



NEWSLETTER

26th May 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Please see below this weeks news/events;

Lifestyle Opportunity Clubs

Our after school lifestyle opportunity clubs are continuing next term. Please contact the school office to book your child into clubs. Please note all **clubs run 3:10pm-3:40pm.**

Day:	Year 1 & 2	Year 1 & 2	Year 3, 4, 5 & 6
Monday:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Expression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Expression • Mindfulness
Tuesday:			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making Fresh Food • Enterprise
Thursday:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Skills through Board games • First Aid for beginners • Design Club • Sewing Club • Art using Story characters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enterprise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gardening Club • 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

Baby/Toddler Group:

In the new term, we will be hosting a Baby and Toddler group. Sessions will be every Wednesday at 9:30am-10:30am starting on Wednesday 7th June 2023 and will be £2.00 a session. We ask that this is paid in cash on the day. If you wish to attend please call the school office to book a session.

Crucial Crew:

A reminder to parents of our Year Six students. Our Crucial Crew visit will take place on Friday 9th May. Please ensure all permission forms have been filled out and returned to school if not done so already.



Special Mentions:

A special mention to our first ever Silver learner: Lyla from Lyceum.

Another special mention to the **Bronze learners** mentioned in assembly today! Well done!



Y5 – Celebration afternoon

On Monday 22nd May, we invited parents/carers of our Year 5 into school to support and guide them with their Design and Technology.

They helped the children design and sew their own 'Flag of Me' that they would place on the moon!

We really enjoyed watching the children come out of their shells and socialise with others.

'Loved coming into school and making the flag – very good interactive activity for kids and adults.'

'I really enjoyed the bonding time with my child while doing something productive and knowledgeable. I would like to do it again more often.'

'Lovely afternoon doing something I've not done for year and to do it with my child was a pleasure.'

'Really enjoyed being able to join in with Kaci and her friends making flags, would be lovely to do things like this again.'



Year Group Contributions: EYFS

EYFS: This half term in EYFS we have enjoyed learning about growing and change. We have had lots of fun watching the life-cycle of a butterfly. We have now released the butterflies but have learnt a lot from observing them growing and changing.

We have also been making our own minibeast models using clay. We thought carefully about how the minibeast looked and then we used our hands and tools to roll and add detail to our clay minibeast.

This week we have had some plants donated for our garden. Mrs. Clayton and some children have planted them. We are now watering them every day and are looking forward to seeing them all flower.

We are looking forward to our topic next half-term which is all about plants as food.



Year Group Contributions: KS1

KS1: It's been a busy couple of weeks in Key Stage 1, with the Y2 children taking their SATs papers in Reading, Maths, Spelling and Punctuation. We have been very impressed with how they have adapted to the changes in routine.

In English the children have been writing their own fables, based on the lazy Hare and the resilient Tortoise.

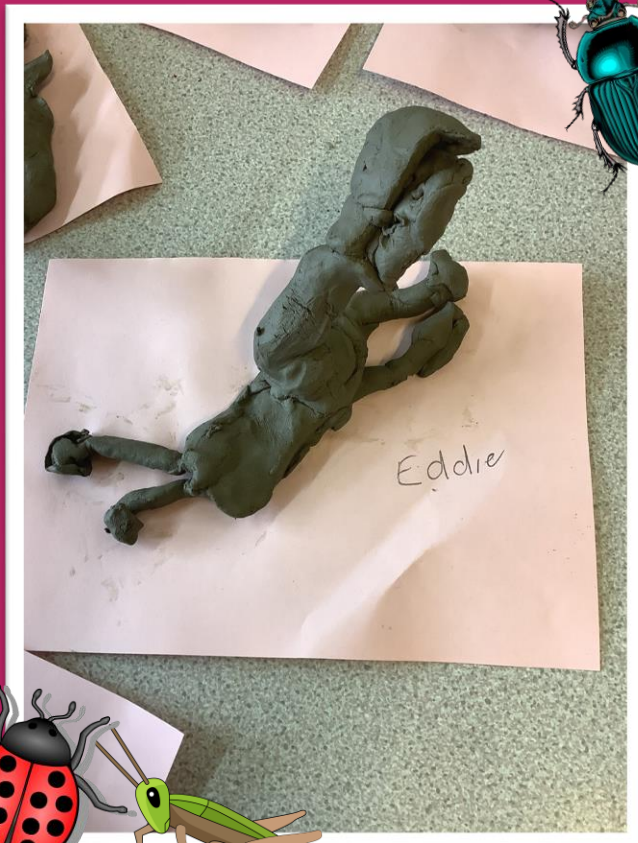
Now that Spring is well and truly sprung we have really enjoyed a Science investigation of bug hunting - exploring our school grounds and identifying invertebrates.

