

Autumn Term 1 Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are approaching the end of the first half term already and school has been a buzz of activity. The children have settled back into the swing of things very quickly and have started some incredible learning, had trips out of school to enrich their curriculum and continued to demonstrate the 'Six ways to Shine' daily.

It has also been wonderful to see so many children taking up opportunities to access extra-curricular opportunities and enrichment. These range from sporting activities such as: Cross-Country races, football tournaments and after school activity clubs, to taking up roles in the school council, eco schools' group and Rota kids to name only a few.

Our 'Parent Events' for each class are also happening over this week and we would like to thank everybody for their continued support at these events. They provide a great opportunity for us to share a snippet of school life with you and to share in some of the learning that they have been doing in school. As mentioned previously, after the holidays we would like to welcome parents to a parents evening where you can discuss your child's individual progress, strengths, and targets. Information has been provided about how to book an appointment, but please contact the School Office if you have any questions or need any help.

Finally, we would like to remind you of our Harvest festival this Friday in St Saviours Church. There will be two services on Friday at 9am and 2pm. The door will be open for 20 mins prior to the start time. Please could we ask that anybody wishing to join us for the Harvest service only attends one of the two allocated times to help us manage safe numbers in church.

Thank you to everyone who has brought in food items for our Harvest collection, if there are any remaining donations, please bring these in before Friday morning when we have arranged a collection with the Bingley foodbank.

School will close at 3pm on Friday 20th October for the half term and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 30th October at 8:30am.

Thank you for your continued support,

Leanne Ruddock, Head of School &

Kirsty Hutchinson, Executive Headteacher



Upcoming Dates

Further details of these events will be sent in due course

Friday 20th October—Harvest festival in church 9am & 2pm

Both of the services will involve the whole school and be exactly the same and we ask that parents / carers only attend one of the services to help us manage numbers in the church.

Friday 20th October 3pm—School closes for October half term holiday

Monday 30th October 8:30am—School re-opens for Autumn 2 Half term

Friday 3rd November— PTFA Sparkle Disco

Wednesday 15th November— Parents Evening

Thursday 16th November— Parents Evening

Friday 17th November— Children in Need

Thursday 21st November— Y2 BFD Museums Trip

Thursday 27th November— Y3 Trip to Tropical World

Thursday 30th November- Y5 STEM Workshop

Friday 1st December— PTFA Elf Run

Tuesday 12th December—Reception Nativity 2pm and 5pm

Wednesday 13th December—Year 1 Nativity 2pm and 5pm

Thursday 14th December—Year 2 Nativity 2pm and 5pm

Friday 15th December— Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 15th December— Christmas Dinner Day

Friday 15th December— KS2 Christmas Celebration event

Monday 18th December— Christmas Party Day (During the school day)

Monday 18th December— School Closes for Christmas break



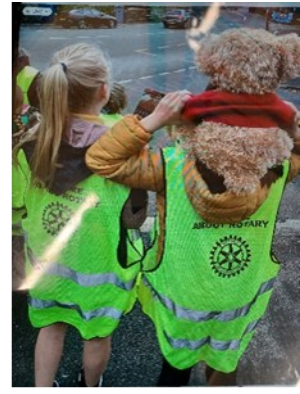
Important Messages

Message from the Rota Kids

The Rota Kids have been on their 2 mile walk to Goit Stock and back this morning to raise awareness for polio. The children handed out leaflets and talked to the people of Harden about polio and their role as “Rota Kids”

During our walk we have hidden some Purple Polio Rocks which has a link to the Rotary Club Facebook page where you can find out about the other wonderful work the Rota kids and the Rotary foundation do to help the community and wider world. If you find the rocks, we would really love to continue to spread awareness of polio as well as the Rotary Foundation therefore would appreciate you hide the rocks in a new spot.

As ‘Polio Day’ is on the 24th of October, the children will be selling purple crocuses at the church Friday morning and afternoon linking to our Harvest celebrations. We ask that a small donation is made to buy a crocus. Please look out for more information on polio in the media on the 24th October.



Message from the School Council

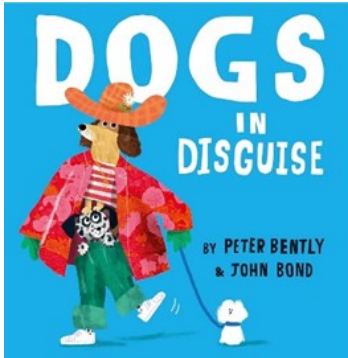
The School Council have been busy meeting to discuss upcoming events taking place at school. Firstly, they organised a collection for the local food bank. They are extremely grateful for all the donations that have come in so far.

