



# Spring 2 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to another end of half term round up - a chance to reflect on all we have done in school.

It's been a great half term! We have kept personal development at the forefront of school life. Our after-school provision has continued to grow, introducing Art club and Chinese club led by our very own Mrs Coupe. We have also had taster sessions for a lunchtime Football Club which will be fully rolled out next half term. These new additions complement the existing extra curricular activities of dance, construction club, running club, cookery club, music and gymnastics. We're very proud of the diverse experiences we provide, and thanks go to our dedicated staff who go above and beyond to identify and think of new clubs and then organise and lead these sessions. Their commitment to enriching your children's school experience is something to be proud of.

Staff involved with early reading and interventions have been working with The Burley Woodhead English hub, focusing on phonics. Their feedback and external validation of the high quality teaching of reading, along with daily catch up sessions and interventions is fantastic. We're continually striving to improve, ensuring every child receives the best possible support in learning to read. This is an essential skill that unlocks academic success across the curriculum.

Looking ahead, we want to work with you to increase reading at home. Reading plays an important role in children's mental health and overall academic development, and we've noticed a decline in this area. Our aim is to work with you to make reading a daily habit. Further updates will be shared over the next term and if you have any ideas, please share them with us!

Our commitment to professional development is ongoing. We've been attending various training sessions covering safeguarding, communication and language, climate change, EYFS developments, and SEND best practises. Our partnership with ADYS in Skipton continues, providing valuable external support for our SEND work through half-termly consultations.

The games night was a fantastic success! Initially, we were worried about filling the hall, but we didn't need to be! It was truly heartwarming to see so many faces and receive such strong support for both the school and the Down Syndrome Training and Support Service. Our apologies to those who didn't get a chance to play bingo, but we hope you still enjoyed your time with our school community. This was our first games night, and we can definitely say there will be more to come! We raised over £700, so thank you for all the donations and support of this event.

As we continue to face budgetary challenges, your support becomes even more crucial. We're determined to maintain the varied experiences we offer the children, but we need your help. If you're able to assist with fundraising or PTA events, please contact the office. Together, we can ensure our children continue to flourish in a fun and nurturing environment.

Extracurricular events have not stopped at the school gates and we have enjoyed success across a range of activities this term. The Year Five and Six boys came away with a silver medal across all four events of the Keighley Schools' Cross Country series. Four KS2 pupils represented school at the North Yorkshire Cross Country Finals at Giggleswick and put in an amazing performance. Well done. Key Stage Two pupils have also represented Kildwick against our local cluster of schools in netball and basketball, narrowly missing progressing to the final. I think it must be inspiration given from local legend Jonny Brownlee when he visited earlier this term.

Years Three, Four and Five did us all proud with their Easter Production of 'Good News'. I am sure you will agree that the children sang, acted and spoke with great timing and confidence.

As always, we're grateful for your support and look forward to another exciting term of learning. By working together, we can ensure that every child at Kildwick CE Primary receives the very best education and opportunities to thrive.

We hope that you all have a wonderful Easter with time to reflect and spend time together. I have been reliably informed that the sun will continue to shine and we can all have some much needed time outside enjoying where we live.

We will see you back in school on Tuesday 22nd April.

Mr Whitehead

Headteacher



# Learning to Live





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# Robins

## Loving to Learn

What a fab half term we've had in Robins class! We have taken advantage of the lovely weather and spent extra time on the Rec, exploring and learning about the world around us.

Our student teacher, Miss Khanum, has been teaching the children all about the weather and helping them understand the connection between weather and seasons. The children have been thinking about the order of seasons and the climate in the UK, expanding their knowledge of the natural world.

In RE, we've been delving into the significance of Easter, even recreating our very own Last Supper! We've also learned about the religious festival of Eid, introducing the children to concepts like Ramadan and fasting. It's lovely to see their curiosity and engagement with different cultural and religious practises.

The children's literacy skills continue to impress me. Their handwriting is improving daily, and we're seeing some fantastic spelling progress through our daily phonics writing lessons. Our Year One children have continued their maths lessons with Mrs Carpenter in Class Two, and she's been very impressed with their enthusiasm – well done, Year One!

World Book Day was a highlight this half term, with the children thoroughly enjoying 'The Wizard of Oz' production and I spent a lot of time singing, 'I'm off to see the Wizard'!

