

Spring 2 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers

It has been an incredibly busy term with so much to be proud of and celebrate as this newsletter goes on to show! Lots of fantastic learning has taken place both for pupils and staff. As always, please can I thank the entire school community for your continued support.

I have been blown away by the performance of The Tale of The Three Trees in church this week. I am sure you will agree, the children sang, acted and spoke with great timing and confidence.

A reminder that Monday 17th April is a staff training day and school is not open to children until Tuesday 18th April.

We say goodbye to Mrs Fothergill today, who is leaving to take up a post closer to home and we thank her for all her hard work in school over the last few years and wish her every success in her new role.

Mrs Snook finishes today for her maternity leave and we wish her and Mr Snook all the best for the imminent arrival of their baby!

Miss Norton, who will be covering Mrs Snook's maternity leave, has spent time in school last week and this week getting to know the children and working alongside Mrs Snook to ensure there is a smooth handover. Miss Norton is very excited to be joining our team and has sent this message

'Hello! My name is Miss Norton and I am delighted to be a part of Kildwick CE Primary School and teach in class three. I have a passion for providing engaging and rich learning opportunities which equip children for their life ahead. My classroom will be a place where every child feels excited to learn and explore happily and confidently. Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, baking lots of cakes and getting active outdoors.'





Spring 2 Newsletter

For those of you who will be marking the holy month - Ramadan Mubarak!

For everyone celebrating Easter, I hope you can take the time to reflect on the most important event in the Christian Calendar.

I hope you all have a wonderful break and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Tuesday 18th April.

Mr T Whitehead
Headteacher

Governing Body Update

Please follow the [link](#) to read the latest news on the work of the governing body this half term



Loving to Learn



Robins

Another half term has passed us by and we are moving into the Summer term. It was lovely to meet with you all for parent and carer consultations this half term and to be able to share the progress that ALL the children are making. I am proud of each and everyone of them. Thank you for all your lovely comments, it's great to hear how happy the children are in school—that's the important bit!

This half term has been a great one! In DT the children have loved designing, making and evaluating their smoothies. Lots of children took the opportunity to try new fruits and vegetables which was lovely to see. Some children loved their smoothies and others said they were 'disgusting' (nothing like a child to tell it how it is!). It was a great opportunity to understand evaluation and how we can reflect to improve things. Lots of children were very confident chopping and peeling and I think we may see Michelin stars in the future!

In RE we have been thinking about how important it is to belong. We had an amazing trip to the Mosque, this was such an important educational experience for the children and really brought our RE curriculum to life for them. They really impressed us with their questions. Their interest in the world around them is so important and they all showed us that they want to know more! We marked shrove Tuesday by making pancakes and then celebrated Easter and invited you all in for lunch and a play which was great fun.

The children have been learning yoga in their PE lessons, hopefully they can show you a downward dog at home! This has been great for the children's balance, strength and agility and developing an understanding of how they can manage their own emotions and feelings by using different strategies and techniques.

In Geography we have been learning all about the weather and seasons. It seemed like we had planned the weather to match our topic as we literally had four seasons in one half term and experienced all the weather types! I loved your snow day pictures, thanks for sharing!

We were very fortunate to have a STEM ambassador visit us for Science this half term. The children collected dust on sticky tape and made bridges from lego and duplo. It was a great experience for children to understand how Science is all around us and so important in our day to day life! Our Scientific learning was also brought to life by our very own chicks! We used this opportunity to learn about lifecycles and then used this knowledge to do some non fiction writing.

I'm running out of room to talk about Writing, Reading and Maths! The children have continued to work extremely hard on their writing. We follow the 'Write Stuff' approach now. You may hear the children talk about Grandma Fantastic and her new vocabulary (she knows lots of words because she is so old!) We are working on becoming 'brave' writers; using our phonics to 'have a go'. Our three reading sessions have continued to have a big impact. With the decoding, fluency and comprehension lessons the children are becoming more fluent readers who are really understanding what they are reading. We had a trip to the library which the children LOVED! Please keep using the library it is such an amazing resource to have in our local area. The year one children are really enjoying their 'Maths on the Move' sessions which are an opportunity to develop key Maths skills which underpin Maths learning throughout the key stages.

