



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

NEWSLETTER

12th May 2023

Dear parents and carers,
Please see below this weeks news/events;



Toddler Group:

We are delighted to announce that after the half term we will be starting a 'playgroup' session for babies and toddlers up to 3 years old.

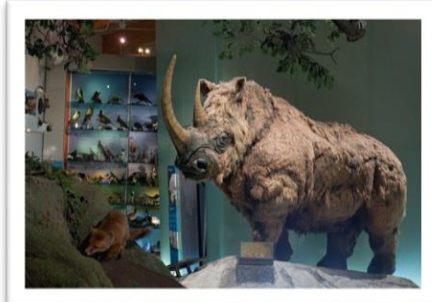
This will run on Wednesdays from 9:30am – 10:30am and will cost £2.00 a session.

This will allow parents and young children to socialise within the school, having access to resources, toys and activities.

Upcoming Visits:

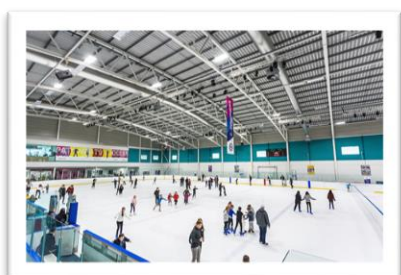
Weston Park Museum: on **Tuesday 16th May** our year 3 children are visiting Weston Park Museum. Based within a beautiful park, the museum has many different departments of historical events for the children to explore.

There will be multiple exhibitions and interactive learning areas, creating a more 'fun and engaging' environment for the children.



Ice Sheffield: On **Thursday 18th May** our Year 4 children are visiting Ice Sheffield. This will be a fun new exercise allowing children to trial a new sport/hobby, socialising and learning new skills whilst observing and learning from the experts.

We cannot wait to hear from our children following these fabulous visits.



Year group updates: EYFS

This half term in EYFS we are learning about growing and change.

We have had lots of fun watching the life-cycle of the caterpillar. We have learnt a new word metamorphosis. Our tiny and very hungry caterpillars formed a chrysalis and are now beautiful butterflies. We are going to release them this week. We have also made a wormery and are enjoying watching the worms wriggle around.

Our texts have been related to beanstalks and we have read: Jack and the Beanstalk, Jim and the Beanstalk and Jasper's Beanstalk.



Year group updates: Year 1 - 2

Years 1 and 2 had a great time visiting the Tropical Butterfly House as part of our learning about different species of animals. The children particularly enjoyed trying to entice the butterflies to land on them, with varying degrees of success.

A big thank you to Chris and Amy of Spa View Community Church who gave the children an informative and enjoyable assembly last week talking about the Christian Creation story. We then followed the discussion with an afternoon of our own creating.

In English the children have been busy writing their own fables. In Maths Y1 have covered Measurement and are now moving onto Place Value to 100, while in Y2 we've been really impressed with the children's application of fraction knowledge.

As ever, thank you for your continued support.

