



Tockwith

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term has certainly been a wet one! I am so pleased we have OPAL because without it the all of our pupils would have had to endure many indoor playtimes. Thank you so much for equipping your children with the appropriate clothing outside. If I can recommend anything, please send your children with a waterproof coat and trousers (labelled) and keep these in school. That way there is no mud going home!

Next term, we are looking forward to inviting you in to see our OPAL play session. We will also be opening our brand new sand pit which has been kindly funded by the PTFA.

This half term, as a staff, we have been working hard on our Tockwith Mantra. You may have heard the staff using the phrase, Hear Me, Show me you're a star. This ensures all children are ready to learn and then actively listen to the teacher. This has been a focus for the senior leadership team and the governors and both have noted how well the children and staff have adapted to using this and use it consistently.

Tockwith Mantra...

HEAR me !



Switched on!



High energy

Empty hands

Active listening

Ready to learn

Track

Activate your thinking/talk

Respond

In staffing news, Mrs Grainger is expecting a baby at the beginning of June. I am sure you will join me in congratulating her. As you well know, timings are not always guaranteed during this time and the initial plan is for Mrs Grainger to work up to the middle of May. This of course depends on many factors. After this time, Mrs Medley will become full time and will take the lead on the Reception class. Miss Penfold will then take charge of the Year 1 children in the mornings.

Also, a big thank you for your efforts with attendance. From the latest data given to us by the Department for Education we were 1st compared to 20 similar schools.

Thank you for all your continued support this term and I hope you enjoy this time with your children.

Mr Justin Reeve

The Deep—Years 1 and 2.

KS1 enjoyed an exciting trip to The Deep as part of their Deep Blue Sea topic. The children enjoyed exploring the aquariums, spotting sharks and rays, and walking through the underwater tunnel. The visit brought their learning to life and deepened their understanding of ocean habitats. They also took part in a workshop about the harmful effects of plastic in the oceans. The children were engaged throughout the day and were a credit to the school. Mrs Williamson



Catterick Races

Year 5 went to Catterick races to experience how maths and other subjects are used within professional horse racing. We looked at weights, distances and equipment. We even got to choose the best turned out horse and presented the winning owner with their trophy. Mr Goodacre.

"It was a really good trip because we had a lot of different activities and we got to pick which horses we wanted to win. It was really fun!" Gabriel

"It was fun. We got to do many different things and new experiences. The instructors were really friendly and knew a lot about horse racing." Pippa



Christingle

At the start of February we held a whole school assembly with Reverend Martin and then all children made a Christingle. This was a lovely event which saw children working together to celebrate the birth of Christ, the Light of the World. Children also dressed down for the day and gave a donation towards the Children's Society - we raised over £190!

Thank you to Reverend Martin and Reverend Karen and all of the volunteers that came in to help with the Christingle.

On the 2nd of February (Candlemass), we had the opportunity to make our own christingles. We started the day with a fun assembly with Reverend Martin (including a giant orange!), before creating the christingles.

We used:

Four cocktail sticks, which represent the four seasons of the year.

Four sweets (one on each stick), which represent the good things in life.

A candle, which represents Jesus (the light of the world).

A red ribbon, which represents Jesus' blood.

Everybody was allowed to put together a christingle and it was really fun!

Thank you to all of the adults who helped with the christingle making!

By Amy W-C and Zach



Young Voices

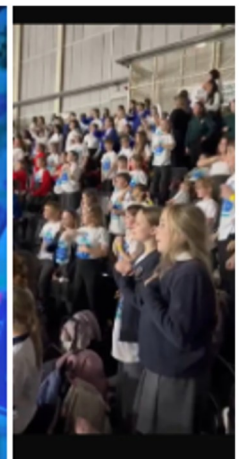
We were delighted to take our children to Young Voices at Sheffield Arena, an experience they will remember for a long time. The children had worked incredibly hard throughout the term learning the songs, and it was wonderful to see them shine as they performed in front of their families and alongside so many other schools. They had a fantastic time practising with the urban dance group and were especially excited to see the guest singers on the night. It truly was a joyful and inspiring event for everyone involved.

I would also like to take a moment to say how incredibly impressed I was with the children's behaviour. They listened carefully, followed instructions, and supported one another, which made the trip such an enjoyable experience for all the staff.

