



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

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# Newsletter

20<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear parents and carers,

I'd like to start my update this week by acknowledging how proud both myself and Mrs. Pemberton are of our amazing Year 6 children and the way they conducted themselves during the recent Year 6 SATs. It is fair to say that the last few years have placed considerable challenges on both children and staff alike. However, the Year 6 children (led by our dedicated Year 6 teachers and teaching assistants) managed the week really well. I would also like to thank all our parents and families for your continued help and support in preparing the children for what can be a challenging week. Similarly, our Year 2 children have been completing their Year 2 SATs over the last week. These tests are used to inform our teacher assessment and I know that Mr. Hogben (our KS1 leader) has been hugely impressed with the way our fantastic Year 2 children have worked this week. As I am sure you realise, a lot of work goes on behind the scenes to organise these weeks and I would like to thank the whole Birley Spa team for their collective efforts.

As we approach the final week of the Summer 1 term, we have lots to look forward to in school. We will be updating parents on our exciting plans to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee shortly. Furthermore, Mr. Walsh (our PE leader) is in the process of finalising plans for Sports Day and other sports-related events. Further updates to follow on this. Hopefully, the weather will remain good so that we can all enjoy plenty of outdoor learning and fun.

Finally, just a reminder that school is closed on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May, school reopens after the holidays on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr. Smith  
Interim Head of School

Join our

**POP UP CAFÉ**

Every Thursday after drop off!

On the school yard, under the canopy!

Come and join us for free coffee, food, and a chat ☺ ☺

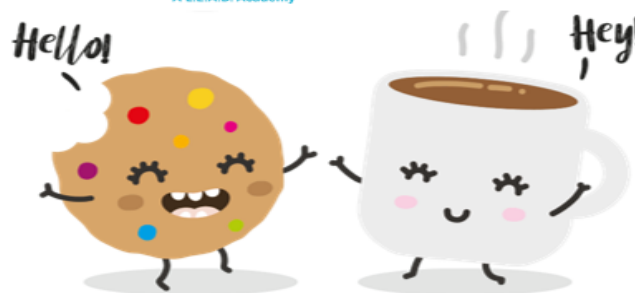


(9:00-10:00am)

Small children welcome!



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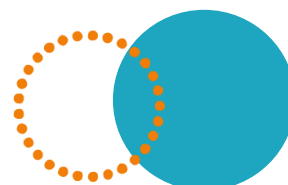
Many thanks once again for all parents and the staff team for making this weeks Pop up Cafe a continued success. It was great to see Di Rodgers, our school MAST link who attended and delivered an informative sleep clinic in response to parental request. Going forward it has become clear that parents really would like to learn more internet safety, so next Thursday's Cafe will have a focus on that particular subject.

Don't forget, you can turn up for a quick chat, a bite to eat, or even a takeaway coffee if your on the go!

The Pop up Cafe runs every Thursday, on the KS2 yard from 8.45 to 10am.

We hope to see you there!

Mrs. Miller, Mr. Jones and  
Mrs. Bolan



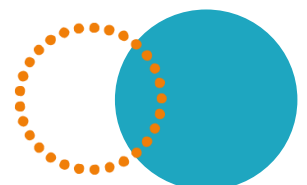
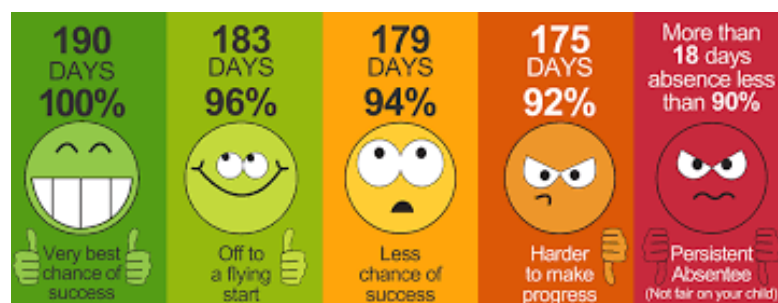


## Attendance Figures 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Class	Attendance %
Whirlow	92.7%
Heeley	95.5%
Sheaf	91.5%
Endcliffe	89.7%
Norfolk	93.4%
Crucible	93.6%
Lyceum	91.7%
Kelham	85.2%
Weston	81.5%
Millennium	91.9%
Graves	94.6%
Bolsover	96.7%
Peveril	97.4%
Shirebrook	94.3%
School Total	92.2%

Your support with ensuring all children have a good level of attendance is wonderful. Please do remember – excellent attendance leads to amazing achievements.