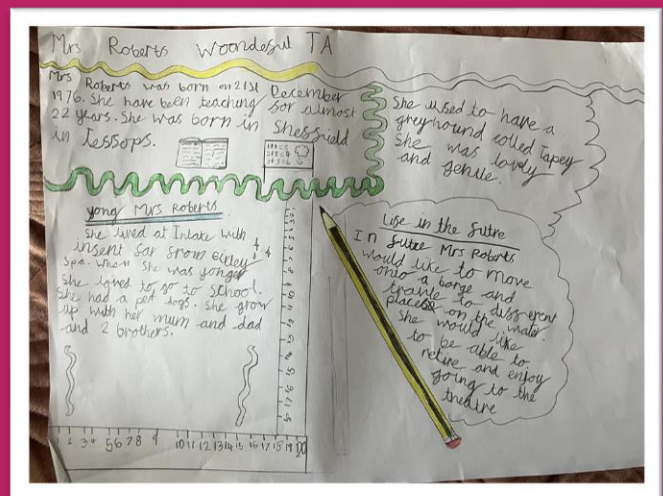
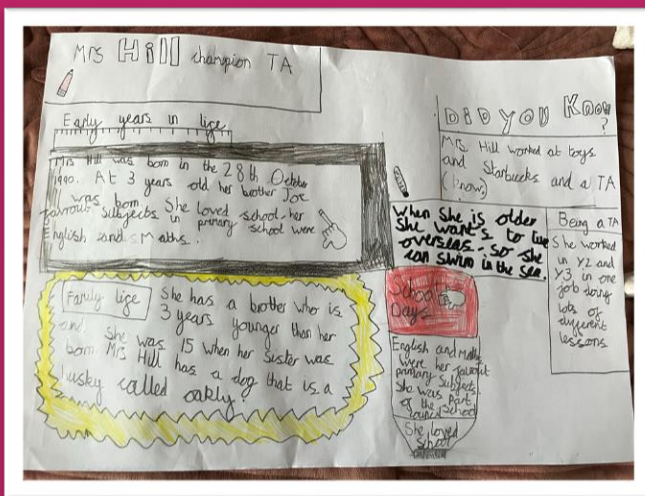


Year group updates: Year 3 -4

Year 3:

In year 3 we have been writing biographies and autobiographies. The children wrote biographies about some of the teachers and TAs in school. They also wrote some detailed and engaging autobiographies. In Science, children have been learning about nutrition and the human skeleton and muscles.

Children are really looking forward to our trip to Weston Park museum to study Bronze and Iron Age artefacts



Year 4:

It's been another exciting and busy time in Y4. We have all been really enjoying the Kings Coronation and loved designing our own 'Everything British' collages. Our real focus has been our 'Crime and Punishment' topic where we have been learning about how those have changed over the years. We have really got into finding out gruesome facts and ancient methods of punishment. What surprised us how crimes have changed and the punishments that go with them. Did you know for a 16 year period it was illegal to celebrate Christmas? Also, ask your children what the punishment was for pickpocketing, how about stealing a rabbit? They will love to tell you. We are also looking for the legend that is Dick Turpin. In art and design we are designing wanted posters in order to catch the most famous Highwayman.

Finally, it is just a few weeks until the multiplication tables check. Please keep practicing for a few minutes each day, it will make all the difference. You have been amazing!

Mr. Jackson and Miss Gostelow.

Year group updates: Year 5 -6

Year 5:

Last week, Year 5 had an unforgettable afternoon working with Sheffield Hallam University. The children were given the task to look for space rocks out on the Birley Spa Academy playground. The children started by collecting rocks and dust off the ground using a dustpan and brush and then filtered this down using a sieve to smaller amounts of debris. They then placed this under special microscopes, provided by Sheffield Hallam University, and had to look for shiny spheres amongst the regular rocks and dust. To the children's amazement, nearly every group were able to find some of the micrometeorites. The hardest task then was to use the tweezers and toothpicks to separate these from the regular debris. Everyone in Year 5 was thoroughly engaged and we could have spent the whole day looking for them.



Year 6: SAT's week:

The whole of the Y6 team are incredibly proud of each and every one of our Y6 pupils; they have shown great resilience, determination and focus throughout the whole of SATs week. Every single person made every effort to revise, arrive early and maintain a positive attitude which gave them the best chance of achieving their potential. We hope you all have a restful and celebratory weekend.

From Monday, we begin a greater focus on writing and our wider curriculum as well as exciting trips coming up such as Crucial Crew at The Lifewise Centre and our residential trip to Kingswood!



Year Group updates: Shirebrook

The theme of 'How does your garden grow?' has proved a popular one. We have explored plants and flowers, cutting them up and seeing what is inside, as well as grown some of our very own sunflowers. We have learned about the different parts of plants and what their function is, whilst also engaging in some experiments – looking at transportation of nutrients and the best conditions for healthy growth. In Art, we have been learning about still life drawing, and using leaves and flowers as our inspiration for this, with the end goal being to make a leaf/flower shape out of clay and decorate it. For our weekly construction lessons, we have made a broad range of flowers and some garden creatures such as ladybirds and caterpillars, using different colored card, paper, googly eyes and straws.