In History the children have used their knowledge of the Great Fire of London to create posters, write diary entries and newspaper reports.

Finally, in DT we've been following the work of French sculptor Antoine Louis Barye, and have been using modelling techniques to sculpt animals from clay.

As ever, thank you for your continued support.

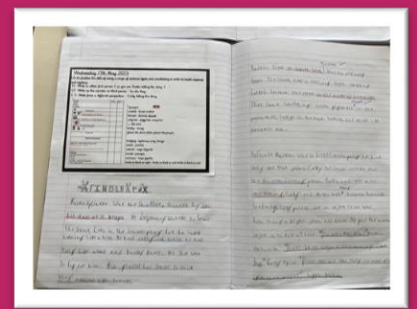
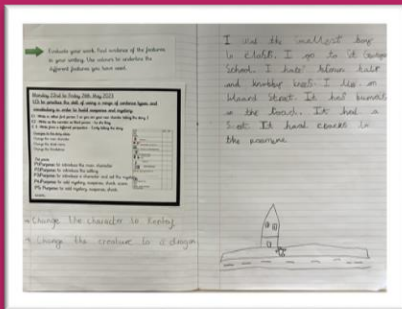
KS1 Team



Year Group Contributions: Y3 –Y4

Y3: Year 3 are busy this week designing and making healthy sandwiches for parents and carers to taste. Children have enjoyed tasting different breads and designing own their sandwich.

Year 3 have enjoyed reading the story of the Krindlekrax and have written their own mystery stories.



Y4: In Y4 we are continuing our drive to Times Table perfection. We will be completing the Multiplication Tables Check in the two weeks after half term. All we are asking for is one final push, you have done amazing, the progress has been outstanding. We are very proud of you, just two more weeks of practice! In the wider curriculum this week we have had practical sessions in science. We have really enjoyed building electrical circuits and adding switches, motors and bulbs. We have also been historians looking at who the suffragettes were, what they fought for and the actions they took. We were really shocked at some of the things they did which resulted in some of the members been imprisoned for their crimes. Our key question was to think whether their actions were justifiable or not, your child will share their opinions with you I'm sure. As always Y4, well done and keep up the good work. Enjoy half term.

Mr. Jackson and Miss Gostelow.



Year Group Contributions: Y5 – Y6

Y5: Year 5 are thoroughly enjoying learning about Space this term. They have recently been looking at each planet in more detail, finding out about how many moons each planet has and how far away they are from the sun.

In English, the children have written some fantastically creative Sci-Fi narratives about a character winning a ticket to go to the future!

Maths lessons have been very practical this term as we have looked at symmetry, translation and coordinates. The children have been very successful and showed a lot of resilience within their learning.

Over the next term, we will be having a big focus on ensuring that all the children are Year 6 ready. Please support at home by ensuring that times tables are being learnt and that reading is taking place 3 or more times a week.



Y6: Now that SATs are over, Y6 turn their attention to producing a wider range of high-quality pieces of writing; they are being given plenty of opportunities to show off their skills as authors. We have finished writing a playscript based on the book 'Secrets of a Sun King' and have now turned our attention to writing a character description of a mysterious pirate "captain" from the beginning of Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island.

We have been investigating how mathematics has been used throughout history to create artistic pieces using tessellation. We've also learnt how to plan a music festival and how Maths is vital to ensure the event would be a (financial) success; $\text{Income} - \text{outgoings} = \text{profit!}$

Y6 have thoroughly enjoyed our Ancient Egyptians topic this term, particularly explaining (in detail) the process of mummification - gruesome!

By the end of this half term, Y6 will have used their knowledge of electrical circuits and woodworking to create prototype toy cars aimed at young children.

Year Group Contributions: Shirebrook

Shirebrook: It has been a fun and busy half term whilst learning all about plants and growth. We have created our own leaflet/poster about the outdoor spaces at Birley Spa, during our English lessons, as we have been learning about non-fiction texts.

The children have enjoyed learning about the features of non-fiction texts and especially enjoyed taking the photos of the different outdoor spaces around school, before writing sentences about them.

The children have also taken the lettering of the heading of the poster and decorated them individually – they've done a great job, make sure you grab a copy if you're in the school foyer!

In Maths we used plants and flowers as a base for gathering data when doing tally charts, bar charts and comparing the data itself. The children did the class proud as they walked around school asking anyone they met what their favorite flower was (rose, daisy, lily, sunflower). The children have also planted their own sunflowers, tested the conditions needed for it to prosper and used tissues, colored water and bowls to demonstrate how water and nutrients are transported up through a plant. In Geography we learned about the different climates of the world and volcanoes, making our own using mod rock, painting them and then using bicarbonate of soda and vinegar to create the lava.

