



Baydon St. Nicholas

Church of England (VA) Primary School

Succeeding Together

End of Term Newsletter December 2018



Welcome to the December issue of our school newsletter! Since September we have been very busy and have enjoyed lots of wonderful experiences! Please read on for an overview of what has been happening...

New Faces

It has been great to welcome all our new pupils both in Robins and across the school.

PlayPod

In September we saw the start of PlayPod at lunchtimes. The children have loved using their imagination in their play and it has been a pleasure to see just how much they enjoy it!

Keeping Safe and Healthy

Right at the start of the term Great Western Hospital sent out one of their team to talk to all pupils in the school about oral hygiene. The children in Robins especially enjoyed using the giant toothbrush!

Bikeability was again offered to all pupils in Year 6. This is a course that we offer all pupils at the top end of the school should they wish to participate. We are thrilled to announce that all pupils who were able to take up this opportunity passed both levels, well done Year 6! Many thanks to Natalie Condon for running this course again.

The NSPCC came in to chat to our pupils in Term 1 about staying safe. As always, the assemblies for the younger and older children were appropriately aimed and all pupils listened and responded in a mature manner.



FOLLOWING THE STAR IN KEY STAGE 2!



LISTENING TO THE ANGELS IN KEY STAGE 1!

RESPECT

KINDNESS

PERSEVERANCE



SUPER CYCLING YEAR 6!



A TRIP TO THE NEWBURY RACES INCLUDING LOTS OF MATHS!



BEING INTERVIEWED FOR OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY RADIO



WAITING FOR THE DOORS TO OPEN AT THE WATERMILL!

Stay 'n Play

This year our lovely toddlers group in the village hosted three special sessions in the school. All were well attended and it was lovely to meet families in the local area. Many thanks to our lovely toddlers group.

Sport

We enjoyed great success in the Dodgeball tournament against other small schools in our local area this term. Our pupils loved meeting children from the other schools and showed great sportsmanship. Many thanks, as always, to all the adult supporters from transporting our teams to staying and looking after teams... It is hugely appreciated as we could not manage without you.

Football and Karate sports clubs have continued to run over both terms. It is fantastic to see the enthusiasm of pupils participating in these clubs, especially those footballers when it is so cold and muddy outside!

Art Club

In Term Two Mrs Taylor ran a KS2 art club after school. The work the children produced was fantastic and of a great standard. A huge thank you to Mrs Taylor for running this club.

House Captains and supporting charities

This year we are giving our school captains (and vice captains) more responsibility and letting each house run a day supporting a charity. The past two terms have seen Newton organise a Jeans for Genes day and Burdette organise a bring and buy toy sale for Children in Need. Thank you to all our families for supporting the chosen charities.

Watermill Trip

In November, the whole school set off to watch a performance of Robin Hood. The tale was told through music and drama and was loved by all ages! Thank you to all our fantastic helpers who joined with

us. Next year we already know the performance at the Watermill will be the Prince and the Pauper and we all can't wait!

Music

This term has seen the addition of Brass lessons with Ms Phelan. Children were inspired by the fabulous demonstration assembly she held in September! Piano and drum lessons also continue into January. If your child is interested in having lessons, please speak to Shireen in the office who will signpost you in the right direction to set it up! We also are thrilled to announce that Years 4 and 5 will be involved in an exciting Jackdaws Opera Plus event starting in January! More details to follow in the new year...

Church and School Together

At the end of Term One we celebrated Harvest in the church with our Harvest Service. The church was decorated beautifully and many thanks to the families who gave donations of food which went to the Swindon Food Bank. As part of remembering 100 years since the end of WW1, pupils created art work to display in the church for the Remembrance Service. Work included poems, pictures and sculpture. More recently all our younger pupils made the Christingles for the Service at St Nicholas Church. The service was well attended.

In the Deep Dark Woods

Our whole school topic this term has been explored in so many exciting ways across the school! From the Gruffalo and woodland shelters lower down the school to finding out more about British woodland, conservation and sustainability in Kites with Mr James - it's been great! Mrs Wigglesworth also very kindly set up the creation of Baydon apple juice this year with a local producer, it was yummy!

Rainwater Garden

We were so lucky when Mrs Christmas approached ARK (Action for River Kennet) to look at creating a small rain water garden and from this we were fabulously fortunate to have award winning gardener, Wendy Allen, involved in the project. The space has now grown into such a wonderful learning space that also helps our local environment by ensuring the water will soak into the ground thus improving the quality of water in our rivers and the risk of flooding. Skylarks are also involved in the ARK Brown Trout project in the new year, which is looking very exciting!

Stone Age Day

Key Stage 2 enjoyed a day of finding out about the Stone Age from archaeologists/ historians in Term 1. The children spent the day creating clay pots, making simple jewellery, churning milk to make butter, grinding corn using quern stones and making pigments for their very own stone age cave paintings. An amazing 'hands on' experience! Fabulous art work was created and the day was loved by all!

Trip to Newbury Races

Year 5 and 6 went to Newbury Race Course in November for an action packed maths day! It was a great behind the scenes tour of the race course and our pupils loved seeing the horses on the day!

Legs Radio

Six of our children were interviewed by our local community radio station, LEGS (Lambourn, Eastbury, Garston and Shefford). It was great to hear them enthuse about the learning they had been doing outside of the classroom and their enjoyment of school. We look forward to our next broadcast!

Christmas

This year our performances were, once again, bubbling with creativity! Our pupils were fantastic at retelling the story of Christmas and it was a joy to watch!

On Thursday we followed whole school Christmas lunch with an amazing party with an extra special guest present at the end of the day! Many thanks to FOBS for helping our visitor find Baydon so soon near to Christmas.

FOBS

FOBS, which stands for 'Friends of Baydon School', are a fabulous group of parents who raise money for our school and we are very grateful for all that they do. This year, they are raising funds to pay for a class set of computers. This term, not only have they been out on the playground every Friday selling goodies after school, they have also hosted a disco night and a Christmas quiz! FOBS are always looking for parents to join them in supporting our school - so if you feel you could help them out in any way or just want to find out more please seek out Jenny MacLeod on the playground (or ask one of our staff to point her out to you)!

Looking Ahead...

Robins class will be undergoing some work straight away in January after the unfortunate flood in December. As much as Robins are looking forward to returning to their classroom, they are greatly enjoying their time in our spare room which they have affectionally named 'Robins-Bobbins'!

And Finally...

None of these opportunities would have been possible without the help and support of our families and community of volunteers. Thank you to you all. If you feel you could support us in any way, please let Shireen know in the office. And last, but not least, thank you to all the staff who make Baydon the wonderful school that it is - their tireless enthusiasm and dedication is much appreciated. Have a wonderful Christmas, a well deserved break and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year!

Mrs Knighton, Mrs Gilbert and all the Baydon school staff



EXPLAINING HOW THE RAINWATER GARDEN WILL WORK



DIGGING IN!



THE AMAZING STONE AGE EXPERIENCE DAY WAS FANTASTIC!