This week we have achieved 92.2% attendance as a whole school. Our Y6 classes are our overall attendance winners this week with 96.7% and 97.4%, Well Done Year 6!



# Class Round-Up

EYFS

FS1  
& 2

This week we have been very excited to watch the final stage in the life cycle of our butterflies. The tiny and very hungry caterpillars have now become butterflies. Today we released them to live in our school garden and watched them fly away to lay more eggs that will hatch into new caterpillars.

Our book of the week this week has been Jack and the Beanstalk. We have been retelling the story with real magic beans and building castles and beanstalks to support our story telling.

The sunflower seeds that we planted are growing taller as we look after them by watering them and making sure they have plenty of sunlight.

We are continuing to develop our environment in EYFS in line with the Curiosity Approach. This week we have been thinking about our cosy areas for reading books. If you, or anybody you know, are looking to rehome any rugs, throws, cushions or table lamps we would be very grateful for any donations.

Ms. Peck & Mrs. Thomas

Year

1 / 2

Over the past couple of weeks Key Stage 1 have continued to enjoy their topic "Which animals wriggle, crawl and roam?".

In Science, we have been investigating the different habitats and microhabitats of mini beasts. We have also been looking at the food chain. However, in topic we have been on a journey around the world visiting different continents and exploring the habitats of different animals there. As part of our Art learning, we have been creating observational drawings of mini beasts which we have then used to design a sculpture of a mini beast which we will be creating next week out of clay.

For our English learning, we have been exploring our new book 'Moth' which is an evolutionary story about Moths. From this we taken part in different fact-finding exercises in order to gain as much factual information about Moths as possible. This knowledge will help us when we write our own non-chronological reports next week.

In Y2 Maths, we have been consolidating our learning on fractions by looking at a fraction of a quantity and number. We have also recapped addition and subtraction ready for our KS1 SATs tests that have taken place this week. We would like to take this opportunity to say a big well done to the Year 2 children who have sat their tests this week and have shown great resilience, perseverance and maturity. In Y1 Maths, we have been continuing to look at place value to 100. The children have been using a range of different resources to find 1 more and 1 less than numbers to 100, representing numbers to 100 using pictorial representations and thinking carefully about the placement of numbers, by identifying the tens and ones in each number.

Year 1 and Year 2 are really looking forward to our trip next Thursday 26th May to Yorkshire Wildlife Park. Please give your consent and monies as soon as you can on the School Gateway App. Children need to arrive to school for 8:30am please so we can ensure a prompt departure at 9:00am.

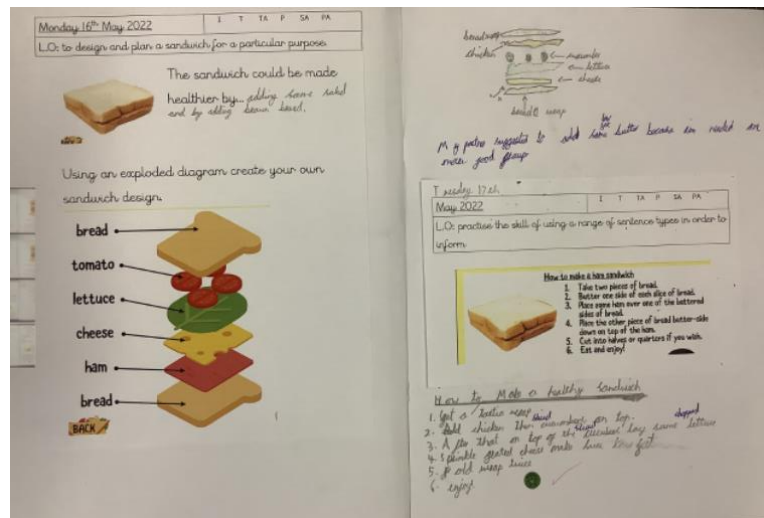
Mrs. Horsfall, Mrs. Allen, Miss Whitworth & Miss Wilson

