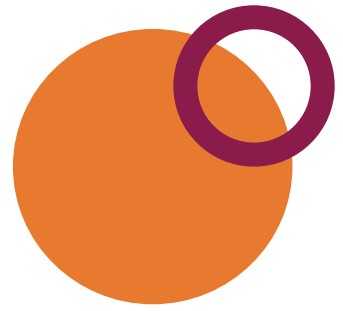
- Sheffield Children Safeguarding Partnership - <https://www.safeguardingsheffieldchildren.org/>
- NWG Network – <https://www.nwgnetwork.org/>
- Sport England - <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/safeguarding>
- The Child Protection in Sport Unit - <https://thecpsu.org.uk/>
- Ann Craft Trust - <https://www.anncrafttrust.org/>



Class Round-Up

EYFS

FS1
& 2



We are beginning the new year in EYFS learning about Traditional Tales. Last week, we explored the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We made story maps to help us to retell the story as well as using puppets and props. We compared bowls and spoons and ordered them by size and made big, medium and small beds and chairs for the bears using boxes and blocks.

Everybody enjoyed reading the recipe we had written to make porridge. We used oats and milk and had to mix it really well. The best bit was tasting the porridge (like Goldilocks) and deciding if it was too hot, too cold or just right!

Ms Peck & Mrs Thomas

Year

1

Sheaf class have had a fantastic start to the half term. The children have thoroughly enjoyed diving into our new topic '**What lives in the forest?**'.

In English, we are focusing on the story of 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne. So far, the children have developed their skills in retelling the story and have used their senses from a trip into the woods, in order to describe the story setting.

In maths, we are developing our knowledge of using prepositional language to describe objects, giving instructions to one another and we are now moving onto sequencing events of time and telling the time to o'clock and half past.

In Geography, we are developing our understanding of forests. So far, we have investigated rainforests, looking at where they are located, the animals you would find in a rainforest and the different layers of a rainforest.

Miss Whitworth

Year

1 / 2

Endcliffe class have really enjoyed learning about our new topic '**Who Lives in the Forest?**'.

In English, we have been looking at 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Brown. The children have enjoyed spotting the characters from well known traditional tales and using knowledge prior stories to help them to immerse themselves in the story. They have had the opportunity to plan, draft, edit and write their own stories using a similar plotline with very successful results. Our next story is 'The Secret Sky Garden'.

In maths, Year 1 have been learning about time, using a clock to display o'clock and half past the hour. Year 2 are beginning to use knowledge of 5's and 10's multiplication facts to learn about division. We have been grouping and sharing counters practically to visualise how these facts are connected.

In topic, we have been learning about the rainforest. The children have loved sharing what they already know. So far we have identified the four layers of the rainforest and looked at the average rainfall over the year.

Mrs Horsfall & Mrs Allen

Year

2

It has been lovely to welcome Norfolk Class back to school after the Christmas break. They have settled back in well and continue to show their fantastic learning behaviours.

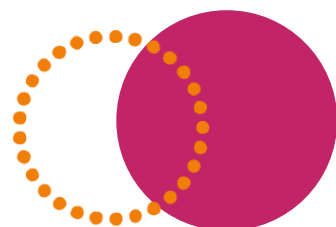
We have begun our new topic "**Who lives in the forest?**". At the beginning, we thought about things we would like to learn about the forest and rainforests. Arianna and Ebony said they wanted to learn about what animals live in the rainforest, whereas Isaac and Jacob said they wanted to know whether it always rains in the Amazon rainforest.

So far in our topic, we have looked in greater detail at the location of the Amazon rainforest and the different layers of a rainforest (along with which animals live in each part.) We have also looked at the annual rainfall within the rainforest.

In English, we have been introduced to our new story focus "Into the Forest" in which a young boy takes a journey through the forest to his Grandma's cottage and on the way, meets different familiar fairy tale characters. The children have retold the story in their own words focussing on using expanded noun phrases to add detail.

In maths, we have continued our learning on multiplication and division. We have been using arrays to solve multiplication and division questions and then using our knowledge and understanding for problem solving. It would be helpful if children can continue to practise their two, five and ten times tables please.

Miss Wilson

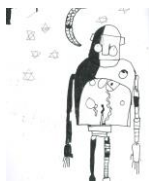


Year 3

In Year 3, the children are reading the science fiction story the Iron Man by Ted Hughes. The children have really enjoyed this and have produced some fantastic writing. Children have used techniques, such as similes, to add description and questions and short sentences to build up suspense and mystery. See if you can spot some of these in their work.

Alongside this, children have studied the illustrator Chris Mould. They have had a video master class with Chris and produced some great illustrations.

Mrs Roberts and Miss Gostelow



Year 4

Year 4 are really enjoying our topic **Blue Abyss: How does the world look below the sea?**

In English, we are looking at the engaging fantasy text 'Flotsam' by David Wiesner. The book is about a science-minded boy who goes to the beach to collect and examine anything floating that has been washed ashore. There's no way he could have prepared for one discovery: a barnacle-encrusted underwater camera, with its own secrets. From this, we used our creative language skills to write our own underwater fantasy description. We have been analyzing photos of children from the past, trying to find evidence of the lives they lived to answer questions to write an autobiography as one of the children in the photographs.