Phew.....what a busy round up! As always, thank you to you! Your interest, support and involvement is what makes for such a happy school community. Let's see how much we can pack into the Summer Term! Have a great Easter. Miss Akrigg



Loving to Learn

Swallows

The end of the Spring term has come around so quickly and once again Swallows children have been busy working incredibly hard! We are so proud of all of them and the effort they put into school life. Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our open afternoon. The children always thoroughly enjoy spending time with you in school and despite feeling like they were never going to get lunch they all seemed to have a fabulous afternoon.

This half term we enjoyed our visit to Hanifa Mosque in Bradford. The children's behaviour was exemplary and our guide was impressed with both their behaviour and thoughtful questions. We learnt about the washing ritual Wudhu and how Muslims must be clean before they present themselves before God. We also learnt how and when Muslims pray and why men and women pray separately. We looked around the beautiful building and at the minaret before asking lots of questions!

The children met two STEM ambassadors who came to visit us. We learnt about their jobs; a water engineer and an air quality consultant. We learnt about different types of bridges and then built our own. We also collected dust using sellotape. It was fantastic for the children to see that science and scientists are all around us!

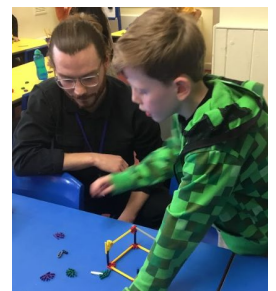
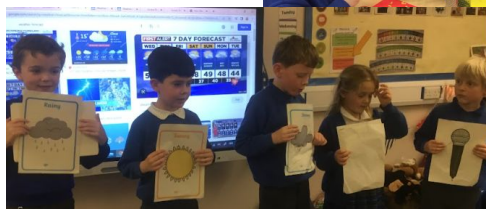
In writing year 1 children are impressing me with their independence and ability to apply their phonics within their writing. We are using capital letters and full stops more consistently and beginning to write with more detail. Year 2 are working hard to apply grammar and punctuation taught throughout the year and their ideas and confidence is fantastic to see.

This half term both year 1 and 2 have enjoyed length, height, mass and capacity. They thrive within practical lessons and have impressed both myself and Mrs Kingham (year 1) with their understanding and problem solving. Well done Swallows keep up the super work!

In DT we enjoyed preparing, making and evaluating fruit smoothies. Some of us were surprised that even if the colour looked disgusted they tasted delicious! Others did not enjoy their fruit choices quite as much. The children were able to peel, grate and chop their fruit carefully and understood the importance of washing our hands first.

Swallows children were delighted that Mr Whitehead was preparing pancakes for the whole school again. After a few fire alarms and plenty of smoke we were able to sample delicious pancakes with a choice of toppings. They were definitely worth the wait!

As always we have filled the half term with hard work and fun. I can't wait to see what our Summer term will bring. I hope you all have a fantastic Easter break. I look forward to seeing you refreshed in two weeks time. Mrs Carpenter and the Swallows team.



Loving to Learn

Kingfishers

The end of the Spring term has come around so quickly and once again the Kingfisher children have had a fantastic half term and have all tried so hard and made fantastic progress. We are so proud of all of them. It was lovely to catch up with parents and carers at the parent consultations earlier in the half term. Thank you for all of the support at home.

As usual, it has been a jam packed half term- from swimming and rugby lessons to practising for our Easter production, we have fit in so much! We were so proud of the childrens' amazing singing performance for Three Little Trees.

The Kingfisher children have really impressed everyone with their progress in swimming and rugby in PE lessons. We have really enjoyed having Darren the rugby teacher coach the children and they have become such great team players while also developing the skills needed to be a good rugby player. It has been lovely to see their enthusiasm in this.