Their next project will be raising money for the ‘Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.’ The School Council will be selling lots of poppy merchandise in the playground on the first week back after half term before school each morning from 08:20am in the playground outside the school hall.

Recommended Reads

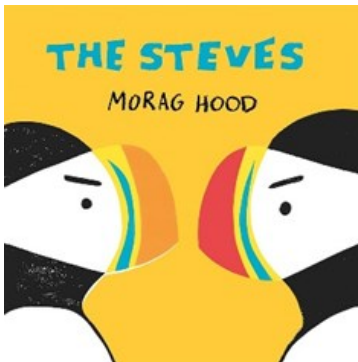
We are often asked to recommend new books suitable for the different year groups, so here is our top pick for this half term! If you have any great 'Reads', come and see Mrs Ruddock so we can share! This half term some of our Year 6 children have asked to share their recommendations for KS2 children.

Luna – Dogs in Disguise



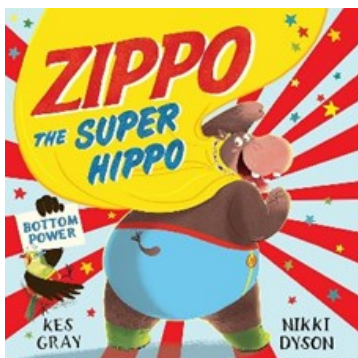
This is a really funny rhyming book with great pictures.

Arlo - The Steves



This is a really funny book about two very competitive puf-fins.

Rex – Zippo The Super Hippo



A funny book about a hippo who dreams of being a super hero, by the author of oi cat!

Reception Update

Over the past few weeks, Reception have been busy settling into their brand new school life and routines. The children have really enjoyed getting to know each other, our likes and interests and making lots of new friends! They have been busy exploring our classroom, completing lots of activities and taking an active role in our play. In particular, they have enjoyed learning outside using the water tray and getting messy when markmaking!



Reception have been on an autumn scavenger hunt finding the signs of the new season. We discussed how the weather and environment can change during the autumn months including the leaves changing colours. The children collected their “signs” of autumn and created an Autumn collage using their natural materials.

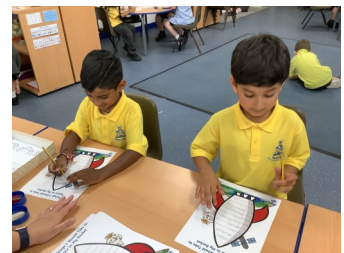


Finally, to link with our topic “All About Me” Reception have been talking about people who help us in the wider community. The children had visits from parents including a police officer, a care worker and a member of the hospital staff. They have learnt lots about their jobs and their responsibilities and asked some great questions to extend our learning.

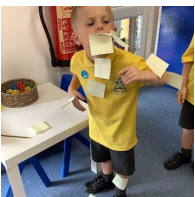


Year 1 Update

Year 1 began the half term with a STEM Careers topic day which the children thoroughly enjoyed. They learnt about what it takes to be an astronaut and what their role entails. The children enjoyed exploring the space themed small world and finding out lots of interesting facts by exploring a range of non-fiction books. The children did some fantastic writing about astronauts and wrote a list of items they would take if they were to venture into Space on a mission. In provision, the Year 1 enjoyed a range of independent activities including developing their cutting skills to create their own rockets and making models of rockets and the International Space Station using a range of construction materials. Throughout the day, the children made their own paper and straw rockets which they enjoyed launching in the playground



In Science, the children have been learning about humans including animals. The children have learnt to identify and label the parts of the human body and explore the senses through a range of fun and engaging activities like blind folded drawing, mystery taste testing and identifying things by touch or smell alone. The children have learnt about vertebrates and invertebrates and identified similarities and differences between humans and other animals.



Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed a trip to Eureka to consolidate their learning in both Science and Topic. They enjoyed exploring the galleries and in particular watching the Gross Lab Science show where they learnt all about gross things like snot and saliva. The children learnt about the human body and the importance of exercise in the All About Me gallery and explored the science of sound and music in the Sound-Space gallery. A favourite was definitely engaging in role play in the bank, shop and post office. The class were incredibly well behaved and represented our school brilliantly.

