



Tockwith

CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Dear Parents and Carers,
Thank you to everyone who came to our creativity day in school, it was fantastic to see the children shine in the arts areas of school life. It was lovely to see the children perform confidently and truly live out our core Christian Value of Creativity. Thank you to Miss Hargreaves for facilitating this and being an advocate of the Arts at Tockwith C of E. There are further pictures on the website (Tockwith.ebor.academy) and our twitter page (@tockwithcofe)

As a staff, we have spent a lot of this half term exploring and designing our curriculum to ensure that it gives the children and staff the opportunity to live out our vision of 'Living life in all its fullness'. It has been a pleasure to see this lived out in classrooms and I am sure the children are looking forward to sharing all of their work with you in their books and on seesaw at our parents evenings next term.

This half term Mr Skidmore and Mrs Perry have hosted sessions in their classrooms to share great teaching in maths and reading for teachers in Ebor Academy Trust. What amazes me is how our teachers and children do not bat an eyelid when 10-15 adults are watching their lessons. I am also super proud that we have awesome children and teachers who are examples of great classroom practice.

As the year has developed, we have gained more children which currently means we are up to 211 children in school. The school, governors and the trust are very aware of the current and projected growth in the local area. We have been in discussion with North Yorkshire County Council about the provision in Tockwith and the surrounding area and are currently making strategic plans for how to move forward with expansion in mind. I will keep you informed of the progress we are making as it develops. We want to ensure that our ethos stays strong and maintain our warm welcoming environment.

We are aware of the additional children in classes which is why we have, compared to other schools, a larger number of teaching assistants to support and enhance children's learning. We are so lucky to have such amazing support staff in our school who shine in so many ways, have so much expertise and are an integral part to ensuring that we live out our aim to: 'Inspire everyone to reach their individual potential and, through our Christian values, prepare them for the future.'

Speaking of support staff, we have employed Mrs Linda Kirkham who will be joining us in Year 5 at the start of the half term. We look forward to welcoming Linda to Team Tockwith.

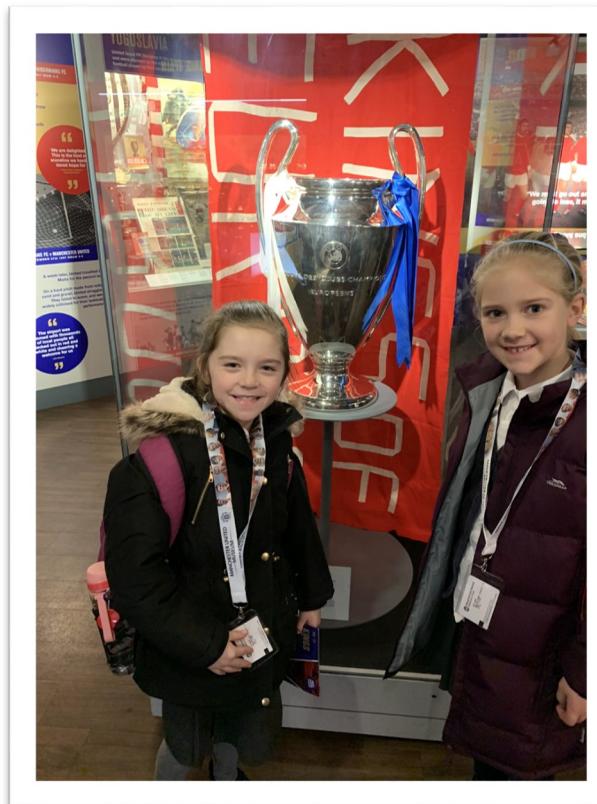
Last week, I sent out a parent hub message about a letter we had from Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP about the amazing Writing results we achieved last year. I apologise as I failed to mention how integral you have been to this process. We often note that the children who make significant progress are those children whose parents feedback and are actively involved in their children's writing. Please can you make sure that you sign the children's Big Write books.

I wish you all a lovely break over the half-term.