In Art, we have been looking at Henri Rousseau. The children made some amazing and creative fact files about Henri and gave some thoughtful comments on his work, before then moving onto sketching to show texture, colour mixing, painting on different papers and using wax resist to develop the skills needed for their final piece. They then created some fantastic Henri Rousseau inspired layered rainforest pictures.

In Geography, we have enjoyed learning about Biomes and Rainforests. Children showed great understanding about the different climate zones of the world and how these can influence biomes. They were especially great at remembering the different layers of the rainforest and what happens at each layer.

Our Science topic of rocks has been very interesting. We have many future paleontologists in Kingfisher class who had lots of extra fossils knowledge and we all loved doing different tests on rocks to see if they were durable, permeable and dense, or not.

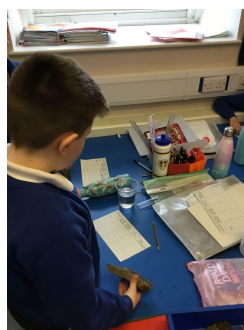
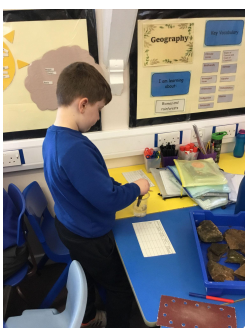
As always, the children have loved their Spanish lesson and impressed me with how much they can remember and their brilliant pronunciation. We have been learning the names of some different Spanish shapes this half term.

We have been using Scratch to code in computing. I am always amazed by the speed that the children pick up coding and are able to create their own codes. They have been practising directing their sprite around the page and fixing errors in their codes.

Mrs Fothergill has commented on the children's great participation in PSHE and RE this half term while learning about rights and responsibilities and the Easter story.

Finally, onto Maths and English. We have continued to enjoy and work hard in our Maths lessons, looking at multiplication and division, length and perimeter and fractions. These are all tricky topics but the children have approached them with enthusiasm and have enjoyed the challenge! In English, we have loved writing the love/friendship story of the Blue Umbrella and then creating our own similar story about two hats that meet for the first time.

It has been a pleasure teaching all of the Kingfisher children this year and I know that Miss Norton is so excited to take over after the Easter break. Thank you for all of the kind words and thank you Kingfisher children for being such a lovely class! Have a fun and restful Easter break.



Loving to Learn

Owls

We have had another fantastic term in Owls Class. During our English lessons we have looked at biographies and studied in detail the life of Nikola Tesla. The children then really impressed me with their enthusiasm, research skills and final biography about their own inspiring famous person. They ranged from Charles Dickens to Anne Frank, Lewis Hamilton to Pele, and Cristiano Ronaldo to Roald Dahl.

Both Year 4 and 5 children have worked really hard to grasp and deepen their understanding of multiplication, division and fractions. Miss Hussain worked closely with the Year 4 boys during this half term helping them to gain confidence with length and perimeter too. We have said goodbye to Miss Hussain (although she is now working with Swallows Class) and hello to Miss Aziz (her trainee teacher colleague) who will be with us until the middle of June completing her teacher training with us.

Science this half term has focused on rocks and magnets. We had a very interesting lesson looking at the properties of various rocks and then conducted enquiries into the permeability of different types of soil. Following this, we met up with Mr Lewis in the community garden to learn about our local soils and to plant some potatoes. For British Science Week, the whole school worked together in their core value house groups to complete a series of activities about 'connections' in science.

Last week, the class had a visit from the NSPCC and the volunteers told the children about different types of problems children might face. They were told how to spot dangers and how they should respond. Information about Childline was also given at the time. RE lessons have been about 'What did Jesus do to save human beings?' The Easter story was discussed and then went into preparations for our Easter production.

