



# Tockwith

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a strange half term it has been with the weather. The Beast from East seems like a million miles away. I have to say I was so impressed with the commitment of staff, children and parents who made sure our snow days were memorable days filled with fun. It was a pleasure seeing children coming to school on sledges—only in Tockwith surely! I was amazed to see the attendance was 91% on the first day of the snow. Many thanks to all the appreciative comments we had from parents and carers for opening the school. After some long and arduous journeys, it was really appreciated.

I wish you all a very happy Easter Holidays.

Justin Reeve

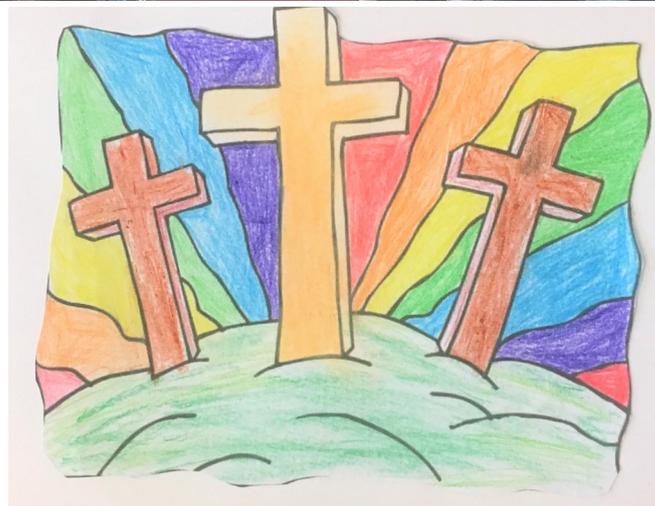
Headteacher



## Easter Service

I am always proud to be the Headteacher of Tockwith CE Primary Academy but the Easter Service this year took it to another level. The children were incredible and Key Stage 1 performed with confidence and made everyone at the service smile. This was flipped for the second half and Key Stage 2 delivered an exceptionally poignant performance. The classes told the Easter Story through the eyes of the St Peter, the donkey, Judas and the Roman Soldiers. I believe it made us all reflect and look at the Easter story in a different way. The silence in the church after Year 6 finished was something that will stay with me for some while. I was so pleased that this was the first time Reverend Martin has seen a Tockwith masterpiece. It was a pleasure to listen to Reverend Martin's reflective words and the end of the service. Thank you to all the parents and friends of our school who came to our service. Thanks also for the donations for St Dorcas, an amazing £181.20 will be its way to Kenya.

We have also been producing Easter Cards for the Congregation on Sunday, thank you to everyone who made a card.



## The Bee Musical

This week we have been truly entertained by the children of Year 3 and 4. The 2 performances of The Bee Musical were incredible. The children performed with energy and confidence and sang beautifully with passion and excitement. The children clearly loved being on stage. It was fantastic to share our performance with so many people. Thank you to Mrs George and Mr Wharfedale for turning round such a great production in such a short time—wow! Thank you also to everyone who helped with costumes, make up and scenery.



## Message from the Chair of Governors

At our recent Local Governing Body Meeting we were joined by Peter Acaster, the Chair of the Ebor Academy Trustees. He was extremely impressed with the meeting and the way that the Governing Body interacted ensuring strategic direction and support for Mr Reeve and the school. Peter also commented on the enormous pride we all displayed for the school and the great sense of community spirit in evidence. All testament to the Governing Body and their passion for the school and to you, our extended school family, who bring so much to the school.

At our last meeting we also welcomed Miss Hargreaves as the new staff representative on the Governing Body. Miss Hargreaves has replaced Miss Bamford who has been a member for the last three years and kept us fully informed of school life and curriculum. We look forward to working with Lucy in the future.

Following a recent catch up meeting with Mr Reeve we talked about the number of e mails being sent to school, which has increased significantly. We talked about the fact that e mails are being sent to individual teachers both during the school day and well into the evening. This is putting undue stress on teachers, who having been at school all day are having to spend time reading and answering mails in their personal time.

I know in this day and age of immediate communication it is easy to send a mail and to expect a quick response but this is not practical or ideal in this situation. Teachers obviously have little time to respond to mails during the school day and need to have time away from school and responsibilities in the evenings.