We are so proud of the progress and enthusiasm our Robins have shown this half term. Their eagerness to learn and explore new concepts, whether it's the changing seasons or different cultural celebrations, is fantastic.

Have a great Easter break. Thank you for your continued support - we love teaching your children!

Miss Akrigg and all of the adults in Robins!





# Loving to Learn

## Swallows

What a busy half term! It has been fabulous to enjoy some spring sunshine which has enabled us to spend more time at the rec. The children overflow with imagination and creativity when they have the opportunity to explore the great outdoors. It's wonderful to witness.

We have had a wide variety of visitors this half term including Yorkshire Rotters who taught us about the importance of minimising food waste. We couldn't believe that five Wembley Stadiums of food are wasted. We learnt what can go into our garden compost and how worms are excellent there too. We held worms and learnt that they can have up to 8 hearts.

We also welcomed the Canal and Rivers Trust into school where we looked at dangers around water. Especially important as we have a river and canal so close to school. The children were excellent at spotting dangers and discussing what could be done differently.

Miss Haigh, our student teacher, has enjoyed teaching Geography this half term. They have learnt about different types of weather linking these to seasons. The climate of countries closer and further from the equator and deserts can be both hot and cold!

In computing both year 1 and 2 have learnt about algorithms. Year 1 learnt about inputs and outputs of computers and created their own physical inputs and outputs. We had some very creative ideas. Year 2 built mazes with simple algorithms to direct around it and programmed algorithms into games to complete simple challenges.

In PE we have explored lots of new places through our yoga sessions including under the sea, space and the arctic. We have had some excellent tree poses and brilliant efforts from everybody.

Art has been filled with colour exploration. The children have been making colours, painting and printing. Children were challenged to mix 5 shades of their chosen secondary colour and use them to create patterns. We are extremely proud of how hard the children are working across the curriculum.

Have a fabulous Easter break with your families and friends. Hopefully we get some sunshine. We look forward to welcoming you back into school refreshed and ready for our final term in two weeks.

Mrs Carpenter and the Swallows team.





# Loving to Learn

## Kingfishers



That's a wrap! What a wonderful term Kingfishers have had. The children have all worked so hard, with great positivity and had lots of fun.

The Easter production marked the end of the term for us. A big thank you to all class 3 and class 4 who worked incredibly hard this term practising all our songs and lines for the 'Good News' Easter production. We hope you enjoyed watching our production, it was fantastic to see all their hard work come together. At the end of this term Kingfishers also finished swimming lessons at Skipton swimming pool. All the children have shown great enthusiasm in the lessons and they have all worked super hard to improve their swimming skills and water survival skills.

Dance Around the World was the theme in PE and the children had a flavour of Bollywood Dancing, African Dancing and Salsa to name just a few. They started all lessons with a dance game to help them become familiar with the continents where these dance styles come from. The children showed such enthusiasm in the lessons and had a lot of fun. The children also participated in the Skipton Schools Virtual Skipping Challenge. We are still awaiting results but some children managed to complete more than two skips per second! Wow!

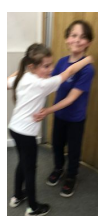
In English the children have been learning about diary features and have all been able to write their own diary based on their class book Arthur and the Golden Rope. The class have really enjoyed this book and have written amazing diaries with beautiful handwriting and excellent grammar. The children in phonics have worked extra hard this term with an excellent improvement in handwriting, letter formation and their phonics knowledge. The engagement and positive attitude has been a joy to watch.

In DT, the children have been investigating an existing motorised product and problem-solving to understand its construction. This has allowed them to make their own functional Doodler that creates scribbles on paper. The class really enjoyed creating their product using wonderful DT skills and great teamwork skills.

Spanish has been really successful this term as the children were learning about Las Formas. There were lots of cognates included in the Spanish vocabulary and this was very helpful in translating the Spanish into English. Furthermore, the children have a much greater sense of recognising whether the noun is masculine or feminine and so can match the definite article much more accurately. The Spanish songs also help to embed the learning. Muy Bien Niños!

