

Issue 12 November/December 23

### Message from the Head

Welcome to the final newsletter of 2023.

Once again, our newsletter if full of exciting news and events the children have been taking part in, including attending the Interfaith festival at Golcar church, Winter Sing Along at Huddersfield Town Hall and, of course, our Christmas performances. What a joy to watch!

December is a lovely time for reflection. A time to look back at the year and the successes we have had: Sporting events, SATS results, Forest School, Strictly Pennine, to name but a few. I would like you to join me in thanking all the staff in school for all they do for the children.

We are particularly proud of the children who have had their stories published in the Festive Story Writing Competition, well done to Flossie, Luella Star and Phoebe, I look forward to reading your stories. If anyone is interested in sharing these, and other stories with their children you can purchase the book through Amazon, please see the links below.



<u>Seasonal Shorts: The Long List 2023, Volume I: A creative writing anthology of Christmas themed stories by young people aged 7 to 18.: Amazon.co.uk: Authors, Various, Authors, Various: 9798872160618: Books</u>

Seasonal Shorts: The Long List 2023, Volume II: A creative writing anthology of Christmas themed stories by young people aged 7 to 18.: Amazon.co.uk: Authors, Various: 9798872163787: Books

Our Fundraising events, both in school and with the support of FOSS, continue to be successful and raise valuable funds for school. Thank you to everyone in FOSS, and all those who give their time and support in organising events for the children to enjoy. You do a great job!

On behalf of everyone at Scapegoat Hill School, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

See you in 2024!

Nikki Barker Federation Head



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### Health and safety awareness day

We work closely with Kirklees Modeshift team and they come into school and deliver assemblies and activities to help children be more aware of the dangers of the road, as well as keeping seen and safe when out and about at this time of year.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> November we had a Health and Safety day where the Road Safety team came in, Kirklees Road Safety, Paramedics and Nurse Davis set up different activities for all the children to get involved in. The children were shown how to apply plasters and bandages and how to help their friends if they fall outside. Years 5 and 6 went out into the village and tracked the speeds of cars and vans using the safety teams' speed equipment. Thank you to everyone who was involved in the day and made it a great success.





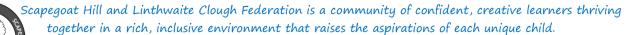






If your child bikes to school please call into the school office to collect a reflective kit for their bike. The Modeshift Team have kindly given school a pack of reflective items for bicycles to help children be seen when riding their bikes.







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#### Interfaith Festival

Some of our Year 4, 5 & 6's chose to take part in an Interfaith Festival at St Johns Church last month. They prepared a short presentation about the Windrush Generation and they sang a song and a hymn. The children enjoyed their excursion and produced a lovely performance.

The festival was attended by The Mayor of Kirklees, Mr Cahal Burke, Nairinder Kaur, School Improvement Partner and the Deputy Lieutenant Yvonne Stocks among others. Yvonne enjoyed the afternoon immensely and sent the following note to the Vicar.

"It was a pleasure to share the remembrance services at Lockwood and Golcar with you, the attending dignitaries and all the children on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The children were very engaging and the messages they shared were inspirational and very encouraging."

Yvonne will be coming into school in 2024 to talk to the children about her role as a Deputy Lieutenant.







### **Fundraising**

We have had such a fantastic response to our fundraising throughout November and would like to thank all parents for their generous contributions.

#### The Poppy Appeal

The children have loved choosing from our selection of Poppy related items from reflectors to snap bands, key rings to zip pulls and the standard red poppy. We managed to raise an amazing £93.30!!

### Pudsey and Children In Need

We joined in with the fundraising for Children In Need and had a great day. Children dressed up in spots in all sorts of ways including t shirts, tops, onesies, dresses and Pudsey ears! The total collected was a huge £100.14!







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### **Christmas Fayre**

Thank you all for the support you have given school by attending the Christmas Fayre, filling lucky bags, selling raffle tickets and purchasing Christmas cards. We had a brilliant turn out to the Fayre and we hope you managed to finish off your Christmas shopping. We managed to raise over £350.00 so once again a HUGE thank you to FOSS who made the event happen and who work tirelessly to make it the success it is.

We managed to raise over £100.00 for School from the purchase of the Christmas cards, so thank you for purchasing them. They looked fantastic!

And the Raffle ticket sales raised over £300.00 - there were some brilliant prizes, thank you to everyone who donated and bought a ticket, every pound helps! Congratulations to all those that won!