We have continued the plant theme in Music, singing along to the Miley Cyrus' 'Flowers' song, thinking about rhythm and beat, clapping along, playing shakers and tambourines to the beat and learning some Makaton signs for the words.

Meanwhile, in English we have been looking closely at a non-fiction book, learning about the features and their purpose, to help us create our own leaflet about either the sensory garden or the forest school area, which will then be displayed in the school foyer for anyone to take a copy.

We are also loving our three sessions with our sports mentor each week, focused around golf, athletics and games. We have also accessed the garden to create some plant based book marks and do a scavenger hunt that generated letters to work out the word.





Coronation Disco's



This week, our Year Ones, Twos, Threes and Fours all had their 'King's Coronation Disco'

The children participated in 'Coronation' themed games and activities at the start of the evening, this followed by the disco.

We loved seeing the children all dressed up and having fun!



Life Experience Opportunities

After School Clubs

We are pleased to announce that our life experience opportunities clubs have already been a huge success! Please see below full details of clubs currently running.

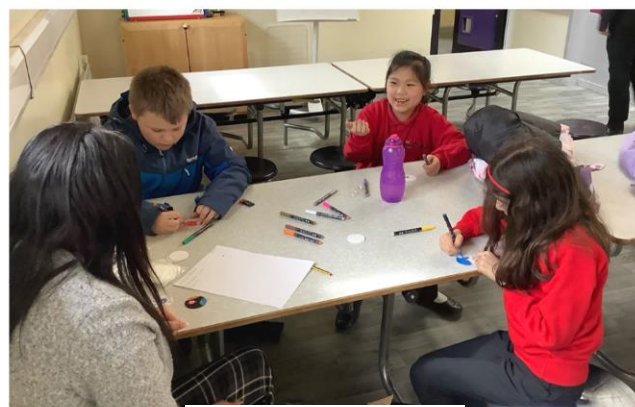
Remember, your child can still sign up for any club which still has places.

Please make sure your child is collected promptly at 3:40pm after the club at assigned collection points.

Day:	Year 1 & 2	Year 1, 2, & 3	Year 3, 4, 5 & 6
Monday:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Expression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Expression (club is full) • Reading for please • Mindfulness
Tuesday:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Story-time 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making Fresh Food (club is full) • Enterprise
Thursday:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Skills through Board games • First Aid for beginners (Club is full) • Design Club • Sewing Club • Art using Story characters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enterprise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardening Club (club is full) • Sign Language(Makaton) • Resilience and Confidence
Friday:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making Fresh Foods • Dance 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Club • Spanish (Club is full)



Y3-6 Making Fresh Food



Y3-6 Enterprise

House Points

Please see below our weekly updated House Points:



House Name:	Total House Points:
Diamond House	8006
Emerald House	8063
Ruby House	7931
Sapphire House	7841

Weekly Attendance

8th - 12th May 2023

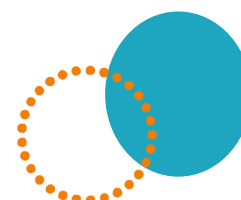


EYFS	Heeley	91.1%
EYFS	Whirlow	87.6%
Y1	Sheaf	90.4%
Y1/Y2	Endcliffe	97.7%
Y2	Norfolk	89.5%
Y3	Crucible	92.7%
Y3	Lyceum	88.5%
Y4	Kelham	97.1%
Y4	Weston	87.9%
Y5	Millennium	77.9%
Y5	Graves	95.1%
Y6	Bolsover	99.1%
Y6	Peveril	99.5%
Y3/Y6	Shirebrook	93.8%
Whole School Attendance		92.2%

Well done to Endcliffe, Kelham, Bolsover and Peveril classes for achieving over 96% this week!