# Year 3

In Y3 we are studying mystery stories. We have immersed ourselves in the story of the Krindlekrax. We have produced some street maps of the mysterious street as part of our immersion work. We are learning to use the different writing effects to create mystery in our writing this week. Such as the main character asking questions and short sentences to show panic.

In Design and Technology we are designing and making healthy sandwiches. We have tasted different breads and thought about the texture, taste and smell before designing a sandwich using an exploded diagram.

Mrs. Roberts and Miss Gostelow



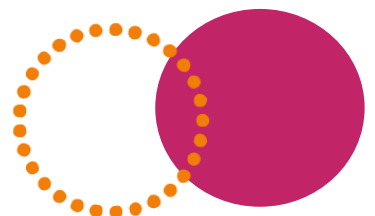
# Year 4

Y4 had a fantastic day out to the National Justice Museum in Nottingham this week, as part of our Crime and Punishment topic. It was a fascinating day with the children taking part in a courtroom trial playing different roles, as well as enjoying exhibits and meeting characters relating to British justice from medieval times through to the present day. The children were a credit to themselves and the school, and we were very proud of their behaviour throughout the day. A big thank you to those parents who accompanied us on the trip.

In English we have been learning the skills of writing Narrative this week and will be applying those skills to an independent write next week. In Maths we are looking at Position and Coordinates. PE has been great fun as we've been learning cricket, and in Science we've been observing how sound travels using paper cups and some string!

As ever, if you have any questions about your child's learning please do not hesitate to talk to us.

Miss Landowski, Mr. Jackson and Mrs. Powell-Ferguson



## Year 5

Y5 have had a brilliant term for Summer 1 and have produced and engaged in some great learning.

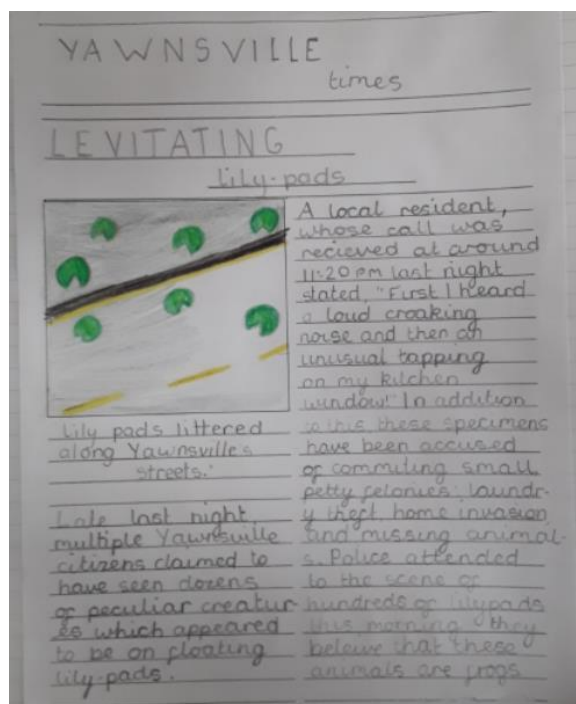
In English this term, the children have written two balanced arguments weighing up for and against reasons to questions such as: 'Should people consider having a clockwork heart instead of a human heart?' In Maths, we have been recapping fractions practising strategies including: ordering and comparing unit fractions and improper fractions, finding equivalents and working out the lowest common multiple. In History and our journey topic, the children have really enjoyed engaging through discussion based tasks and thinking about how they would feel if they were alive during that time. In Science, we have undertaken Maths experiments to determine how different forces work together and against each other. In Design and Technology, we have made some brilliant bridge structures using basic materials and the children have worked together to discover how to make their pieces stronger.