"Young voices was really fun. I got to sing many different songs and dance to them with my friends. When we got to sheffield arena, we went inside and started to practise the songs. The conductor and the rest of the team were very kind. Then we had a little break and we ate our snacks. After, we practised the rest of the songs and they added other little songs for us to practise. Once we had finished the practice, we had our tea and went to the toilet and quite a few grown ups started filling the arena. Then the time came to perform. I was so excited. The arena went black and we all started to scream in excitement. A dance group called Urban Stripes came and performed and we sang the rest of our songs. It was the best day of my life." Pippa H

'Hi my name is Darcy and I went to young voices 2026.I loved going to young voices it was such a magical experience for me and hopefully everyone else. I loved getting to be in a massive stadium with all of our flashing torches in the dark. The practise was also really fun because we got to hear it all together, so we knew what it was going to sound like when all of the parents or guardians came. It was so fun because we got to eat lunch with all of our friends. Once it was time it was very scary to sing in front of loads of people. It was so cool we got to see lots of cool singers I can't remember all of them but here are some Harriet rose,michelle.I loved how we got to do lots of actions with the songs my favourite was the mexican wave and i loved power in me song. At the end we all got called by schools to go back to the bus. At the end I was quite sad we had to go .I would definitely go back again. I rate this 10 out of 10.'

A huge thank you to our governors, Mrs Corbett and Mrs Wainwright, and to the Tockwith team who supported the visit Mrs Curry, Mrs Gould, and Mrs Berry for helping to make the day possible.. We hope to see you all again at choir very soon. Mrs Grainger



Place2be

Just before the half term break, the school council held a cake bake sale to raise money and awareness for the Place2Be Foundation.

At the start of the week, Mrs Medley delivered an assembly about the importance of good mental health and wellbeing to the whole school. We managed to raise an amazing amount of money for the charity by selling lots of tasty treats to help provide mental health services in schools and promote a better understanding of wellbeing.

Thank you to everyone who baked something or brought something in for us to sell, as well as to everyone who donated money to buy a sweet treat from us on the day.

After the school holidays, we're looking forward to launching our World Book Day competition and raising money to support Comic Relief - details about both of these are coming soon!

Amy, Harmony, Amy, Duncan, Reeva, Frankie, Mila, Eli, Lincoln and Jessie



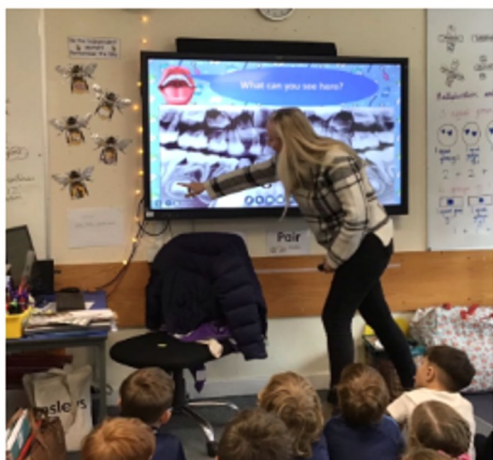
CPR

Whilst children in year 3 are out at Tadcaster Swimming pool each week learning to swim, our year 4 children are looking at different elements of water safety. Last week they were looking at what to do if someone needs CPR. They learnt to check the scene first to make sure they aren't putting themselves in any danger, then to check the casualty to make sure they aren't just having a nap! After that they learnt to alert the emergency services by calling 999 and then what to do with the casualty. This included chest compression, rescue breaths and the recovery position. Many thanks to Mr Goodacre for teaching the children this important skill.



Dental visit

Year 1 and 2 have been finding out about teeth in PSHE. They have been using mirrors to identify the names of different teeth and finding out what job they do. We have also been talking about the importance of looking after our teeth by brushing twice a day, avoiding too many sugary foods and drinks and visiting the dentist. We enjoyed a visit from Amy (Myla's mum) who is a dental therapist and talked about the different teeth, showed us some interesting pictures of teeth and even let us have a look at real teeth. The children also got to wear a pair of dentist glasses so they could get a close up of the teeth! She was very impressed by what the children knew. Thank you Amy.



PTFA

It has been a busy and exciting term for everyone! We approached the last day of Candlemas in February and provided oranges for Christingle decorating - it was a lovely way to mark the end of the season, thanks to your generosity we also raised valuable funds for The Children's Society. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped make the day so special for us and to Reverend Karen who led the event.

The children had a fantastic time dancing with their friends at the valentines disco, and we were thrilled to raise a healthy amount of funds to put straight back into supporting school projects and events.

We're delighted to share that work is well underway on the sandpit for OPAL, which has been fully funded by the PTFA. This new addition will provide even more opportunities for imaginative and outdoor play, and we can't wait to see the children enjoying it very soon.



Next term, the children will enjoy a travelling theatre performance of Treasure Island, fully funded by the PTFA. We're also excited to bring back Wonka Bars for World Book Day. Mid March we will have daffodils for sale with a personalised tag — perfect for a special person in your life. And of course, some favourites return once again, including our rainbow dress-down day, with donations going towards the Rainbow Raffle and Easter Fair.

