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Birley Spa Primary Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

Newsletter

4th March 2022



Dear parents and carers,

We have made a wonderful start to this new Spring 2 half term. The children in EYFS have been concentrating on their phonics and early math's skills. In KS1, our children are learning all about how our bodies work and where food comes from. KS2 are focusing on their handwriting skills and are working really hard on learning their times tables. Please encourage your children, while at home, to log on to their TT Rockstar accounts.

We appreciate that over the last couple of years our children have experienced extreme circumstances with COVID, and now with the situation in the Ukraine. We would like to reassure you that we are doing everything we can to support our children in school. I would like to share the following information with you to support your children at home and also would encourage you to watch Newsround with them, as this information is shared in a child friendly way.

Here are some background reading resources to help you think about how you can support your children with what they are seeing or feeling.

Supporting and informing your child, about the current incident in Ukraine (Childnet)

<https://www.childnet.com/blog/supporting-your-child-with-upsetting-content/>

How to talk to children about what's happening in Ukraine and World War Three anxiety (Metro)

<https://metro.co.uk/2022/02/24/how-to-talk-to-children-about-whats-happening-in-ukraine-16163133/>

Talking with Children About War and Violence in the World (Family Education, US)

<https://www.familyeducation.com/life/wars/talking-children-about-war-violence-world>

Tips for parents and caregivers on media coverage of traumatic events (The National Child Traumatic Stress Network, US)

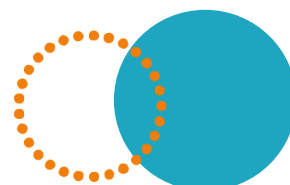
<https://www.nctsn.org/resources/tips-parents-and-caregivers-media-coverage-traumatic-events>

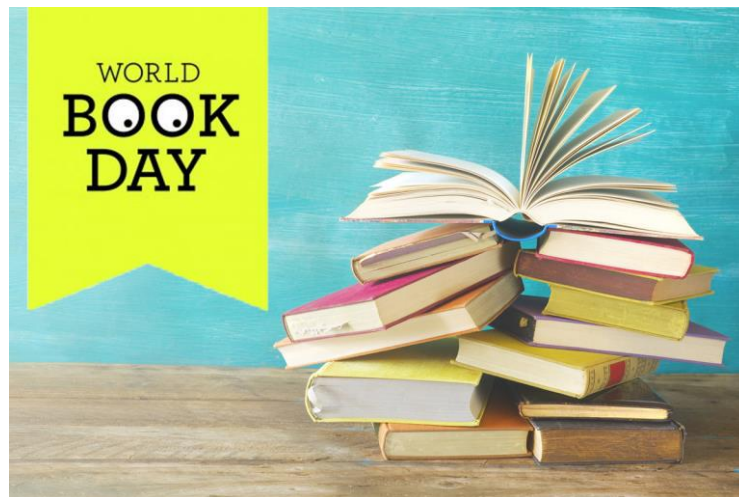
Please see below a reminder of upcoming dates for the diary.

Wednesday 9 th March	Class Photographs
Wednesday 9 th March	Y1/Y2 Jump Inc. Visit
Friday 11 th March	KS1 Movie Night
Friday 18 th March	KS2 Movie Night

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Pemberton
Executive Headteacher





Children in nursery enjoyed drawing their book characters!

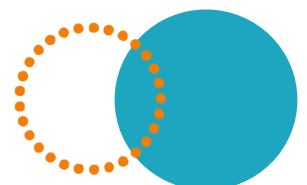


The children enjoyed bringing their potatoes to life as their favourite book character!



World Book Day

The children enjoyed lots of exciting activities in school yesterday and shared their love of reading for world book day. There were some amazing potato designs and Mr Hogben will be announcing the winners next week.



Sports Mania Breakfast & After School Club

Day	Breakfast	After School
Monday	DANCE, MUSIC & GAMES	GYMNASTICS
Tuesday	FOOTBALL / HANDBALL	DODGEBALL
Wednesday	DODGEBALL	BASKETBALL
Thursday	MULTI SPORTS	FOOTBALL
Friday	BALANCE - GYMNASTICS	MULTI SPORTS

Attendance Figures

Class	Attendance %
Sheaf	97.3
Endcliffe	96.9
Norfolk	96.9
Crucible	96.8
Lyceum	98.6
Kelham	95.7
Weston	94.8
Millennium	95.0
Graves	97.4
Bolsover	97.4
Peveril	91.5
Shirebrook	90.0
School Total	96.00

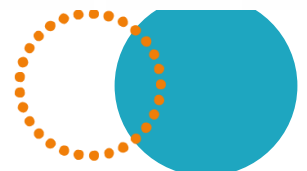
Our breakfast and afterschool clubs run daily for a charge of £4.00 per session.