The Easter production was a wonderful end to the term. Three little trees growing on a mountaintop had big dreams of what they wanted to become. God had an amazing plan for each tree and they found themselves at the heart of Jesus' story. It was full of hope and encouragement with stunning songs that described the expectation, disappointment and ultimate joy of the story. With the climax focusing on the death and resurrection of Jesus, this mini-musical was perfect for Easter and everyone work so hard. We were all so proud of you! Happy Easter!



Loving to Learn

Eagles

Year Six were asking me this week - 'how many days do we have left in Year Six?' I daren't do the calculations just yet but time is certainly going very quickly! Everyone has worked so hard this half term in preparation for an important Summer term.

A big focus this half term has been independent writing. The children have impressed me with how they rose to the challenge to include their writing targets in their latest pieces of writing. We've written a newspaper report about an earthquake hitting Kildwick which drew on our knowledge from our Geography lessons and was inspired by 'real' footage of Mr Whitehead during the earthquake. We all agreed that he wouldn't be winning any prizes for acting anytime soon! The children then wrote a character description of Worzel Gummidge. We really enjoyed getting to know this character through watching snippets of the TV show and the children created some lovely descriptive pieces of work.

Every child presented a piece of earthquake work that they'd been working on for their half term homework. It's always great to see how the children interpret the task given and we had lots of pieces of creative and factual work.

Year Six enjoyed a trip to Gargrave to take part in the Crucial Crew workshop which equips children with the skills to stay safe. They worked their way around the workshops including: fire safety, drug awareness and CPR. Each workshop was delivered by a range of local professionals including police officers. Year Six have built on their existing knowledge and skills to prepare them for the next stage in their life. I was really impressed with how our children behaved on the day and the mature way that they were able to answer and ask questions.

We've enjoyed taking part in team games in PE. A favourite has been 'strategicki' which Year Six have then adapted to play during play times. It's been great to see all of the children getting involved and it's safe to say they are definitely a highly competitive bunch!

In Art this half term, Year Six studied the work of Yinka Shonibare then went on to create their own artwork inspired by him. Some children chose to dye their fabric with inks before using fabric and threads to add images, patterns and details to their piece.



Loving to Learn

Library Visits

All children visited South Craven Community Library this half term to coincide with World Book Day and to continue promoting a love of reading in school.

Many children, who were not members of the library already, signed up and received their first library card.

All children chose a book to borrow and also took part in various activities including having a story read to them or finding out more about the system used to order books.

All of the children and staff had a brilliant time and it was great to visit and celebrate such an important local service. We'd like to say a big thank you to all of the staff and volunteers at the library who helped with our visits.



Loving to Learn

World Book Day

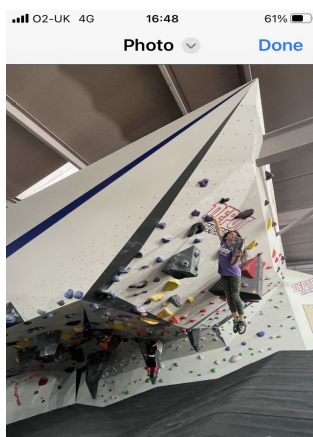
We had an excellent time celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March. Children dressed up as either a book character or came to school wearing pyjamas.

There were several competitions running in the build-up to the day. Children were asked to take a photo of themselves reading in an extreme or unusual place. They also created some amazing 'books in a jar' where they created a scene from a story inside a jar. All of the entries that we received were amazing and so creative!

Throughout the day, Mr Whitehead rang a bell several times which indicated that everyone had to drop everything and read. Another activity that the whole school took part in was writing a whole-school story. This was based on the picture book 'You Choose' and it was great to see the amazing ideas that the children had and the obvious progression in writing from EYFS to KS2.

The day ended with a book swap where children brought in books they no longer wanted and were able to choose a new one to enjoy. There was even an adult stall so that parents and carers could choose their next read.

Well done to all of the children and adults who contributed to the events to celebrate World Book Day!