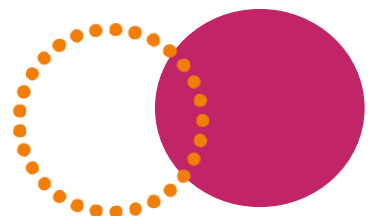
In maths, we have been learning the rules for working out equivalent fractions, understanding how to order fractions and now we are working on adding fractions with the same denominator.

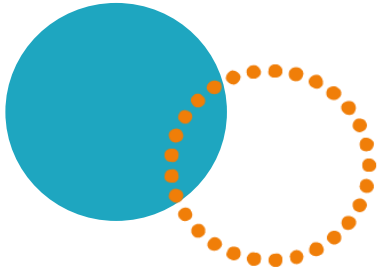
In geography, we used our research skills to investigate the different oceans and their habitats. We discovered the different layers of the ocean and learned interesting information about James Cameron. He dived solo to the deepest place in the ocean, it took him seven hours to get 12.100ft, and he spent six hours in the Mariana Trench in the western Pacific. Finding out about what he saw and how he felt enabled us to plan information to write his autobiography.

During our art sessions, the children have been amazed when observing the different layers, colour shades and inhabitants of the ocean. We will be using watercolors, pen and ink to recreate our own sea scope scene.

It has been an exciting start to the new year. The children are keen to develop their knowledge and understanding about our new topic.

Mr Jackson, Miss Landowski & Mrs Powell-Ferguson

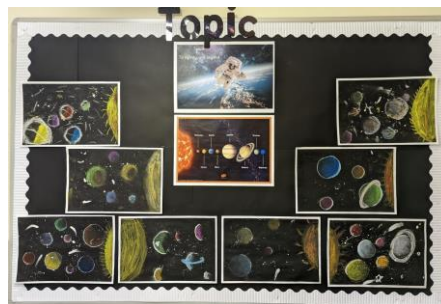




Year 5

This term in Year 5, we are looking at Space. The children have really taken to the topic and are really enjoying their learning. We have created some fantastic space artwork, which can be seen below, and have written a biography on Neil Armstrong. We also had an amazing day at the National Space Centre where our learning was enhanced by the exhibitions. The children were hands on with the available interactive learning there, and also got to see and hear what it would be like going into space. Our class book this term is 'Cosmic' by Frank Cottrell-Boyce, which we will be using within our writing over the coming weeks. The children are really enjoying the story of Liam - a boy who is so tall that people believe he is an adult. Homework this term will be set every Friday and consists of assignments on both Reading Eggs and Mathletics. Thank you for your continued support with home learning as it does make a huge difference.

Mr Walsh & Miss Ambler



Year 6

Within the first week of this half term, the children have settled back in fantastically, showing excellent resilience and determination to get stuck back into their learning. We have started our new topic all about the ancient Mayans and located ancient Maya cities on a map.

In maths, we have been recapping our key knowledge around the four operations, 3D shapes and angles.

In English, we have started looking at the book 'Holes' where we have begun researching the 'Mexican beaded lizard' (a lizard which is very similar to the yellow-spotted lizard in Holes) in order to write a non-chronological report.

We have also started our booster groups after school, supporting children in making targeted progress in maths and reading.

Reminders:

Monday: Math's booster group 3:10-3:40

Wednesday: PE kits to be worn

Thursday: Spelling homework due & reading booster group 3:10-3:40

Mr. Litherland and Miss Harper



Healthy lasagne

Prep: 15 mins

Cook: 1 hr and 15 mins

Serves 4

Enjoy our lighter version of the family classic – lasagne. It has bags of flavour, but comes in at under 500 calories a portion, as well as packing in four of your five-a-day

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 large onion (250g), finely chopped
- 320g carrots, finely chopped
- 2 celery sticks (140g), finely chopped
- 2 bay leaves
- 500g 5% beef mince
- 3 large garlic cloves, finely grated
- 400g can chopped tomatoes
- 2 tbsp tomato purée
- 1½ tsp vegetable bouillon powder
- 400ml semi-skimmed milk
- 30g wholemeal flour
- generous pinch of nutmeg
- 6 sheets wholemeal lasagne (125g)
- 25g finely grated parmesan

Method

STEP 1

Heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Heat the oil in a large frying pan over a medium heat and fry the onion, carrots, celery and one of the bay leaves for 8-10 mins until the veg softens and is starting to turn golden. Add the mince and garlic, and stir-fry until the beef browns, about 5 mins. Tip in the tomatoes and a can full of water, the tomato purée and bouillon, bring to the boil, then cover and simmer for 20 mins, removing the lid after 10 mins to reduce the mixture slightly.

STEP 2

Meanwhile, pour the milk into a medium pan with the flour and whisk over a low heat until the mixture is lump-free. Add the second bay leaf and a good pinch of nutmeg, and continue to cook, whisking, for 8-10 mins until thick.

STEP 3

Remove the bay from the mince and white sauce, and discard. Spoon a third of the mince into the base of a 19 x 24cm baking dish and top with two lasagne sheets. Spoon over half of the remaining mince, then top with two more lasagne sheets, the rest of the mince and the remaining lasagne sheets. Spoon over the white sauce and sprinkle with the cheese. Bake for 40 mins until bubbling and golden.