### Winter Sing-Along

Years 1, 2 & 3 were invited to the Town Hall for a Festive Winter Sing-Along at the beginning of this month. They took part in a singing workshop at school to practise the festive songs, run by Rachel Modest. Rachel has been involved in singing for many years and has taken part in the Voice, Glastonbury and many other musical performances. 10 local schools joined Scapegoat Hill School at the event and they performed alongside other musicians including Big Easy, a swing band, Tom Widdop, a singer and Rob Bradley a rap artist.









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### Wreath Making

Parents and members of staff were invited to come along to our Festive Wreath Making event in school. Thank you to Rachel who came and ran the class, the wreaths made looked wonderful. If anybody would like to hold any other events like this in the school hall please get in touch with the school office.







### **Planting Bulbs**

Some of our children have been busy planting our spring bulbs. We are hoping for lots of colour in the grounds next Spring. The bulbs have been planted in the tyres so unfortunately they can no longer be used for 'goal posts' when the children are playing football. Please could you remind your children, thank you!









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### Turn on the Subtitles Campaign

Have a look at the link attached which gives parents more information about the Turn on The Subtitles Campaign Home - Turn On The Subtitles

Whilst children are watching a programme on TV or a device, turning on the subtitles is an easy thing to do and an action just at the tip of parents' fingers. Sharing this tip with parents could make a significant difference to children and parents at home because:

- it's free, and it doesn't take long to do; most TVs and videos on demand like YouTube are already set up
  with subtitles
- research has shown that turning on the subtitles has had a proven positive impact on children's reading
- it has been proven to have a significant impact on struggling readers, readers with English as a second language and beginner readers
- during studies, children were shown not to be opposed to having subtitles on
- children don't have to be able to read the words to benefit from this
- subtitling on programmes was shown to spark automatic reading responses
- it can help support parents' understanding that opportunities for reading are everywhere

### How does turning on the subtitles help reading

Studies have shown that turning on the subtitles supports various skills of reading which includes building on children's knowledge of words as well as reading fluency and speed.

### **ADMISSIONS**

A reminder that applications for a school place are online only.

• If your child is starting Primary School (Reception) in September 2024 you must apply online between 1 September 2023 and 15 January 2024 (for children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020)

#### Clubs

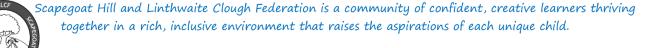
Monday - Homework

Tuesday - Wake Up Shake Up - CANCELLED DUE TO LOW NUMBERS

Tuesday - Jumping Clay starts 23<sup>rd</sup> January

Thursday - Dance

Please see the attached link around safeguarding children when choosing clubs for your children and what questions to ask regarding their policies to ensure the safety of your child: <u>Safe to play - Say Something if you See Something (stop-ce.org)</u>





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#### **BOOMREADER**

We understand that using un-known technology may feel daunting but we feel the many benefits of using the app will make the experience of logging reading clear, enjoyable and more rewarding. It is a great help to all teaching staff as we find your insights into your child's reading really useful.

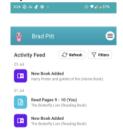
Here is a brief list of the benefits we think you'll appreciate!

- No lost reading diaries!
- Reading diaries are never left at home on the busy school run!
- Log reading in seconds just 4 or 5 taps of your phone to log reading.
- Easy to see all reading for all of your children in one place
- Saving needless paper usage
- No damaged/ruined reading diaries
- School gains powerful insight into reading for every child
- Reading records move with your child through school
- Parents/carers can log in separately for each child
- Parents without smartphones can login via the website: boomreader.co.uk/parents
- And of course, the app is completely free for parents to download and u

By using Boomreader, we aim to make the process of recording reading as manageable as possible for parents. Fundamentally, the most important aspect to home reading is the reading, so enjoy and celebrate helping your child learn one of the most important life-skills!

### Guidance for parents/carers and children for claiming 'Boom Reader' Gems

1. Open the Boom Reader app.



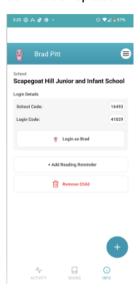


2. Go to 'info' in the bottom right hand corner.

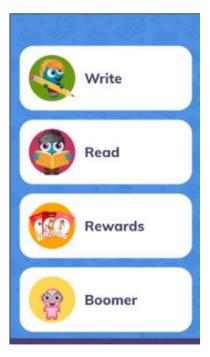


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3. Go to 'Login as Brad.' The name Brad will be replaced with your child's name.



4. The page below will appear where you can then go to 'Rewards.' The number of gems will appear at the top which can be traded for cards.





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### **Online Safety**

On the 7<sup>th</sup> February we are having a Safety Internet Day in school. We will be working with the children to raise awareness of a safer and better internet for all.

It is vitally important to keep your child safe online, we have attached two documents to the Newsletter Ping for "What Parents need to know about Whats App" and "Sharing photos online".