Opening Times:

Breakfast Club: 7:35 am – 8:50 am

Afterschool Club: 3:10 pm – 4:15 pm

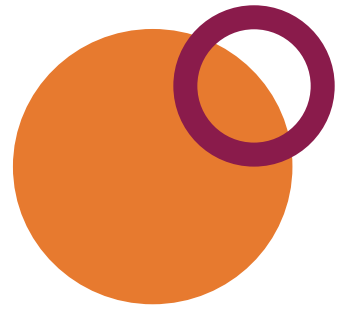
If you would like you child to attend a session, please book their place on the School Comms Gateway App.



Class Round-Up

EYFS

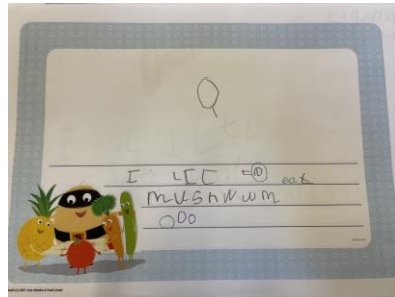
FS1
& 2



It has been a great first two weeks back in school, the children have been working hard on our "Imagine If" topic. We have been thinking about, what we are good at and writing about our superpowers that we would have.

We also had a fantastic time learning about Supertato and all of the different vegetables that are healthy for our body.

Ms. Peck & Mrs. Thomas



Year

1

This half term, our topic is called "How do our bodies move?". We have been learning about all the different ways we can keep our bodies healthy. In science, we have started to look at our body parts, labelling them and discussing their purpose. In DT, we have thought about and designed our own healthy snack, which matches a specific criteria. We will use our designs to make our healthy snacks in a couple of weeks time. In English, we are focusing on the book "The Robot and the Bluebird" the children have been developing their skills of making predictions using the front cover of the book, before reading the story and using their knowledge to act the story out through drama. The children really enjoyed working in groups to take on the roles of characters from the story.

In maths, we have been using cubes and rulers to measure the length and height of objects around our classroom. The children used their skills to make sensible estimations of what they thought an object measured and then used cubes and rulers to check their answers.

It has been an excellent start the new half term, the children have all shown great learning behaviours. We are all really looking forward to our upcoming class trip to Jump Inc!

Miss Whitworth

Year 1 / 2

Endcliffe class have been enjoying learning about our new unit this half term "In what different ways do our bodies move?" with extra excitement building around our visit to Jump Inc. next week. As well as World Book Day and Film Night!

In English, we have been immersing ourselves in the story 'The Robot and Bluebird' by David Lucas. The children have loved acting out parts of the story and delving into the thoughts and feelings of the main characters. In maths, our year 1 students have been looking at measure using both non standard units such as using counters, hands and feet and learning how to use a ruler accurately. The year 2 pupils have been looking at direction and position, they will be moving on to learn about money.

In science and topic, we are learning about parts of the body, how to keep healthy and how food nourishes the body. In Design and Technology, children have been designing a healthy snack.

Mrs. Horsfall & Mrs. Allen

Year 2

I hope Norfolk families had a wonderful, relaxing half term. It was great to welcome the children back all refreshed and ready for a new half term of learning.

This half term our new topic is called "How do our bodies move?" Children have thoroughly enjoyed becoming immersed into our topic and are really looking forward to our visit to Jump Inc. next Wednesday, 9th March where we will be investigating how exercise affects our bodies. So far we have looked at our bodies and named the different parts and their purposes. In DT we have looked at healthy foods and what makes a healthy snack and have been designing our own.

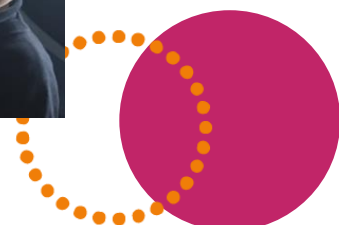
In English, our new class text is 'The Robot and The Bluebird' in which a robot with a old, broken heart finds a friend in a little bluebird. Norfolk enjoyed taking part in immersion activities such as drama and using an illustration to think what the story would be about. This week we have been retelling the story in our own words.

For maths, we began looking at position and direction and have now moved onto money. Looking at the different value of coins and making amounts before moving onto finding different combinations and giving change. It would be great if you can continue building this knowledge at home.

This week we thoroughly enjoyed learning all about Pancake day and the real meaning behind it before tucking into our own! Some pictures can be found below!

Well Done Norfolk, Keep up the hard work!!

