



Baydon St. Nicholas

Church of England (VA) Primary School

Roots to grow, wings to fly



Easter Newsletter 2020

Well... It has been a somewhat unusual term to say the least. Before we had to close we did manage to pack lots of excitement into our school day! Please enjoy looking back over the memories and let's all hope that we will be back together soon to make some new ones.

Book Swop, Film Nights and Discos

FOBS held the first ever book swop in January, and what a collection of books were gathered and shared, a really successful event! Throughout Terms 3 & 4 FOBS have also held discos and film nights which our children love! Thank you for all your hard work FOBS, we really appreciate it! Money raised has so

far been spent on all important phonetically-decodable books for our younger children as well as a wonderful range of chapter books for KS2.

Representing Baydon

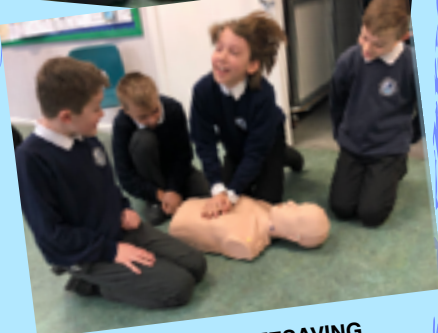
Two teams from Year Six represented us in January at the Hockey Tournament held at Marlborough College. Year Six showed great teamwork skills on a very cold and windy day! Well done to all those involved. We also had a team from Year 5 who took part in a Tag Rugby festival in February. Congratulations to them for a great day and to Thomas for winning the Fair Play Award!

Staying Safe Online

The whole school participated in Online Safety week this year by completing various activities online. We also had a very helpful visit from our Community Police Officers who talked to our older children about ways in which to stay safe particularly in the area of social media.



A FEW MEMBERS OF OUR YEAR SIX HOCKEY TEAM



LEARNING VITAL LIFESAVING SKILLS WITH THE WILTSHIRE AIR AMBULANCE



AND RAISING MONEY FOR THE AIR AMBULANCE LED BY CRAVEN HOUSE

Wiltshire Air Ambulance

We were very lucky to have the Wiltshire Air Ambulance visit us and teach our children what to do in an emergency and how to give life saving first aid if they find themselves in a tricky situation. All pupils were keen to learn and happy to participate in the sessions. The week before Craven House, led by Noah in Year 6, held a charity day and managed to raise £235 for the Air Ambulance. Well done Craven House!

The Vineyard restaurant adopts us!

We have been most fortunate to have been adopted by Mr Tom Scade who is Head Chef at the Vineyard in Newbury. Adopt a School, run by the Royal Academy of Culinary Arts is a scheme whereby chefs work with young people to develop healthy eating habits and encourage an enthusiasm and interest in food, cooking, food provenance and sustainability. Year 4 and 5 spent a morning with Mr Scade discovering different foods and learning about different tastes. Our thanks to Mr Scade for adopting us and we look forward to developing our relationship with him.

Music Lessons

We have been lucky enough to have visiting musicians in school this term, including a harp demonstration and guitar. From the guitar session we now have 12 children beginning to learn this instrument, fantastic news!

Sports Relief

Our second House charity day of the term, led by Ashdown and their Captain Eve, was full of dance and laughter as the whole school participated in the Baydon Danceathon! Eve and members of Year 6 led classes in dance with the

whole school dressed in sports kits! Thanks to your donations, we raised £116 for Sports Relief. Well done Ashdown House!

Looking Up to the Stars and Beyond!

Key Stage Two were visited by two members of the Astronomy Department from Marlborough College, Mr Genton and Mr James, to see a presentation of photos of the observable universe, taken using a telescope in Marlborough. The talk was fascinating, and so many questions were expertly and thoroughly answered by our guests. We were even given a free gift of their book, 'In the Marlborough Night Garden' for use in school. The children were left enthralled and so keen to find out more! Our thanks to Mr Genton and Mr James.

Swimming Lessons

Since January, Mrs Christmas and volunteers have been taking children from the lower end of school weekly to Marlborough Leisure Centre to learn and improve their swimming skills. Children who did not participate in lessons meanwhile had lots of fun in art sessions in school with Mrs Taylor. Swimming sessions will be offered again next year.