These events always bring colour, fun, and community spirit to the school, and we're so grateful for your continued support.

Nicola, Claire & PTFA team

ART Club

The Year 6's have packed a lot into their art club sessions, producing three great pieces of artwork - spiral mosaics, quirky birds and 'My Family' pieces drawn and decorated with love, which we put into frames. Some of the children planned to give them as gifts on Valentine's Day. Everyone worked really hard to complete these in the given time frame. We even enjoyed some tasty treats in our final session!

"Art Club is really fun and enjoyable. I really enjoy spending time with my friends and Mrs Starr to create wonderful pieces." Harmony

"I enjoy the opportunities to learn new skills and take home pieces of amazing art." Flynn

Happy half-term everyone, Mrs Starr



Pastoral Note

Across school we have been refreshing our knowledge on Chimp Management to help us understand our emotions , so that we can feel our best and thrive.

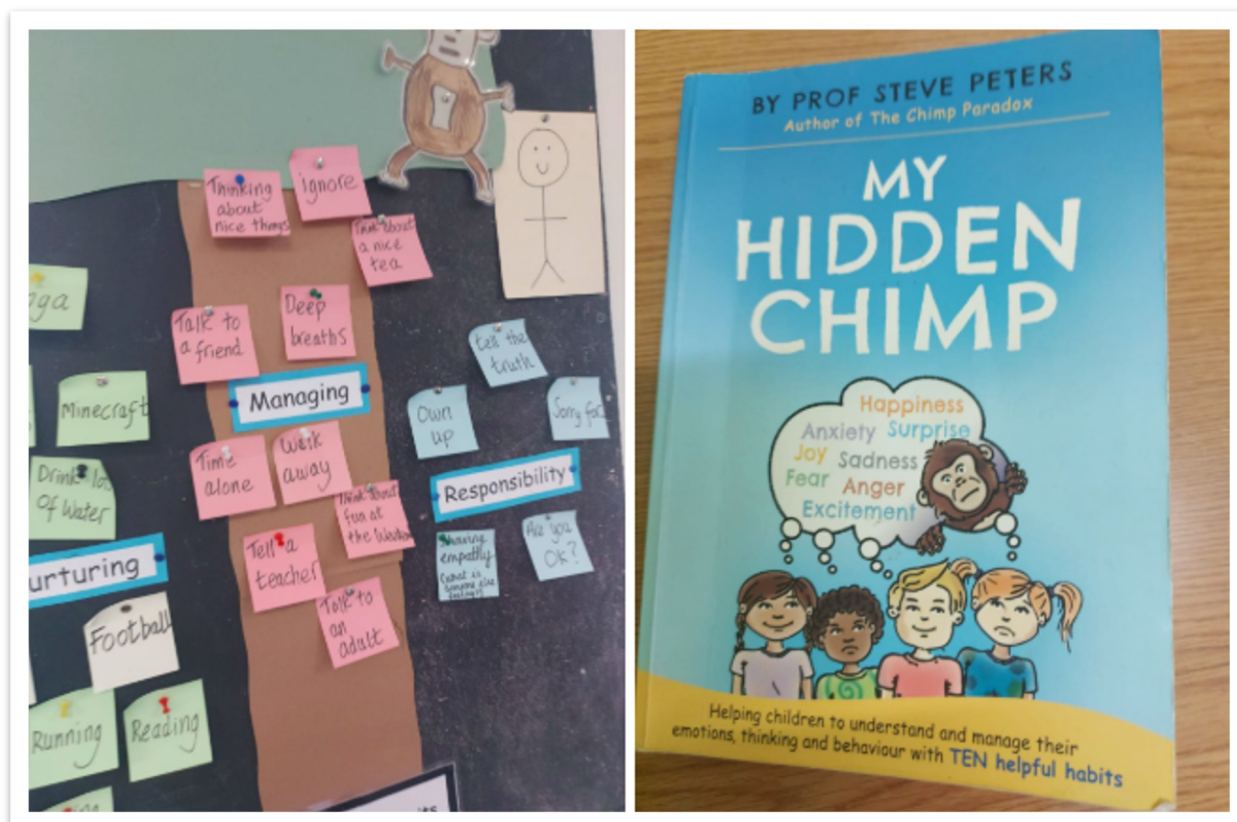
"The neuroscience of the mind is simplified for children to then use to their advantage"

Professor Steve Peters

My Hidden Chimp

Please contact school if you have any worries or concerns
pastoral.toc@ebor.academy

Sarah Slack



Rag Bag

Have you ever put some clothes in the green bin?
Ever wondered what happens to them?

Every time this is filled up £30 is given to school.
This happens at least six times a year.

Thank you for your contributions.