**Justin Reeve
Headteacher**

Old Trafford

Years 3 and 4 went on an exciting trip over to Old Trafford. During the day, we spent time learning about the history and inequality of women in sport, particularly football. Both classes were so engaged with this topic and asked plenty of questions to our guide. Following this classroom session, we all got a tour of the stadium. We got to sit in the pitch side manager's chairs, visit the press room and even sit in the player's changing room. Mr Goodacre



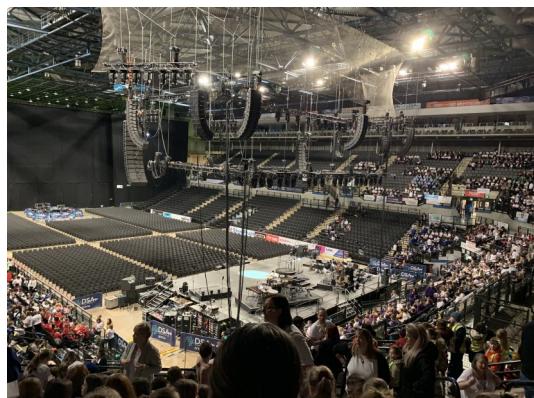
Young Voices

Our fantastic KS2 choir traveled to Sheffield Motorpoint Arena to take part in the amazing Young Voices event. They were joined by schools from all over the area to take part in a school choir of over 5000 children!

The Young Voices choir supported some artists, including Tony Hadley, with their own songs as well as singing alone with songs such as Kusimama, Larger than Life, Shiny Happy People and the awesome Pop medley. The concert culminated with a Queen finale where all of the artists joined together with the choir to sing a medley of songs from Queen.

After a quick trip back down the M1, our tired singers were collected from school by their incredibly supportive parents. A huge thank you to those parents for allowing their children to be a part of such an amazing experience. Thanks also to those parents who were able to come along to the concert, the children were touched you were there. We are incredibly proud of our children for taking part in this concert and want to thank them for being so committed to the practice required for the songs and also for their amazing behavior during the performance last night. Several teachers commented on the children's good behaviour, how well they acted and enjoyed the concert.

We are now looking forward to the QE Choir Festival in May- places still available for KS2 children!



York Minster

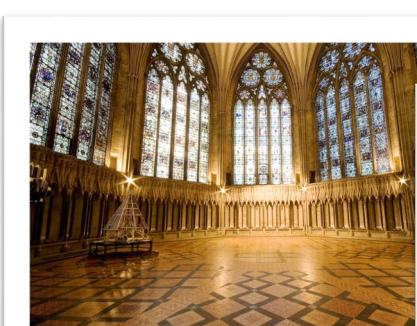
In January, year 5 and 6 went to York Minster. The Cathedral and Church of Saint Peter in York, commonly known as York Minster, is the cathedral of York, England, and is one of the largest of its kind in Northern Europe. We were taught all about its history and about how it had changed over the years.

We were shown around to all of the different parts of the cathedral where we had a chance to go and see the undercroft of the minster to see the old Roman and Norman remains of their settlement.

All of us were shown around by someone who worked there who showed us some of the oldest windows in the world. Also, we had the chance to see some of the ancient relics that were dug up by archaeologists.

While we were there, we went into the Chapter House, the part of the cathedral where the Archbishop has his meetings. Inside, all of us had some reflection time on the minster and how amazing it really was.

By Alfie and Freya,
Y6



On Monday 10th January, Year 5 and 6 went to Flamingo Land to cover their topic of rainforest animals.

We saw Red Pandas, Lemurs, Macaws and even got a close look at the Black Rhinos.

The work shop

At the park we had a rainforest workshop. In this we learnt about the layers in the rainforest: forest floor, understory, canopy and emergent layer. We got to hold a hissing cockroach, stroke a snake and a tenrec (Which is a bit like a hedgehog) and learn about the different animals that live in the rainforest

Our favourite animals that we saw :

Lemurs

We got to see the Lemurs eating their food. Lemurs are endangered and there are 115 different kinds of lemurs. Male ring tailed lemurs put smells, from glands in their bottoms, on their tail and wave it at the rivals. We saw Ring Tailed lemurs, Red bellied and Mongoose lemurs. Red bellied females will have a white belly, but only males have a red belly.

