



# Baydon St. Nicholas

Church of England (VA) Primary School

Roots to grow, wings to fly



## Christmas Newsletter 2021



**Welcome to the Baydon Christmas Newsletter!**  
Lots of exciting events have taken place since we started back and we hope you enjoy reading about them as much as we enjoyed participating in them!

### Reception Pupils

We were so pleased to welcome into school our new Reception cohort at the start of the year! They settled into school life quickly, and the rest of the pupils in school have been exemplary in their support of them. So a huge welcome to Phoebe, Grayson, Finn, Libby, Thomas, Archie, Lottie, Presley, Eliana, Albert, James and Briony!

### 1940s Day

To enhance our learning experience we finally held our postponed 1940s day in December. Within classes children had a fabulous day enjoying cooking, dancing, crafts of the 1940s and games.

### Charity Fundraising

Two houses held charity fundraising days in school during the autumn terms. In September Newton House Captain and Vice Captains did a super job organising a non uniform day for Jeans for Genes, and in November the Ashdown House Captain and Vice Captains ensured the whole school danced for Children in Need. Our charity days are very much led by the pupils and they did a spectacular job creating fun days that raised money for worthwhile causes. Well done to all involved!



1940'S KITES



MAKE DO AND MEND SEWING IN SKYLARKS



FABULOUS TOYS FROM SCRAPS



HOME MADE DECORATIONS IN GOLDFINCHES!



**KITES GETTING READY TO WATCH THE JUNGLE BOOK AT THE WATERMILL**

## Jungle Book

On the 1st December the excitement was bubbling throughout the school as the whole school headed to the Watermill Theatre to see the current production of 'The Jungle Book'. Classes were mesmerised with the singing, dancing, musical instrument playing and acting that took place. Behaviour was exceptional, and all staff were incredibly proud. Well done Baydon!

## Harvest

As many of you are aware, due to illness at the end of Term 1, it was decided that our Harvest Service had to be virtual but that did not stop all classes from contributing to a wonderful celebration that included tractor songs, art and poetry. Many thanks for the donations of food that went to charity.

## Bikeability

This term Year Six were able to test out their cycling skills and gain confidence in using their bikes safely on roads. All children who took part achieved and passed levels 1&2 - excellent work! Many thanks to the instructors, Richard and Steven.

## Braeside Residential for Years 4 & 5

Year 4 & 5 set off in September to their residential at the Outdoor Adventure Centre, Braeside, located in Devizes for three days. It was an action-packed three days for pupils that included canoeing, high ropes, and a hike. Pupils came buzzing back to school with many tales to tell! A huge thanks as ever to all staff that participated in the trip - the sleepless nights are always worth it!

## Apple Juice for the Environment

Hawks class, as part of their science work, looked at the impact of human behaviour on the environment earlier in the term. As part of their work the class decided to sell apple juice, and funds raised will support environmental good causes.

## Year of Reading

This year has been declared the *Year of Reading* in Wiltshire! As a school we have signed up to being part of this celebration of all things reading and will be taking part in activities arranged by Wiltshire County Council. Events hosted during this term included online author events for all ages. During the new year we are looking at revitalising reading at home for all children. Exciting times ahead!



**HAWKS SELLING APPLE JUICE**



**ENHANCING SKILLS IN BIKEABILITY**





A TRUST GAME



WALKING TO THE FOREST



## School in the forest

Forest school started back in September with the oldest children (Hawks class) visiting the woodland area in Baydon led by Mrs Hallsworth and supported by a wonderful team of volunteers. Kites have just finished their turn and from January Skylarks will be next to visit. Goldfinches and Robins are also using the paddock for outside activities every week to explore just how much fun the outside environment can be for learning. School in the forest benefits pupils in a huge variety of areas, supporting and encouraging skills such as resilience and problem solving. It can also increase motivation, concentration and give pupils a sense of achievement. Many thanks to all who continue to make this opportunity possible.

## Hockey Sticks!

Thanks to the amazing network of voters on social media, Baydon School came second in a prize give away from Crosby & Lawrence, Marlborough. The company decided that due to the large amount of votes for our school that they would award a set of hockey sticks to our school as well. My huge thanks to Crosby & Lawrence for their kind and generous donation and to all who voted for our school.

## Christingle

The whole school took part in a different way of approaching Christingle this year! With the incredible kind support and input of Revd. Beth pupils in all classes learnt

at the start of the day on the 6th December about Christingles and how to create them. Then throughout the day each child made their own Christingle. We then took part in an online zoom Christingle worship at the end of the day which was great fun!

## Subject Focus - DT

This year, in each newsletter, we will be exploring a subject that is taught at Baydon in a little more depth and firstly it is the turn of Design and Technology (DT).

### *Why do we teach DT?*

At Baydon we want our pupils to become astute and informed future consumers and potential innovators of tomorrow's world. Our role is to provide the roots to grow for this!

### *What do we cover?*

Content is organised into six areas: **food, mechanisms (mechanical structures), structures, textiles, electrical systems (KS2 only) and digital world (KS2 only).**

As pupils progress throughout each year they revisit the areas, though with a different focus at each revisit.

### *What does a typical sequence of lessons look like?*

Lessons, which can be separate or taught as a block within each term, include elements of exploration, design, making and evaluating products.

This term Robins and Goldfinches looked at mechanisms (wheels and axles) and in Key Stage 2 pupils explored structures (through creating reinforced shelters) and electrical systems. Next term will include food for all, textiles for our younger pupils and mechanisms for our older pupils. Below are some photos from work that took place in Key Stage 2 in DT this term. Fabulous!





SNOW MADE THE END OF NOVEMBER FUN IN ROBINS!



CHRISTMAS CAKE MAKING IN HAWKS WITH MRS FURBER



### FOBS Working Hard!

We are always so incredibly grateful to our FOBS (Friends of Baydon) team who work tirelessly to raise funds for school that support the learning and experience of pupils at Baydon. The past two terms have included a book fair, clothing collections (Bags2school), pumpkin trails, discos, raffles, popcorn movie nights, and crafternoons! All these events would not be possible without the leadership of the FOBS team and all the fabulous volunteers who give their time to support these events, so a huge thank you from the school for your continued support.

### Christmas

Whilst not entirely the Christmas celebrations we were hoping to hold, pupils still brought the awe and wonder of the season to school. Nativity plays and performances were expertly performed and the weather was kind in

order for us to perform a few Christmas songs outside to our families in the last week. Key stage Christmas parties went ahead, and we were even lucky enough to receive a visit from a certain someone dressed in red!

### Thank you

Lastly, a huge thank you to all who have contributed to making the first two terms of this year so special, even when things have not 'quite' been back to normal! It has been a privilege to witness, and I, with the rest of the Baydon team, are so excited to see what the new year brings!

*Have a wonderful Christmas and a happy new year!*

Mrs Gilbert and the Baydon School Team.