More information about Summer 2 can be found on the topic leaflet which is attached to Showbie.

Miss Ambler and Mr. Walsh

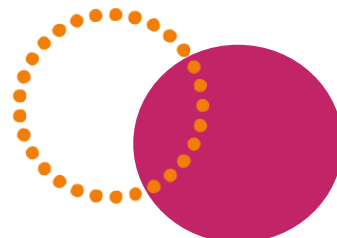
## Year 6

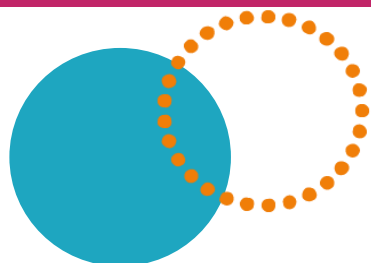


Y6 have been working hard, and continue to work hard, to demonstrate how well they can independently apply all of the writing skills they have developed in KS2. So far this term we have written a suspense narrative about a mysterious shop and a girl called Alma, and have written a newspaper report about some strange amphibious activity in a small village. We are now turning our attention to writing a diary entry, recalling the events of an the unbelievable night when levitating frogs invaded! But, it's not all work, work, work; Y6 can. Not. Wait for their trip to Cadbury World - we'll try not to eat too much chocolate while we're there!

Y6 held a parent's meeting for the Kingswood residential trip earlier this half term. If you were unable to attend the meeting and have questions about the trip, please ask your child to collect an information pack from their class teacher.

Miss Harper and Mr. Litherland





Today, Shirebrook celebrated World Bee Day. The purpose of the international day is to acknowledge the role of bees and other pollinators for the ecosystem. Here is a selection of fabulous art work the children produced.



Mrs. King and Mrs. Miller

# Star Pupils of the Week

16<sup>th</sup> May – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Whirlow	Viena for always doing the right thing and developing her independent learning	Amelie for her bravery when she hurt her arm and her determination to not let it affect her learning
Heeley	Kya for trying really hard in phonics, whilst beginning to learn sounds.	Paisley for showing great enthusiasm with her learning.
Sheaf	Coen for having a great week! Coen has shown a huge change in his confidence within class, participating more in lessons and sharing his ideas.	Alana for showing resilience in her maths work. She has made a great improvement and is showing a stronger understanding of numbers! Keep up the great work.
Endcliffe	Eddie for participating enthusiastically in class discussions and always being ready to learn.	Tailor for being polite and well mannered at all times and being focused on her learning in order to finish task on time.
Norfolk	Darcie for having great ideas when writing our shared non-chronological report about Moths.	Archie for showing great knowledge of the African Elephant and landscape in Geography this week.
Crucible	Amelia for her continued improvement in maths.	William for his super effort in maths
Lyceum	Mason for using mathematical vocabulary during class discussion and independent work.	Grace for independently editing her writing.
Weston	Oliver for showing fantastic manners and infectious enthusiasm during our trip to the National Justice Museum.	Hanna for preparing so well for our trip to The National Justice Museum, and thinking of lots of questions to ask.
Kelham	All of Kelham Class - fantastic visit to the National Justice Museum, an absolute credit to themselves and Birley Spa.	
Millennium	Georgi for his independent English work.	Luke for his creativity in Design and Technology.
Graves	Connor for being a brilliant role model in class and always participating .	Olivia for excellent participation in swimming.
Bolsover	Max for his excellent stamina and independence in writing.	Matilda for her excellent stamina and independence in writing.
Peveril	Lilli for adopting a positive attitude towards her writing, pushing herself to develop her own idea, and editing her work to improve the quality of her writing.	Scarlett for showing great focus when drafting and editing her writing. She has shown increasing independence in checking her writing for sense and using her purple pen to edit and improve her writing.