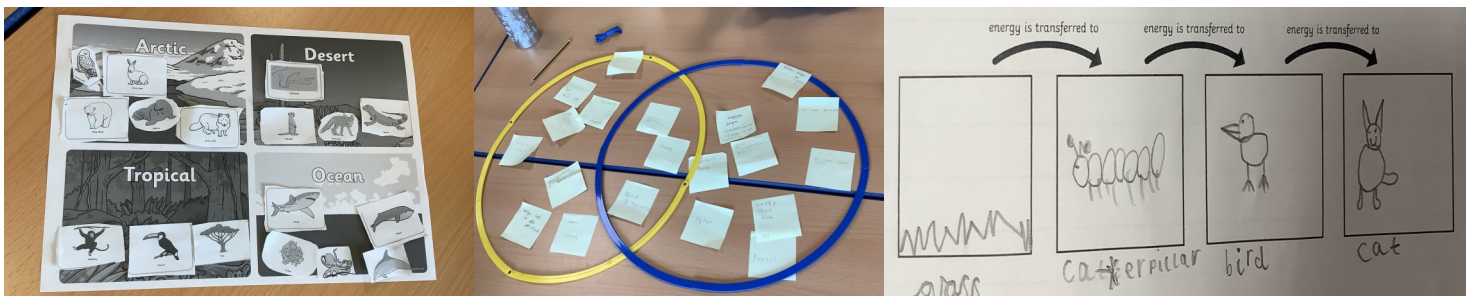


Year 2 Update

Over the past few weeks, Year 2 have been learning all about the Victorians as part of their History topic. The children have been comparing the Victorian life to life now adays, looking at houses, schools and everyday life including, the jobs Victorian children had to do. This has linked with the Art work, as the children have designed Victorian Houses.



In Science, Year 2 have focussed on Living Things and their Habitats. They looked at different habitats and talked about why animals are suited to their environments. The children have also looked at how we know something is alive, using the seven life processes and have begun to look at food chains, using correct vocabulary to discuss and explain the different roles of plants and animals within different food chains.



During PE, Year 2 have been practising the skills of balancing, running, changing direction, jumping and hopping. We have played a variety of games to practise these skills, then the children have made their own games to use these skills.

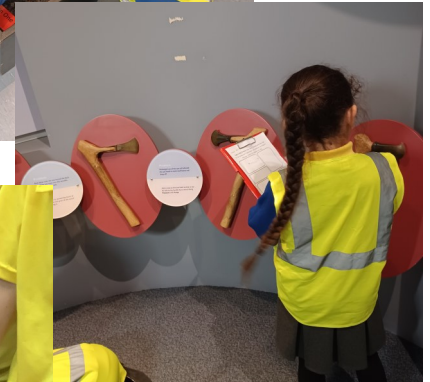


In Computing , Year 2 have looked at internet safety which has included how to keep safe while using the internet and what we need to do when receiving emails from people we don't know.

Year 3 Update

Trip to Cliffe Castle

Year 3 had an amazing day out at Cliffe Castle Museum. In the workshop they were able to apply their history knowledge when digging up and handling real artifacts. When exploring the exhibits they created beautiful sketches, all of which will inform their final project, 'A survival guide to the Stone Age'.



Stone, Bronze & Iron Age

The history topic of this term began by the tables becoming caves that needed to be decorated with cave art. The class experimented with making 'Stone Age paint'. Year 3 have really enjoyed this topic, particularly eating the biscuits after making edible Stonehenge models!



Science

The children have been conducting experiments around the topic of light. Exploring shadows, reflectivity and creating scientific explanations for how we see!



English

Year 3 began their English learning by writing new adventure story openings to 'Fantastic Mr Fox', these were a brilliant read. They are now working on creating instructions for making a kite, experimenting by making their own kites. As a class they have been enjoying reading our class book 'The wild way home', particularly on a Friday when a pupil becomes the teacher during story time.



The class have had a busy start to the school year and have made a brilliant start to their learning.



Year 4 Update

This half term Year 4 have been learning all about Ancient Egypt and what life was like. The children have explored and examined a range of artifacts to find clues about the time period and thought of questions they could ask to gain a deeper understanding. They then looked at examples of primary and secondary sources and discussed which they thought were more reliable and why.

The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about mummification and the steps involved as well as having a go at mummifying each other! Finally, Year 4 had an amazing time at Leeds City Museum where they learnt more about Ancient Egypt, spent time in the gallery looking at exciting artifacts and even saw a real mummified body!



Linking with our Ancient Egypt topic, the children have taken part in Egyptian Commando Joe missions where they had to work as a team to build a chariot to take the king to the hospital. Through this the children developed teamwork skills, empathy and self awareness. They were all very proud of their achievements and were able to explain their strengths and weaknesses in the task.