Rhinos

At Flamingo Land, they have 3 Black Rhinos, one male and two females called Samira and her baby Olmoti. Flamingo Land are hoping for a baby rhino in the next 2 years!

By Chloe and Olly



Bedtime book library

It has been great for us to see the continued motivation and excitement the children have had for reading over this half term. We can now really see the progress and positive improvement it is making in the classroom and to their learning. Once again, many thanks for the support and feedback we receive from home with reading. Reading at home with your child really does make such a huge difference.

*****NEW*****

From the start of next half term we will be starting a Key Stage 1 Storytime Book Club every Tuesday lunchtime from 12.30-1pm. This will be open to all of Key Stage 1 and the session will be an opportunity for children to access and enjoy modelled reading and then discuss the story in a fun and relaxed setting. The children can pop in on a week by week basis as and when.

Our new setting is our new Storytime Library which is situated in our old ICT Suite. It has been created with the intention that you pop in and borrow any of our fantastic new and pre-loved books.

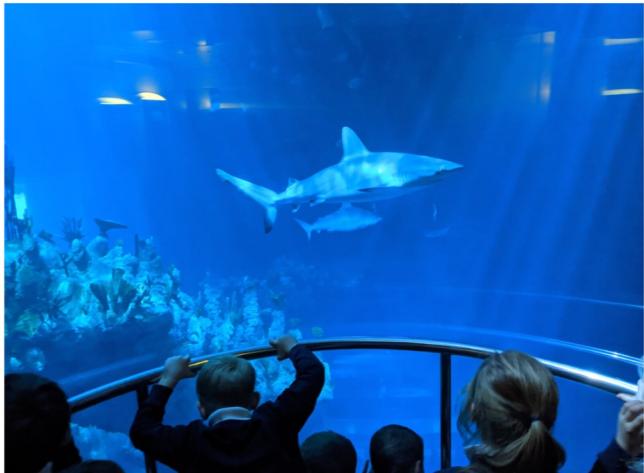
We know how important family time is over these holiday periods but please remember all children have access to the brilliant Bug Club programme which we would encourage use of along with regular reading of their school books

Mrs Newsome and Mrs Algar



Visit to the Deep

Year 1 and 2 immersed themselves into the oceans around the world at The Deep earlier in the year. We saw so many different types of fish and sea creatures, went in a lift amongst the sharks and learnt about the different parts of the world. At one point we even had stingrays gliding above our heads. Here are some pictures. Miss Murphy



Handwriting Competition

To correspond with her birthday on National Handwriting day, Mrs Strachan ran a handwriting competition in school. Working with Mrs Hackforth, one of our Governors, they found a winner from each class who met their strict criteria. Thank you so much to Mrs Strachan for driving our presentation agenda and to Mrs Hackforth for helping judging.

National Handwriting Day

Once upon a line

Winners

Thursday 23rd January

Competition

abc a
b c d
e f g
h i j k
l m n p
q r s t u
v w x y z

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 6

Year 7

The Little Turtle

There was a little turtle.
He lived in a box.
He swam in a puddle.
He climbed on the rocks.
He snapped at a mosquito.
He snapped at a flea.
He snapped at a minnow.
And he snapped at me.
He caught the mosquito.
He caught the flea.
He caught the minnow.
But he can't catch me.

by Rachel Lindsay
Sophie

All things IT

It has been a busy six weeks on the technology front at Tockwith. Mr Reeve and I attended The Bett trade show in London which showcases the best of technology in education. The very next day we made a purchase! The school now has 10 E.a.R.L robots that are being used to further our computer science teaching. Year 5 and 6 were treated to a superb internet safety presentation by Mr Thomas that outlined the importance of understanding your Digital Footprint and what is visible to other people. Mr Thomas was able to use his skills to search information on myself and it was amazing to see what he could find! National internet safety day was on February 11th 2020 and our digital leaders helped present an important assembly all about screen time and developing healthy habits. I encourage you to have this conversation at home. Can you have a screen free time or a screen free zone?

Richard Melville, Assistant Headteacher at The North Church of England Primary Academy, Google Certified Educator and Computing Lead for the Three Academies Trust, will talk about his school's technology journey into the 21st Century and beyond.

Lots of personal data
Money coming in and out

THE PRESS