This term we have had an exciting opportunity to attend trips and welcome guests. The Yorkshire Rotters taught us how to recycle waste and the importance of recycling. The Russell's workshop showed us how the JP developers employ 'Quantity surveyors' and how their job is to calculate the labours and parts for a job. We looked at building a garage using maths and we were all Quantity Surveyors for the day. The year 4 children all had an amazing opportunity to go on a residential at High Adventure and had the chance to complete exciting activities. We also got to see an incredible performance of Wizard of Oz for our World Book Day. The children loved watching this and had a great time. We had the Canal River Trust come in to teach us how to stay safe near the canal and the children were very engaged and really enjoyed this. We also had the chance to go to the Skipton Tennis Club sports where we took part in the Sports Trilogy festival. The children were fantastic and had lots of fun competing in different activities. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday, and enjoy the break with friends and family. We look forward to working with you next term.

Miss Ahmed





# Loving to Learn



## Owls

Owls class have had a great end to the Spring Term with a fantastic range of experiences – the highlight of which for most will be the Easter production or for the year 4 children the trip to High Adventure. The children worked really hard on practicing and singing in the lead up to the show and I think you'll agree, did a fantastic job! Well done Owls and Kingfishers! At High Adventure the year 4 children did a super job in all of the activities and showed great teamwork and support for each other throughout the stay.

We've had a range of different visitors in this half term – the Yorkshire Rotters came to share information (and make our own wormeries and smoothies using a bike!) to help us reduce our food waste and think about how we can use food more wisely. We also had visitors during Science week that covered topics on how to reduce, reuse and recycle and the children showed great prior knowledge as well as enjoying playing a game. Also in Science week we had a visit from Craven college who came to look at adaptation which linked really well to our class book and the children's new knowledge about Charles Darwin. World Book Day treated us all with a production from the Wizard of Oz and the children were mesmerised and immersed in the experience.



In maths the children continue to work well on a range of different maths topics and have all done well in the work on decimals. We enjoyed a visit linking maths to the wider world when we all became junior Quantity Surveyors and had to price up a new garage build – again the children showed great enthusiasm throughout the activities.



In English the children have really enjoyed taking part in a debate, they are all naturals when it comes to expressing their view and in the powers of persuasive language! They then used these skills to write a discussion piece reflecting both arguments around the question – should animals be kept in captivity?



In PE the children have explored the unit – dancing through the ages – this has created a lot of questions about how people danced in the past, some moves were loved and others we found a challenge! Well done to the class as they all did a great job learning a complicated routine. We've also taken part in a Sports Trilogy as well as competing in a virtual skipping competition this term where the whole class have really shown a talent in skipping, well done!

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable Easter term break and look forward to seeing the children for the start of the Summer Term





# Loving to Learn

## Eagles

What a whirlwind half-term it's been for Year Six! We've crammed so much into the past five weeks, from trips and visitors to thrilling reads and hands-on cooking. And yes—we've even started thinking about our end-of-year celebrations (hard to believe, but it'll be here before we know it!).

One of the biggest highlights? Probably anything that includes food! Year 6 treated their buddies to a delicious pancake and then rewarded themselves with pancakes. I was very pleased with Year 6's independent efforts and ability to not set the fire alarm off!

Speaking of avoiding disaster, our writing has been about dealing with disasters. Following a series of lessons about earthquakes, we wrote explanation texts about how earthquakes happen and their effects. We then finished off the half term with some amazing descriptive pieces about the legendary scarecrow Worzel Gummidge. The creativity and detail have been seriously impressive!

We've also been busy outside the classroom. Our visit to Crucial Crew was packed with important life skills—fire safety, smoking/vaping, and even sessions with local police officers. Many other important visitors have visited us in school bringing with them entertainment, as in the Wizard of Oz production, or important messages.

We have been visited by: North Yorkshire Rotters (composting); a representative from a building developer; Rebecca (who measured our height and weight); two members of staff from South Craven (science and learning skills); North Yorkshire Council recycling team (Year 6 played a recycling game); the Canal and Rivers Trust; the Gideons (who handed out Bibles) and finally the NSPCC.

Meanwhile, on the sports front, we've been getting competitive with a netball tournament and refining our tag rugby skills with coaching from Darren at Skipton Rugby Club. Year 6 have finally, on a Friday afternoon, been setting up 'Sensory Circuits' for the younger children in school: helping them to challenge them to climb or bounce, offering yoga, football training, painting and a salt dough disco!

Looking ahead, next half-term is a big one. We've got more trips, more challenges, and, of course, SATs. But if the past five weeks are anything to go by, Year Six are more than ready to take it all on!

