



Summer Term Newsletter 2019

Wow, what a year we have had at Baydon! It has been action packed, full of wonderful experiences and an ongoing celebration of learning!

Under The Sea in School

Our whole school theme for Under the Sea for Terms Five and Six was a great topic for children of all ages to explore. Goldfinches and Robins recently enjoyed an excellent workshop from Sharks4kids where they were fascinated to hear more about sharks and their habitats. Robins also had a surprise message at the start of the topic from BAFTA-winning naturalist Steve Backshall after being inspired by Blue Planet Live at the start of the topic.

Outdoor Learning Day

At the end of Term Five, we gathered in our houses to celebrate learning outdoors. The House groups worked together wonderfully as always and supported each other throughout the day. Children experienced a range of

activities including bug hotels, outdoor art, poetry and constructing a whole school giant whale made from disposed plastic to highlight this important issue.

Bristol Aquarium Trip

To support work in school on our whole school theme, Under the Sea, Goldfinches and Robins visited the Bristol Aquarium in June. It was a fabulous day full of wonder and amazing facts. Many thanks to all our adult volunteers who joined us on the trip, a highlight for the staff was being stopped multiple times by members of the public who congratulated us on having such a wonderfully behaved school - well done Robins and Goldfinches!

New College Virtual School

Years 4, 5 and 6 attended New College for a morning in Term 6 and took part in computer sessions looking at coding. These sessions were really well delivered and have enabled staff to deliver more teaching in computing on return to school. Many thanks to our Governor, Peter Joddrell, for organising these great sessions.



UNDER THE SEA AT BRISTOL



COOKING POPCORN DURING OUR OUTDOOR LEARNING DAY!





OUR PILOT FOREST SCHOOL GROUP

Sport News

This time of year is always action packed with tournaments. Year 4 pupils represented us fabulously at the small schools athletics tournament in Term 6 and a group of Year 6 pupils attended the Quad Kids event as well. The Year 6 pupils performed particularly well and Evie Hallsworth achieved the success of being the top scoring girl out of the whole competition - excellent news!

Two Year 6 pupils also attended Sports Leader Training leading up to the Year 4 athletics tournament and were amazing leaders during the tournament.

Sports Day at Baydon this year did not disappoint and a great time was had by all. From the athletics competitions in the morning (with a special mention to Year 6 leading the KS1 tournament) to the track events in the afternoon, all pupils showed great determination and sportsmanship. This year the winning house team was Newton.

Rockley 2019

A very excited group of Year 6 pupils, including Mr Smith and Mrs Knighton, set off for a week's adventure in June to Rockley in Dorset. The group

had the time of their lives exploring activities in the sea. The watersports included canoeing, sailing, paddle boarding, windsurfing and crab fishing. Being on a week long residential is a moment in 'growing up' and our Year Six pupils were fantastic in meeting the challenge!

Stay 'n' Play

Baydon Toddler group held another session in May at Baydon and was well attended by young families. Many thanks to Baydon Toddlers for making this happen during the year.

Forest School

Our Forest school pilot has been very successful, and the Year 5 pupils that were involved have greatly enjoyed all the benefits that this approach brings to their personal development.

" I learnt to trust other people I don't usually trust. It helped my confidence and the activities were calming. I showed teamwork when I was helping on the tightrope and finding dangers in my group. I think I improved my cooking skills and showed friendship. Thank you Mr James and all the other helpers for letting us have a wonderful afternoon out in the woods"



JUMPING INTO SPORTS DAY!





OUTDOOR ART INSPIRED BY ANDY GOLDSWORTHY

FOREST SCHOOL

Church and School Fete

Many thanks to all our families who attended the church school fete back in June. It was a lovely community afternoon which resulted in money being raised for the church and the school. Thanks, as always, in particular to the members of our community who give time and effort to the event.

Rainwater Garden Open

Our Rainwater Garden is really coming alive. It is a wonderful and calming space that pupils are loving watching grow. In Term 6, the school opened the Rainwater Garden as part of the Baydon Open Gardens Day, as well as letting the school hall be used for this village event. Wendy Allen (the designer) was there to discuss the project. The Rainwater Garden was also featured on the BBC News during the summer. Again our huge thanks to Wendy Allen and Action for River Kennet for this wonderful gift.

Our school grounds have also had a mini makeover, we have new surfaces on the KS2 playground with the lines renewed and Robins outdoor area has been revamped.

Butterfly Conservation Project

Thanks to Ramsbury Estates, Skylarks took part in the Duke of Burgundy Butterfly Conservation Project this year, which involved pupils planting out cowslips they have grown on Ramsbury Estate. The children loved the day and especially enjoyed the bluebells which were growing in the woods there.

Jungle Book

The children were outstanding again in our production of Disney's Jungle Book (Kids version). The singing and acting was amazing and it was a fantastic moment of the whole school working together. Many thanks to all who attended to give support to our young performers.





OUR TEAM OF FOUR SHOWING EXCELLENT PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS AT THE ANNUAL PINWOOD PREPARATORY SCHOOL COMPETITION



PLAYPOD AT PLAYTIMES CONTINUES TO BE A FANTASTIC ACTIVITY FOR ALL CHILDREN



OUR WHOLE SCHOOL DT PROJECT OF UNDERWATER VEHICLES HAS BEEN A HUGE SUCCESS!



Moving on from Year 6

We will miss our current Year 6 cohort very much but it is time for them to move on to their next stage of education and new schools. As part of their leaving celebrations, they have taken part in the Leavers Day with pupils from other local Church of England Primary Schools, as well as having a fun day and holding their own leavers service on the last day of term here at St Nicholas Church. This year pupils are moving on to a range of different schools including St Johns in Marlborough, John O'Gaunts in Hungerford, King Alfred's in Wantage, St Gabriel's in Newbury, The Downs in Compton, Pangbourne College and Farrington Community College. Good luck and we will miss you Euan, Monty, Evie, Danny, Brooke, Juno, Hayden, Thomas, Paul, Isla, Lilia, Kiera, Oscar, Sophie, Lotte, Farai and Katie.

Looking Ahead

September sees the start of the new year and we say goodbye for now to Miss Hayhoe as she begins her maternity leave. Mrs Wigglesworth will be working full time in Kites during Miss Hayhoe's absence.

We also say farewell to Miss Gould who has been a fantastic addition to the Wagtails staff team. We wish her luck as she begins her new challenge of university.

In September we are also welcoming fourteen new pupils to Robins. It has been wonderful over the past two terms to meet the new families during the induction evening, parent and teacher interviews and the three induction mornings for pupils.

Behind the scenes, teachers have been working hard on updating our curriculum for next year. We have really looked in detail at each of the subjects we teach and the progression pupils will follow throughout their time at Baydon. The new year starts with the whole school theme of Extreme Earth - exciting!

Thank you

We are blessed with a dedicated team of staff at Baydon and, without them, many of these wonderful events pupils have been involved in would just not happen. In addition to this a huge thank you to the wonderful members of our families and community who rise to the occasion and support in a variety of ways, from attending trips, ferrying children to different sports events, supporting our end of year musical (a special mention to our costume department here of which we are losing some key members this year), reading in school, fete support and of course FOBS. Together our school is a very special place.

We wish you all a restful and happy summer holidays.