With the wellbeing of our staff in mind the Governors, in collaboration with Mr Reeve, have decided to put a protocol around e mails.

- All emails to school or school staff are to go to the office - [admin@tp.ebor.academy](mailto:admin@tp.ebor.academy)
- No mails are to be sent to teacher/headteacher addresses
- Mails sent outside of the school day (past 6.00pm) will be dealt with the following day
- Mails will be processed and allocated accordingly. Response, if necessary, will be in an appropriate way. This may be by mail, text, letter or face to face response or through planners.

Staff will continue to be available before school on the playground and after school in their classroom. Also, there will still be the same opportunities to discuss your child's academic progress and pastoral needs at the parent consultation evenings.

By sending everything through the office it means your mail can be directed appropriately and potentially addressed quicker. Also, it will allow school to see any trends and to act accordingly to give you the information you may need.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Sue Corbett and Mr Reeve

## Dancing

This year we have spent a sizeable amount of money from our Sports Premium money on improving the dancing provision at Tockwith. Every child in the school will have the opportunity to work with Sadie Flower over the academic year. This will also provide excellent continuous professional development for the teachers who are working closely with Sadie. It has been fantastic to see the impact of high quality dance tuition with the children. I would like to say a big thank you to all the parents and carers of our children who have been able to come and watch the children perform. I know they have been as impressed as much as I have. I asked Orla from Year 5 and Elsie and Sophie from Year 2 to write about how they felt about the dance.

I was thrilled when Mr Skidmore said we were going to do dance with Sadie Flower. Sadie Flower was a really fun teacher.

Dance was really fun. We did Bollywood style dance and Flamenco. My favourite move was the 'deer'. The dance I like most was Flamenco, because I really enjoyed the music.

I felt really happy when I was performing. I was a bit nervous, but I was over it when I was in the middle of performing. When my Mummy came to watch I had butterflies in my tummy and I also was so excited.

It was an amazing thing to do I will always remember this.

Elsie, Sophie and Class 2S

This term Y5 have done some American themed dances with our dance teacher Sadie Flower. We have learnt Lindy Hop and Line Dancing both with there own challenges.

Firstly, we did Line Dancing. This was so fun and energetic. We learnt lots of dance moves: the Grape Vine the Heel Slaps and Toe Taps and Pivot Turns. We did a piece of choreography that our dance teacher showed us then went into our own groups and made up some little dances based on what we had learnt. We practised this for 5 weeks and tried are hardest to get the dance perfect.

Following this, we learnt a dance called Lindy Hop. This was a very fast and energetic routine which was fun and jazzy. We were trusted to do some scary lifts but luckily no one fell and no one was hurt. We learnt lots of interesting new moves.

At the end of term we performed both of these dances to both parents and the school. We were exhausted at the end but it was definitely worth the effort.  
Orla Blake Year 5



## Sports Relief 2018

At school, we celebrated Sport Relief by having all the classes from Early Years to Year 6 run around the field. When everybody arrived the Year 6's did our wake up shake up routine with the whole school to warm up.

After, we all got in line and were given little red strips of paper. The teachers started off the race with all pupils having to undertake a minimum of three laps around the field.

Everyone ran round more than three times (even the little ones). Everyone got their strip hole punched for each lap they did. After everyone stopped, we all helped to celebrate each others success.

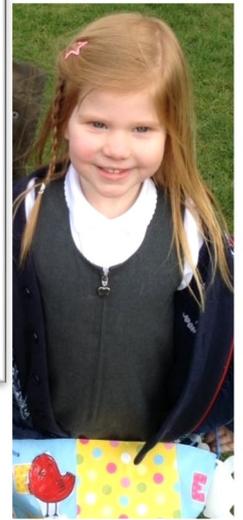
Finally we got given stickers from all our teachers and we hope we have helped to raise money for a fantastic cause.