We have also attached a link for the Google Parental Control - This is a great app which controls screen time and ensures a safe online experience for the child, ensuring content is age appropriate. Google's parental controls - Google Safety Centre

Please see attached link which discusses important guidance for children & parents about being careful when choosing clubs for kids. Take a look at the different stories and always ask the question regarding the safeguarding policies before a child starts the club https://stop-ce.org/safe-to-play/

Please also look at the attached link to give you tips, advice and guides on keeping your child safe online. Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre

#### Free School Meals

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals if you are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, before benefits are considered.
- Income Support.
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance.
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit.
- Working Tax Credit run on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190.

Registering for the free meals raises money for school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or school activities. This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above.

If your child is in full time education, and you receive one or more of the benefits stated above, please fill in an application form <a href="even">even</a> if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. This is because they are also entitled to things like free milk, help towards school trips and other support. To check if you are eligible, please visit the Kirklees council website at:<a href="ewww.kirklees.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals">www.kirklees.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals</a>

#### **PARKING**

In the summer holidays the zig zags will be re-painted outside school - please be reminded you MUST NOT wait or park, or stop to set down and pick up passengers, on the yellow zig zag markings outside school, Mon-Fri between 8:00-9:30 am and 2:30-4:00 pm



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### Ping

Just a reminder to keep looking on PING and the school calendar for all school notices. These include achievements in school, out of school clubs, trip details and sporting events. Please make sure that these are read and if necessary, replied to.

#### School dinners

If your child has a school dinner please check your account regularly and ensure you are keeping your account in credit.

#### **Mobile Phones**

In the exceptional circumstance that your child needs to bring a mobile phone into school, please could we ask that you contact the school office to let us know that they have it with them. This is so it can be taken and put in the school office to ensure that we are following safeguarding procedures.

#### A few reminders:

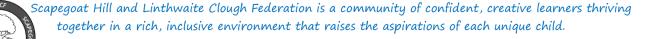
- Please let the school know if you have recently changed any of your contact details: address, email, phone numbers etc, so we can keep our records up to date.
- If you know in advance your child will be absent from school (eg medical appointments) please let us know as soon as possible. If your child is absent through illness/unplanned events please contact school to let us know on the morning of the absence many thanks.

### Dates for your diary

• 22<sup>nd</sup> December - School Closes

### 2024

- 8<sup>th</sup> January School Re-opens
- 11th January Cross Country Final
- 16<sup>th</sup> January Year 5/6 Handball 4.15-5.45pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> January School Photographs
- 18<sup>th</sup> January Big Breakfast
- 30<sup>th</sup> January Y5 Try it Tuesday 4.30-5.30pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> February Safer Internet Day
- 8<sup>th</sup> February Years 5/6 Hockey 4.15-5.45pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> February Young Voices Concert
- 9th February School Closes
- 19<sup>th</sup> February School Reopens
- 19<sup>th</sup> February Swimming lessons start TBC
- 27<sup>th</sup> February Strictly Pennine
- 22nd March School Closes
- 8<sup>th</sup> April School Reopens





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### 2023/2024 Term Dates

School Breaks Up	School Re-opens
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Autumn Term Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September

Half Term Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October Monday 6th November

Christmas Friday 22nd December Monday 8th January 2024

Half Term Friday 9th February Monday 19th February

Easter Friday 22nd March Monday 8th April

Half Term Friday 24th May Wednesday 5th June

Summer Monday 22nd July

Please note: We have carefully considered the teacher training days to run alongside the school holiday timetable. This is to help families when booking their holidays and try and minimise the request for absences in the school term.

School will also be closed Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September, Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October, Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 and Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

### School Breaks Up School Re-opens

Autumn Term Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

Half Term Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October Monday 4th November

Christmas Friday 20th December Monday 6th January 2025

Half Term Friday 14th February Monday 24th February

Easter Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

Half Term Friday 23rd May Wednesday 2nd June

Summer Monday 21st July

School will also be closed Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025. We are yet to plan in the teacher training days - once these have been agreed this will be updated.



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Class 1

We have been super busy in Class 1 this half term! We have had lots of visitors and have also been on some visits ourselves.

We were really lucky to have Freya's Mummy come in to talk about how hospitals have changed and how important nurses are. This was part of our History learning about 'Nurturing Nurses'. She brought some really interesting equipment for us to try!



It see-d if we cleaned our hands properly. They went purple if we didn't get off all the glitter soap.

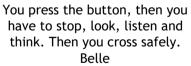
Jonah



It told me I was breathing and my heart was bumping. It squeezed my arm. Buster



We also had the ladies come and teach us how to safely cross the road.