We have also ended our theme with a visit to the Forest School garden where we made pictures of faces or other familiar things using nature, similar to the work of the artist Arcimboldi, who we looked at during Art.



Staying Safe Online!

An National Online Safety resource to empower parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to have an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, facts and tips for adults.

ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online, listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.

 **National Online Safety®**
#WakeUpWednesday



Staying Safe in the Sun!

Summer is here! Please remember to ask an adult to apply and maintain sun cream throughout the holidays, this can be easily forgotten with lots of fun going on. Hat's are a really great way of protecting your head from the sun.

SUN SAFETY

SUMMER SKIN PROTECTION



**WEAR
BROAD HAT**



USE SUNGLASSES



**WEAR PROTECTIVE
CLOTHING**



**AVOID SUN BETWEEN
11 AM AND 3 PM**



USE SUNSCREEN



**DRINK MORE
WATER**



**REFLECTION
CAUTION**



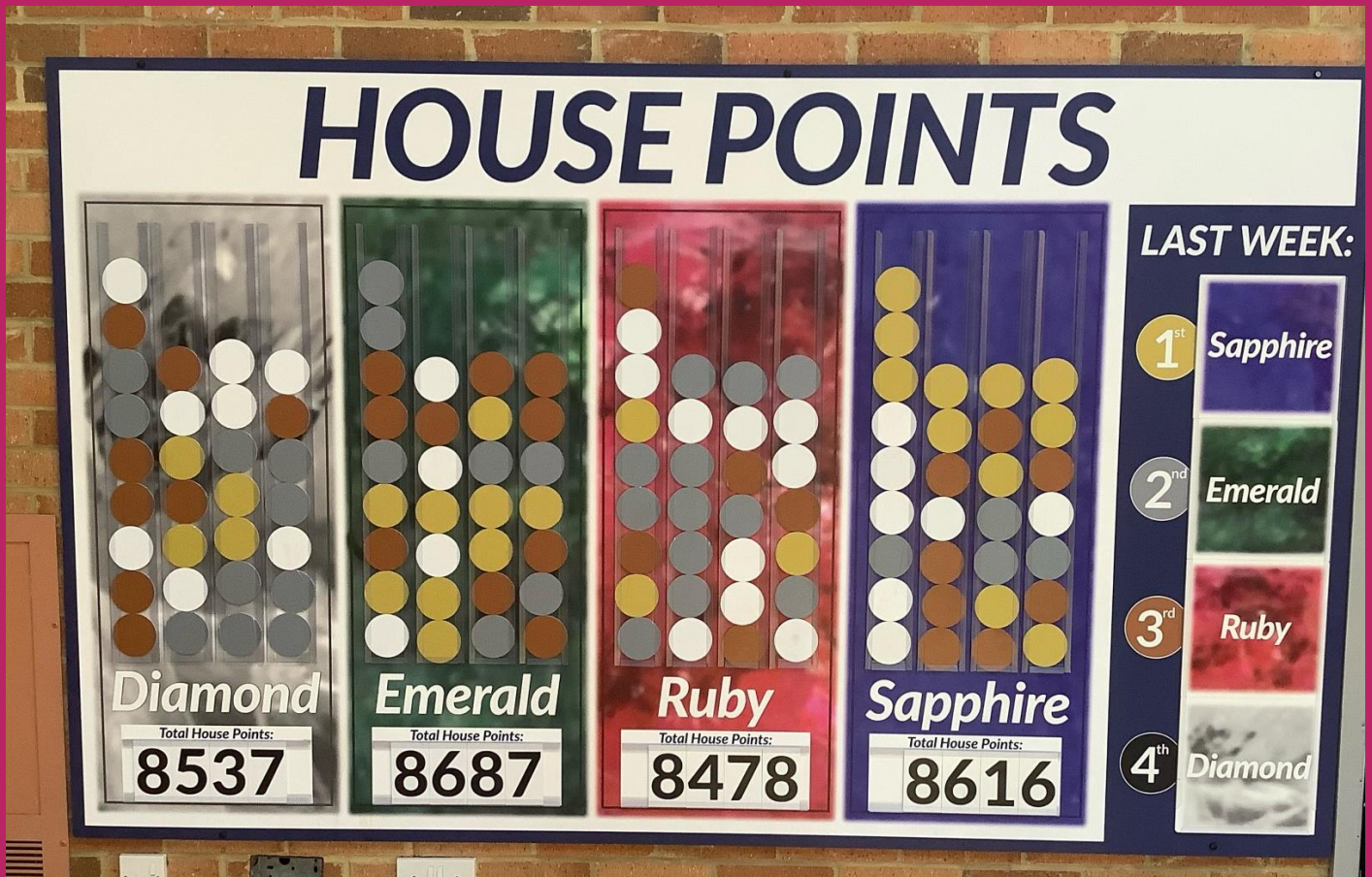
SEEK SHADE



**AVOID DIRECT
SUNLIGHT**

House Points

Please see below our weekly updated House Points:



House Name:	Total House Points:
Diamond House	8537
Emerald House	8687
Ruby House	8478
Sapphire House	8616

Weekly Attendance

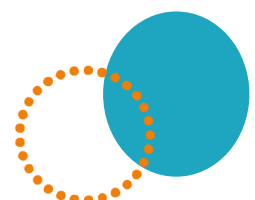
22nd - 26th May 2023



EYFS	Heeley	88.6%
EYFS	Whirlow	91.6%
Y1	Sheaf	91.7%
Y1/Y2	Endcliffe	92.3%
Y2	Norfolk	84.5%
Y3	Crucible	95.4%
Y3	Lyceum	91.7%
Y4	Kelham	89.6%
Y4	Weston	92.1%
Y5	Millennium	86.2%
Y5	Graves	90.4%
Y6	Bolsover	92.6%
Y6	Peveril	89.1%
Y3/Y6	Shirebrook	81.4%
Whole School Attendance		90%

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

22nd - 26th May 2023

Heeley	Ella - For showing Aspiration in phonics this week and working really hard.	Brady - for showing Resilience and Endeavour whilst learning to write his name with correctly formed letters.
Whirlow	Ethan – His Aspiration in extending his writing.	Charlotte: Her Teamwork in Whirlow class and being a kind and considerate friend. Charlotte shows Aspiration in all areas of learning.
Sheaf	Theo – Working hard in all his learning and displaying all our school values all the time . You are a positive Role model .	Anaya – Showing Endeavour in her learning. Anaya always ties her absolute best and values her achievements.
Norfolk	Thomas – Showing Resilience in his Maths work, and working hard to achieve his best.	Evie-Rose – Impressing us with your Creative writing. You have applied the skills you have learnt to create an exciting fable.
Endcliffe	Gabriel - Resilience . Gabriel has settled into Birley Spa fantastically and tried really hard with all challenges he’s faced.	Jaxon – Resilience . Jaxon has continuously worked hard under difficult circumstances but never gets distracted or gives up.
Lyceum	Joshua – Showing Endeavour and Aspiration with your retelling of Kindlekrax. Your word choices are ambitious and you have been trying hard with your spelling. Well done!	Lyla – Displaying all the school values every day in every lesson. You have a great attitude towards your learning and you are always ready to learn something new. Well Done!
Crucible	Scarlett - for Aspiring to complete her work independently. Well done Scarlett	Jayden - for showing Empathy and Tolerance to his peers and really Aspiring to write more during writing lessons.
Weston	Emaleigh - Showing Aspiration in her writing and working hard with editing and improving.	Salma – Showing Aspiration in her writing and identifying areas to improve her work independently.
Kelham	Oscar – Endeavouring to try his very best in PE, being enthusiastic and helping the team.	Amelia – Being Resilient learner in maths, continuing day after day to improve her times tables scores.
Graves	Olivia – Showing Resilience and writing brilliantly with her classmates.	Harry – Showing Aspiration in all subjects this week and well done for becoming a ‘Bronze learner’
Millennium	Stanley – His Creative writing in English where he wrote a fantastic sci-fi narrative.	Jaiden – His Creative writing In English and his Aspiration in maths when writing on symmetry.
Bolsover	Layla: For her Creativity with writing a character description. The progress you have made with including different sentence types is brilliant.	Abbie: For being a brilliant Role model . Well done for using your Teamwork skills and continuing to support your peers in class.
Peveril	Flynn - For his brilliant engagement in all lessons this week. You have been very Resilient .	Francie - For using Creativity in his character description of the Captain. The vocabulary you have included is great.
Shirebrook	Mickenzie - for showing Endeavour during Math's lessons. Mickenzie has put his hand up more and tried really hard when learning about statistics.	Elijah - for showing Endeavour when engaging in Math's lessons all week. Elijah has shown confidence and willingness to fail.

Dates for the Diary

29 th May – 2 nd June	Half Term – School Closed
5 th June	Inset Day – School Closed
7 th June	Toddler Group starts – 9:30 – 10:30
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