Miss Willson

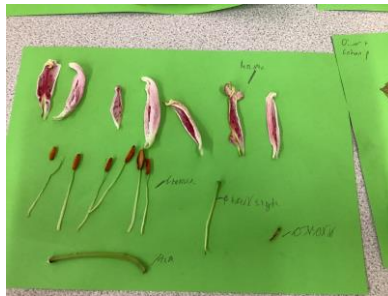
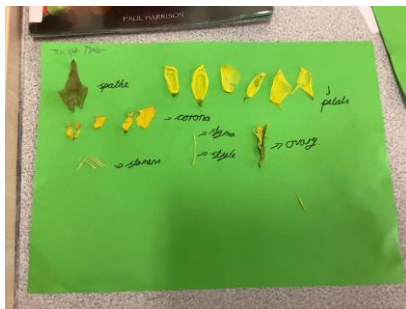


Year 3

In Year 3 we have started our new science topic on plants. The children have been interested to learn the different parts of plants, how water is transported up a plant and what plants need to survive.

We are reading a book called the Tin Forest. The book has really captured the children's imagination. It is about an old man that lives in a forest made of tin with no plants or animals. The children will be making mini books to share with they youngest children in school.

Mrs. Roberts and Miss Gostelow



Year 4

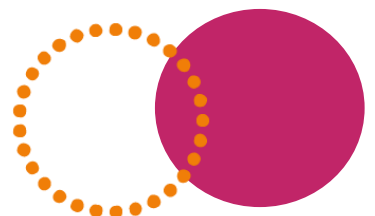
Over the last couple of weeks Y4 have been busy finding out all about the digestive system in both their Literacy and Science work. This week they'll find out about the impacts of different liquids on teeth enamel, and next week they'll be creating their own model of the digestive system!

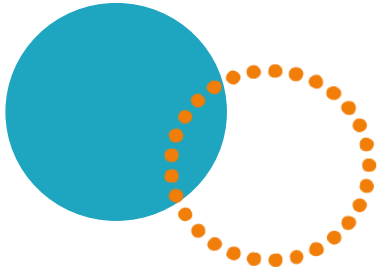
In maths, we have been challenging ourselves by understanding tenths and hundredths as well as converting fractions to decimals. And in RE we have started discussing the different ceremonies of Christianity.

In our Wednesday afternoon PE sessions we are lucky enough to be taking part in the Joy of Moving project run by Sheffield United's Primary Stars programme.

As always, if you have any questions about your child's learning, or how you can support them at home, please let us know.

Mr Jackson, Miss Landowski & Mrs. Powell-Ferguson





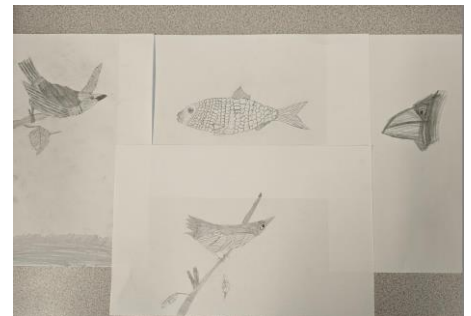
Year 5

This term, in Year 5, we are looking at all creatures great and small. Within English we are reading a story by Helen Ward and Marc Craste called Varmints. The children are in the process of creating a narrative based around the images from text in which they are including figurative language and descriptions.

In maths, we are looking at shape. The class have been solving problems based around perimeter and will be moving on to look at capacity and volume in the coming weeks.

Linked to our topic, in Art, the children have recreated some still life sketches of Charles Darwin's animal drawings. The have used shading and tone to create some fantastic artwork and a selection can be found below.

Mr Walsh & Miss Ambler



Year 6

We have begun our fascinating work on the Amazon; so far, we have looked at the geography of South America and the animal inhabitants of the Amazon rainforest. In maths, we have been learning how to multiply fractions by other fractions and by whole numbers. In English, we have been writing persuasively to convince other people about the benefits of donating blood; this work has been greatly supported by the amazing work we have been doing in Science where we have been learning about the circulatory system.

Reminders

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

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

Friday: PE Kits to be worn

Mr. Litherland and Miss Harper



80%

**OF OUR CHILDREN
ARE NOT EATING
ENOUGH VEGETABLES**

80% of our children are not eating enough vegetables with a third eating less than one portion of vegetables a day. Perhaps most alarming is that 50% of parents say they have given up even trying.

With the support of schools across the UK we are turning this around using advertising and marketing to inspire kids to veggie loving habits they will keep for life, and in turn share with their children.

Through a unique partnership between Veg Power, ITV, Channel 4 and Sky, plus the support of supermarkets, growers, devolved and local government, the Eat Them to Defeat Them campaign is bringing about real changes in children's attitudes towards vegetables.

Find out more:
EatThemToDefeatThem.com