Finally, we all got to have a go at playing the ukulele which we really enjoyed and then we went to see the beautiful Nativity scene in the chapel





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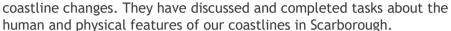
Class 2

Class Two have had a busy end of term working on building sturdy



Stone Age Roundhouses. They worked in groups to create the structures using different types of materials such as dowling, cardboard, lollypop sticks and straw.







We have looked at poetry inparticular using intonation and rhyming couplets when reciting poems to the class. We read "Twas the Night before Christmas".

We have also been busy practising the "Christmas Quarrel" performance and decorating the school with Christmas Art. The children worked extremely hard remembering their lines and songs and they were all absolutely brilliant.

We hope that you enjoyed the performance too!







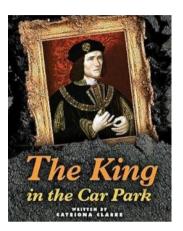






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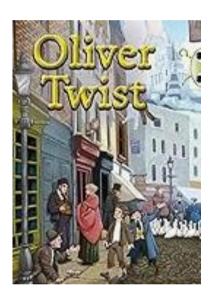
Class 3



Year 5 have been reading about the discovery of King Richard III's body in the car park in Leicester in 2012. He was not meant to be King because he was the King's brother. The King's son was too young to be King so Richard became King.

He died at the battle Bosworth in 1485. Historians believed that Richard was buried in a friary at Greyfriars in Leicester. We learnt that a friary is a building where monks live. Many people believed that the friary was underneath the car park in Leicester.

Year 6 have been reading Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens. Leila shared her thoughts about the story, "It was very interesting to see how Oliver was treated first of all at the workhouse. It was very intriguing also to see how Victorian children were treated." She went on to share about Oliver as a character, "Oliver was intelligent but also confused when he got to London. He did not know where to go and just followed anyone who said something. He got into a life of crime. He might stay in that but I am looking forward to finding out about this."





Year 4 have been reading about the life of Mary Anning. Rory explained, "I think it is really interesting because I would like to go fossil hunting. Her life started off really interesting too because she got struck by lightning when she was 18 months but did not die."

Jacob said, "I find Mary Anning really interesting because she liked fossils and all of that. She did not go to university but she still knew a lot. People did not think she knew much but she did because she loved learning. She read a lot too."



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#### Science

In Science, we have been learning about States of Matter. The 'States of Matter' are liquids, gases and solids. Erin G recalled what she has learnt:

- Solids and liquids have a fixed volume.
- Gas does not have a fixed volume.
- Liquids can be poured.
- Solids can be cut and shaped.
- Gases can be squashed.
- We measure temperature with a thermometer.
- We learnt about condensation and evaporation which we also covered in our work about rivers



In geography, we have learnt about 'Raging Rivers' this term. Below, Poppy has done a review of what she has learnt:



In rivers, there is an upper course, a middle course and a lower course.

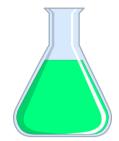
Rivers meander in the middle course. This creates a 'horse shoe' shape.

Meanders are caused by erosion and deposition.

Deposition is caused when the river leaves sediment behind.

Erosion is caused when water and rocks wear away at the river bank.

The year 6s recapped their learning about the water cycle. We also looked at the disadvantages and benefits of Dams.





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### The Weekly Scape

From Leila, Star and Joshua to you © The Christmas Plays!

Class 3 did a play called, 'No-one Wraps Like an Elf!' This was what it was about...

Two people named Grab and Smash were making bad quality toys for the children, and are planning to kidnap Santa and spread their toys over the world instead; using gas-guzzling turbo-charged Ninja Knight Riders! Here's what the journalists roles are: Leila was Gramps the elf and Elf 3. Joshua was Grab, and Star was MINT Spy 1 and voice off for the elves' workshop announcements. A child who was one of the main roles called Jessica/ Little Elf she announced, "I liked the songs and the whole idea of the play. The characters were very funny and they had very bad jokes that turned out quite funny."



Class 2 did 'The Christmas Quarrel" Here is a bit about that if you didn't see it...

It's nearly Christmas, and the elves are trying to decide something very important... But they keep arguing over it!

With classic Christmas songs and with a twist and a Nativity scene, there is much fun to be had watching it! Evie

G said, 'It was great. I really liked it. I just liked the theme of the play.' Alice said, 'It was very good!'



Class 1 did a classic Nativity scene that was almost like Top of The Pops! The children in Reception did amazing to say that was their first Christmas play! Well done to everyone, you all did a phenomenal job and the teachers were amazed at what you did! Thank you to all the teachers who set everything up especially to Mrs Lodge, Mrs Rushworth, Mrs Baxter and Mrs Ambler for helping each class with their props and sound effects!