Loving to Learn

We were delighted to embrace the theme for the 2023 British Science Week – 'Connections'

Nearly all innovations in science, technology, engineering and maths are built on connections between people; two (or more) heads are better than one, after all! Therefore, we decided to come together on Friday afternoon to explore four science activities and find out more about scientific connections. We worked in our core value houses group which meant children could learn from their siblings and others from different classes. Each group completed four activities:

Electrical Connections

Why did some materials complete a circuit to power an output and others do not? Some materials are conductors and some are insulators. A conductor of electricity is a material that will allow electricity to flow through it. Materials that are electrical insulators do not allow electricity to flow through them. Metal is a conductor of electricity. When you put a coin or metal paperclip in the circuit, electricity flows through the metal, which completes the circuit and powers the output.

Fingerprint Connections

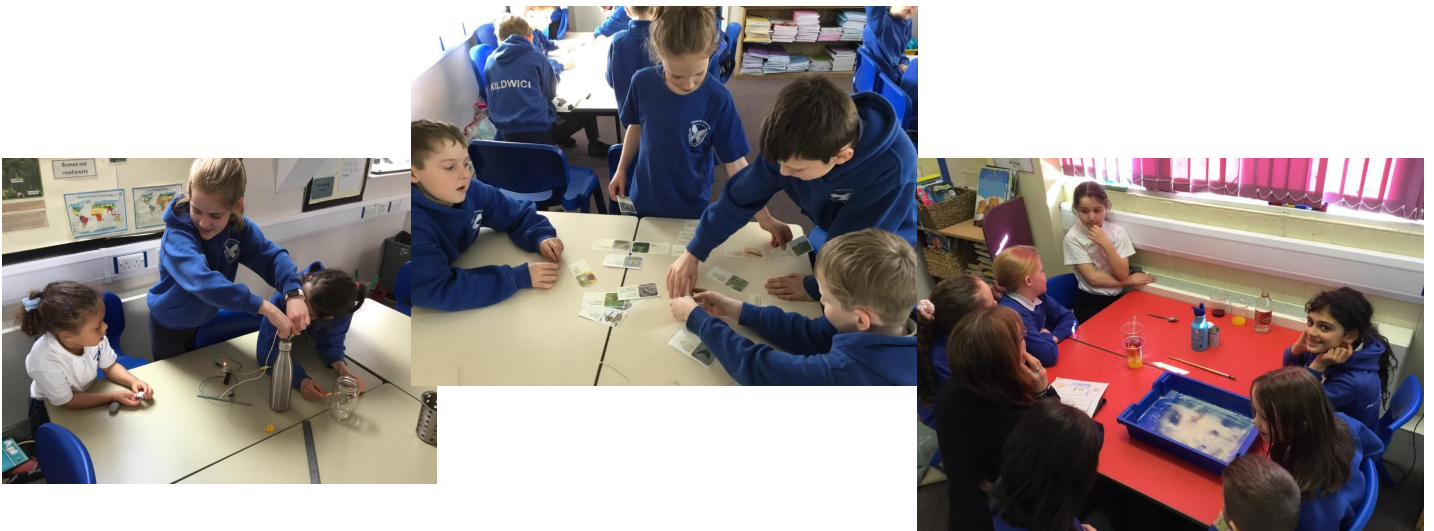
A scientist or detective could connect a set of fingerprints to the person they belong to, because fingerprints (along with palm, toe and sole prints) are unique to each individual person. The prints are a combination of patterns and tiny ridges on the surface of the skin. They are fully developed on a human baby before they are even born.

Fizzy Colour Connections

We just made a chemical reaction! When you mix vinegar with bicarbonate of soda, they combine and 'fizz' to produce a gas called carbon dioxide (CO_2). This happens because vinegar is acidic and bicarbonate of soda is alkaline. If you were to mix either one with water (which is neutral), nothing would happen.

Nature Connections

Ecosystems are communities of living and non-living things in an environment. They can include things like animals and plants as well as water and soil. This fun activity shows you how everything in an ecosystem is interdependent, and that the loss of one connection has knock-on effects.