By Ryan Mosey Year 5



## TCP Easter Egg Hunt

This half term Tockwith Children's Partnership held two events for the children, a book morning to celebrate World Book Day and an Easter Egg Hunt. Both were very well attended and children in Reception, Tick Tocks and the Under 5s had lots of fun! It was lovely to see so many happy faces! Thank you to all who attended. Miss Hargreaves



## Piglets Adventure Farm

Reception visited Piglets Adventure Farm this half term, second time lucky as the snow disrupted our original visit! The children were so well behaved and had such a brilliant time. They fed the hungry lambs, learnt about the piglets, stroked the guinea pigs, fed the horses and planted seeds. A super way to end our farm topic! Miss Hargreaves

## World Down Syndrome Day



It was World Down Syndrome Day on Wednesday 21st March which we celebrated by wearing our 'Odd Socks'. There was also a Design a Sock competition for KS1 and KS2. We had a total of 69 entries. Sophie and Mrs Starr chose the two lucky winners. A fun day was had by all and £121 raised for a great charity.

Thank you very much to Sophie and her parents for bring WSDS18 to our attention this year  
#lotsofsocks

## Science

As science Subject Leader, I have recently been involved in a very reflective and well-structured process to raise the standards of science at Tockwith. We have all been working very hard towards applying for the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM), which is an award scheme to develop and celebrate the quality of science teaching and learning in primary schools. We decided to go for Gold, the highest acclaim. In order to achieve this we had to go through a process of initial audit, followed by action and reflection and this was supported by compulsory training and mentoring for me, which has taken place over the past year.

Seven core documents have now been submitted: Action Plan, Core Principles of Science, Subject Leader Log, Continual Professional Development Log, School Development Plan, Calendar of Science Events and a Powerpoint Portfolio of Evidence.

The PSQM aims are to raise the profile of science, encourage an increase in the range and quality of teaching and learning, recognise, promote and spread good practice in science teaching and learning, provide a framework for evaluating, planning and developing the quality of science teaching and learning, and to celebrate a commitment to excellence in science in primary schools.

We are feeling confident and look forward to the award notification in May 2018. Many thanks to all involved and especially to Prof.Paul, the many scientists, doctors and visitors who helped raise the profile of science and to the staff and children who have made all this possible through continued effort and enthusiasm.

Mrs George

Year 1 and Year 2 went on an exciting trip to Pizza Express where we learnt where our food comes from. Who knew that pizza originally came from Greece! First we learnt how to knead our dough and we found it surprisingly bouncy. We then put our cheese and tomato on and waited eagerly for it to come out of the oven. By the end the flour was everywhere but we were able to tuck into a slice of pizza when we returned back to school. We all had a fantastic time and the pizza was yummy. Miss Bamford



## Prospectus

We are currently producing a new school prospectus and, as such, we are looking at including some quotes from parents about the school. We sent out an email asking for people to give a short quote about the school and disappointingly we received only one response. I appreciate everyone is busy but I think future parents/carers would really appreciate an insight from our current parents. If you could please send a positive quote about the school to [admin@tp.ebor.academy](mailto:admin@tp.ebor.academy) it would be really appreciated.

## Volunteers

I would like to say a big thank you to all the volunteers who come into school. We now have a considerable 'volunteer army'!

If you have spare time and you would like to help in school we would love to hear from you.

## Parking

Our Junior Road Safety Officers have been on patrol this term again.

One thing they have noticed has been the amount of litter that has been left in the bushes outside the school. They will be voicing their concerns to North Yorkshire County Council.

I managed to give a headteacher sticker to one parent who I saw pick up someone else's detritus that was littered on the pavement. I also heard a rumour that Year 3 are keen to write to the Parish Council about the dog dirt on the walk to church.

## Contact Details

Please can you make sure that the office hold current numbers for you. Also, in light of recent cases in the news, please could you ensure that your child has at least 2 points of contact in emergency.



## Twitter

To avoid any confusion we currently have 2 twitter accounts. Our normal account (@tockwithprimary) is a closed account and it is the account teachers use to share events in school, however it does not link to our website and does not allow us to contact people outside our followers which is really useful when we are wanting to write for purpose or share our work with the wider world. Hence, we have created an open twitter account @tockwithcofe which links to our website and allows 2 way communication and promotion. If you do not wish your children to be on this please contact the school office.