In Science, Year 4 have been learning all about classifying living things using classification keys. They have identified the different animal groups, including vertebrates and invertebrates, and looked at the characteristics of each group of animals. The children enjoyed an invertebrate hunt in the school grounds and even made a giant human classification key in the hall to classify themselves before transferring the skills to the animals.



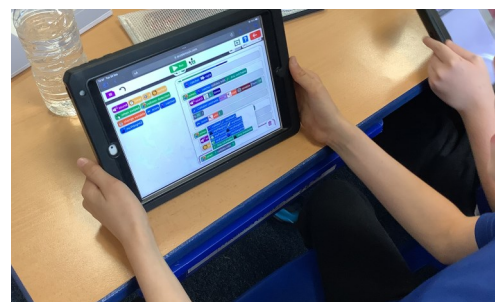
Year 5 Update

This half term, Year 5 have been learning all about Whitby! The children have used their mapping skills to identify Whitby and its features, researched the town's history and drawn comparisons between Harden and Whitby. This learning has been enhanced by our residential trip where Year 5 got to experience Whitby first hand. It was a jam packed trip where children saw the sights, boarded the endeavour, went fossil hunting, visited the RNL station and embarked on a boat trip to the North Sea, where we were lucky enough to see dolphins and seals!



In Science, Year 5 have been working hard with their learning on plants and life cycles. The children have enjoyed observing the changes of their spider plant cuttings, creating new plants without using seeds. At the moment, the plantlets have grown short roots and we hope to observe more changes as time goes on!

In Computing, the children have been thinking about coding. They have developed their skills in using logic to debug and construct algorithms which provide clear instructions to achieve a given goal. Across the weeks, they have created algorithms for every day processes, simulations for traffic lights, and even created their own video games.



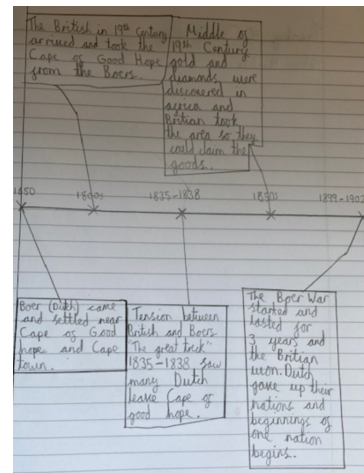
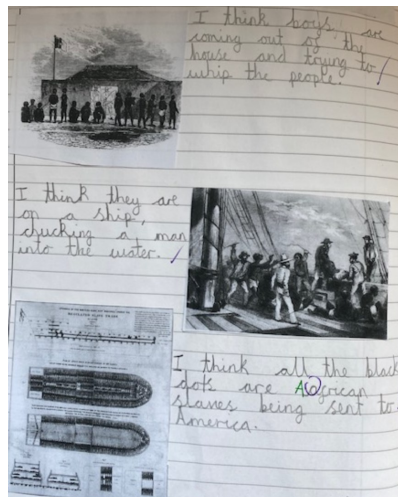
Year 6 Update

WOW—what an incredibly busy start to Year 6!

The children started their learning off during their Careers and Aspirations Day. They learnt all about famous entrepreneurs and how they have made a difference in history through to the present day. Then the children had to design their own product which they had to present to the class of 'Dragons' to see if they would invest!



Year 6 have learnt all about life in South Africa during Apartheid. The hook to the topic was to understand what segregation is—only certain children were chosen to sit on the chairs in class depending on what they were wearing. They then deepened their learning by finding out about the slave trade and leading on to how the black and white people were treated differently. During role play, the children acted out the 17th—19th century changes in SA leading to the Boer War. The topic was finished by learning all about Nelson Mandela, the man who campaigned tirelessly to put an end to Apartheid. The children were able to use the information gained during topic, to write a biography of Nelson Mandela in English.



In PE, they have really enjoyed using the new equipment to learn the skills of volleyball. They have used 'balloon balls' to learn and develop: the dig, the serve and the set. These skills were then put in to practise to play games of volleyball. The children had great fun keeping the ball in the air!





POCKET
MONEY
SHOP

HARDEN PRIMARY PTFA

SPARKLE DISCO

Friday 3rd November

Reception & KS1 3-4pm
KS2 4-5pm

DRESS
TO
SPARKLE
AND SHINE

£3 PER CHILD - PAY VIA PARENT PAY

Price includes an ice lolly