Loving to Learn

STEM Ambassador Visit

Robins and Swallows had a visit from Robbie and Yasmin for their Science lesson last week. Yasmin is an Air Quality Graduate Consultant and showed the children that air takes up space by blowing up balloons with the children. The children also learnt that dust is heavier than air by collecting dust from around the classroom on sticky tape.

Robbie is an Engineer and talked to the children about bridges. We looked at bridges that go over and through things. The children then used duplo and lego to build bridges for a toy car to go under. Robbie helped the children to make their bridges bigger and stronger. It was great fun and at the end lots of children said they are going to be Scientists when they grow up.



Learning to Live

Mini Ringers

One of the big Mini Ringer lessons is to become not just a team but part of a single musical instrument, each making their one or two notes. Above all it is that togetherness which is so engaging. The Kildwick MiniRingers have a regular "slot" in the Skipton Music Festival. Perhaps it is no coincidence that the same two people organise both! We are a bit unique, so we have our own special classes and enter two bands in each.

A headline attraction

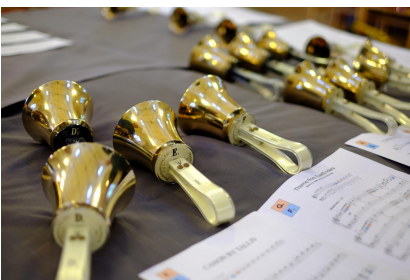
We are often asked to perform in the Gala Concert. That great honour and accolade is because we are "different". The theatre and drama of the change ringing attracts people. The scratch band of MiniRingers did us all proud. We heard that some people came to the concert just because they knew that the Kildwick MiniRingers would be there. Our fame is spreading!

Onward and upwards

We have two special events in May. The MiniRingers will be taking part in the national "Ring for the King" events for the Coronation. We will be performing at the Kildwick and Farnhill Coronation Celebrations in some way – and are invited with all of you to join in a special "Ring for the King" session where you can (with help!) ring one of our church bells before getting a certificate to say you did it. Then, just a week later, we'll be ringing among the experts. There is a local meeting of "HRGB" in Grassington where we will show how much use we are getting out of their loaned bells.

So we have lots of hard work in a very short time after the Easter holidays!

Chris Wright



Learning to Live

Class 3 Kingfishers Rugby Training

Class Three Kingfishers have enjoyed some professional rugby coaching led by Darren Greenwood from Skipton Rugby Club. They also had the opportunity to take part in a tag rugby tournament in Skipton where they played other local schools in some short matches. This gave them the opportunity to practice the skills that they have been learning. They played extremely well and managed to win 1.0 against Embsay in the final. Well done!



Y6 Tag Rugby

Year Five & Six took part in a tag rugby competition with our local cluster of schools at South Craven. The children played well as a team, encouraged each other and managed to score some magnificent tries. Well done team Kildwick!



Learning to Live

The Parent Forum

The Parent Forum met on Friday 24th March and the Minutes are available to view on the school website [here](#). It was good to meet with a small friendly group of parents to discuss matters affecting the school in an informal and positive way. Discussion took place regarding the ongoing traffic problems around school, the school budget, after school activities and online courses available to parents. It would be great if we could see more parents at the next meeting to ensure that as many of your views are heard as possible. The next meeting is on Friday 19th May at 2.45 and tea and biscuits will be provided. **Mrs Karen Law (parent and governor)**

Mosque Visit

Last week Robins and Swallows class visited the Hanfia Mosque, Carlisle Road, Bradford. The children were extremely excited and spent time learning about the features on the outside of the Mosque before going inside to explore. We saw where Muslims wash before prayer and sang, 'This is the way we wash our hands before we go to Wudhu'. The children also learnt that Muslims pray five times a day and that the names of the prayer are Fajr, Zuhr, Asr, Maghrib, and Isha. We also found out that Muslims are called to prayer and Arthur got a chance to demonstrate this!