Year Four New College Trip

New College in Swindon offered computing sessions to our Year 4 pupils in (what turned out to be) our last week of the term. All Year 4 pupils loved the activities and came back buzzing with excitement!

Science at Pinewood

Year 6 pupils were invited to attend an afternoon of science at Pinewood School. Pupils took place in sessions, which included testing materials using a bunsen burner and creating messages, using microscopes and investigating electricity circuits. Many thanks to Pinewood for not only hosting but providing transport to and from the school. Thank you to all our volunteers.

Odd Socks

All be it a strange day for us, our last day in school as a community was spent with lots of odd socks appearing in every classroom! The odd socks were worn to raise awareness of Downs Syndrome Day.

Salisbury Diocese Visit

Behind the day to day running of a school, we also maintain links with Salisbury Diocese and this term Mrs Knighton met with one of their advisers to discuss how we are continuing to progress and grow as a Church of England school. The adviser, Neil Reville, was impressed at our work in creating our vision:



'Roots to Grow, wings to fly' and our work on the biblical underpinning of this. He also was pleased to see how we are progressing work in the curriculum. During visits to all our classrooms, one of our younger pupils thought he recognised him and asked if he was Jesus, which created a lovely smile on his and our faces!

Forest School

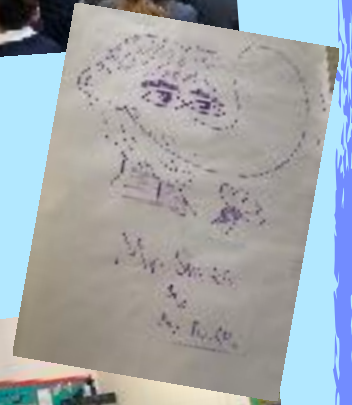
Forest school continued this term with Kites taking their turn at visiting the woodland. So many creative and adventurous ways of exploring were found by the pupils - some of which you can see in the photos to the right of this page.

Jim Smith

The children were so excited when the author Jim Smith visited our school to share his drawing and story skills with us! They loved watching the character Barry Loser come to life, asked lots of questions and laughed all the way through! Many thanks to Jim Smith for brightening up our week and enthusing our children about the Barry Loser books, and to Mr and Mrs Stannard Senior for arranging this wonderful visit.



FOREST SCHOOL FUN!





Dance Festival

Throughout the term our dance club, led by Mrs Chudasama, was busy rehearsing and creating a wonderful dance for the annual Marlborough Dance Festival. Unfortunately this event was cancelled but our pupils still performed for our school and available parents - and what a dance it was! Amazing work and fantastic smiles throughout! A huge congratulations to all involved.

Shakespeare Week

By now we hope most of you will have had a chance to have seen our extra newsletter edition of Shakespeare week! Even though it was a very different week and incredibly busy for our staff team as we prepared work for home learning, we were thrilled at the work produced by classes.

Flamingo Class

While school is closed to keep us all safe we still have a small number of pupils of key workers in school, and our staff team is running as a 'skeleton team' in three teams, currently covering the school for a week at a time. We are doing our best to ensure these pupils in school still feel a sense of belonging and therefore have created our temporary Flamingo Class! A huge thank you to all our staff who are willing to support the school in any way they can during this difficult time.



FLAMINGO CLASS EVEN HAVE A LOVELY MASCOT KINDLY MADE BY A MEMBER OF OUR VILLAGE!



Educating at Home

Firstly well done. By now lots of you have signed onto Clasdojo which will be where we post activities for your family if required. Please remember you are at home and not at school. It will be different and it is impossible to recreate the school experience at home - just ask our teachers with children! By doing what you can at home is doing the best for your child. Remember you can contact the school via Clasdojo, support@baydon-st-nicholas.wilts.sch.uk or for general enquiries admin@baydon-st-nicholas.wilts.sch.uk

Finally...

Well where do we begin? We have entered a completely alien and unknown time, and at this point we do not know when we will be together again at school. Please know that all our staff members are thinking of you - our fantastic families - throughout this time and can not wait to be back at school! In the meantime we are asking you to stay safe and enjoy your time with your family. Find time to talk, smile, laugh and giggle. Find the silver lining in the clouds because it will be there. Take care and stay safe.

Mrs Knighton, Mrs Gilbert and the team at Baydon.