At Birley Spa Primary Academy we are committed to helping all pupils to achieve their full potential. Good attendance is a key factor in raising pupils' attainment and supporting their personal development. Whilst it is appreciated that children are ill from time to time, please think carefully before allowing your child to be absent from school. The chart below provides an indication of how just a few days absence can significantly impact a child's overall attendance percentage and impede their learning:

Description	Attendance	Whole Days Lost	Lost Hours of Learning
Excellent	100 – 99%	0 – 2	0 – 10
Good	98 – 96%	4 – 7.5	20 – 37.5
Requires Improvement	95 – 91%	9.5 – 17	47.5 – 85
Persistent Absentee	90 – 86%	19 – 27	95 – 135
Critical	85 – 80%	28.5 – 38	142.5 – 190



STAR OF THE WEEK

8th - 12th May 2023

Heeley	Khamilah – Independence and having a great week at nursery.	Esmee – Creativity when using clay to make models of ‘mini beasts’
Whirlow	Parker - For Aspiration and developing his own learning in all areas	Lily - For her Empathy and sharing her reading skills with others.
Sheaf	Emily – Showing Resilience and Endeavour . You have been working so hard with your writing this week and have shown a very positive attitude.	Layton – Resilience in Maths. Layton has shown a big improvement in confidence and skills. Keep it up!
Norfolk	Ellis – Staying focused on his work and being Resilient , even when he doesn’t find it easy.	Lily – Endeavouring to achieve her best and staying engaged in all her learning.
Endcliffe	Ivy – Empathy and Tolerance – Ivy has been an amazing friend and helper to our new child in class.	Willow – Aspiration – Willow is always aiming high producing fantastic work in all lessons.
Lyceum	Samuel – Showing Resilience and Endeavour in your maths work. You have worked super hard in our money topic and your end of unit test is proof of this.	Taylor – Always showing our school values. You are a hard working, caring person and I am proud to have you in my class. This week you have shown true Resilience with your maths and you never gave up. Well Done!
Crucible	Remarni – Improving your punctuality. You are Endeavouring to be at school early. Well done!	Kavern – Empathising with a character and really getting into the role. Great writing Kavern.
Weston	Golnouch – Working hard on her handwriting and presentation of all her learning.	Oscar – Showing a positive attitude to his learning and joining in class discussions.
Kelham	Jacob – Wonderful Endeavour in maths, beautifully presented, accurate work in position and direction.	Ronnie – Amazing Aspiration (Challenge 3 everyday!) in maths unit position and direction.
Graves	Abbey – Showing Aspiration and Resilience this week during maths.	Kayla – Always showing Empathy and Tolerance to others.
Millennium	Jayden – his Resilience and Endeavour at swimming. His effort and progress has been amazing to see.	Jamie – Showing Resilience and Endeavour at swimming. His effort and progress has been amazing.
Bolsover	To Bolsover class – Hard work and determination during SAT’s week, Well done for being for Resilient !	
Peveril	To Peveril class – Hard work and determination during SAT’s week, Well done for being for Resilient !	
Shirebrook	Rena-Leanne - for Resilience throughout this week with her SATS.	

Dates for the Diary

16 th May	Y3 Weston Park Museum Visit
18 th May	Y4 Ice Skating
15 th – 26 th May	SATS Week – Y2
29 th May – 2 nd June	Half Term – School Closed
5 th June	Inset Day – School Closed
9 th June	Y6 Crucial Crew Visit
12 th – 18 th June	Phonics Assessment Week
16 th June	Father's Day Celebrations
19 th June	Father's Day Celebrations
21 st – 23 rd June	Y6 Residential to Kingswood
3 rd July	Enterprise Week
11 th July	Sports Day – Y1 & Y2 / Y3 & Y4
12 th July	Sports Day – EYFS
13 th July	Sports Day - Y5 & Y6
14 th July	Reports Sent Home
17 th July	Summer Fayre
21 st July	Whole School Family Picnic
21 st July	Last day of term
4 th – 5 th September	Inset Days – School Closed
6 th September	School Reopens to children