As a voluntary controlled school our RE curriculum is at least 2/3rds Christianity. The Statement of Entitlement also says that pupils should show an informed and respectful attitude to religions and world views in their search for God and meaning, and that they should engage in meaningful and informed dialogue with those of other faiths and none.



Learning to Live

Keighley & Craven Schools' Cross Country Series

Well done to all the runners that took part in the final Keighley and Craven Schools' cross country event at Marley Playing Fields. We had some excellent performances from individuals and it was fantastic to see so many children from Kildwick running. The results, photos and school positions after the final race can be found [here](#). Over the four races Nic came second in the year 3/4 boys event, the Year 3 / 4 girls came 2nd team, Annie came fifth and Esmae came 7th in the year 3/4 girls event. A fantastic achievement!



Learning to Live

Shrove Tuesday

Mr Whitehead taught the children how to make pancakes in the school hall. They followed a recipe to make the mixture and everyone cooked a pancake using a camping Stove. Rev Peter Thomas visited at the end of the day to lead a Collective Worship on Shrove Tuesday and the season of Lent. He challenged us to think about what we can 'giveback' rather than what we can 'give up'.



Learning to Live

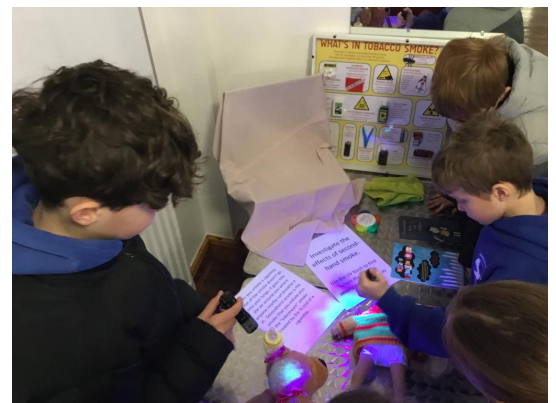
Year Six's Crucial Crew Visit

Year Six took part in a Crucial Crew workshop which equips children with the skills to stay safe. This is particularly important in Year Six when children will be becoming more independent as they move on to their secondary schools.

The children were split into different groups and mixed with pupils from other local primary schools. They worked their way around the following workshops:

- fire safety
- water safety
- sexting/social media awareness
- walking in the Yorkshire Dales
- drug awareness
- smoking/vaping awareness
- road safety
- anti-social behaviour
- having a criminal record
- CPR

Each workshop was delivered by a range of local professionals including police officers. Year Six have built on their existing knowledge and skills to prepare them for the next stage in their lives.



Living to Love

Easter Family Lunch

Robins and Swallows invited someone from their family into school to have Easter lunch with them. They also had chance to play in their classroom and learning space. We had a lovely lunch of pizza, salad and coleslaw followed by lemon drizzle cake freshly prepared by our fantastic school cook, Donna. The children then enjoyed playing with their adults, making Easter crafts and generally having a lovely time!





Summer Term 2023

Tuesday 18th April - School reopens for Pupils

Wednesday 19th - Friday 21st April - High Adventure Residential - Year 4

Wednesday 26th April - Governors Meeting

Monday 1st May - Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May - Bank Holiday - Kings Coronation

Tuesday 9th May - KS2 SATS begin

Tuesday 9th May - Governors Meeting

Monday 15th May - Eagles trip to Eden Camp

Tuesday 16th May - Brownlee Triathlon Event - KS2

Friday 19th May - Parent Forum - 2.45pm

Friday 26th May - End of Summer term 1

Wednesday 7th June—Kildwick Fell Race

Monday 3rd July to Friday 7th July - Y6 Residential to Bewerley Park

Monday 10th July - Governors Meeting

Thursday 13th July—Y6 parents in school to join in a lesson—9am

Friday 14th July - Parent Forum

Monday 17th July—Y6 Performance—6pm

Thursday 20th July—Y6 Leavers' service in church tbc

Friday 21st July—Y6 Leavers' assembly—9.15am

Dates will be added as the term progresses

