



# Scapegoat Hill School Autumn Term 2024 Newsletter

## School News

It has been a very busy and exciting start to the academic year 2024 to 2025. All colleagues are unsure where the past 7 weeks have gone. We welcomed our new children into Reception who have embraced school life with enthusiasm and vigour establishing themselves as a much loved and treasured part of our school community. We see them engaging in learning every day across school and we have enjoyed popping into the Scape Farm Shop where we receive excellent service to stock up on our seasonal vegetables - more news on that below.

We are also delighted to announce that we have been awarded two new awards this term: The Music Award recommend by Musica Kirklees and being shortlisted for the School Recycling Hero category at this year's Recycling Hero Awards. Please do not forget to vote for us in the link below. We will be attending the awards' ceremony *at Dewsbury Town Hall on Wednesday 20th November.*

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/bins-and-recycling/recycling-heroes.aspx>

We have attended some great sporting events such as cross country runs and football tournaments. We have a great time at Colne Valley High School as the children enjoy representing their school, having fun at the events, demonstrating their excellent sporting skills as well as having a short insight into life at a local secondary school.

The Year 6s attended Robinwood, Todmorden - again more details below. We were so proud of them as they were excellent ambassadors for our school and in every minute of the weekend lived by our school values in their interactions with one another as well as their approach to all the activities. You will also be relieved to hear that any footage of their 50 year old teacher screaming down a zip wire will not feature in this newsletter and is securely locked away in the school vaults until eternity!

Thank you FOSS again for your hard work in organising a great school disco on Wednesday night. The children had a wonderful time and thank you Ricky for some super music which got us all up on the dance floor. The event raised £235 for school.

Once again, on behalf of all colleagues across the school community, I would like to thank you for your continued patience and support.

We would like to wish children, colleagues and families a restful and enjoyable half term holiday.

Miss Shackleton

## Music Mark Award 2024



We are delighted to announce that [Musica Kirklees](#) has awarded the school the [Music Mark](#) in recognition of our commitment to music education as part of a broad and balanced curriculum. We have implemented a music strategy that provides opportunities for all children. Congratulations to all the children and colleagues for their hard work in achieving this award

**School Open Evening for Prospective and Current Families on Wednesday 13th November. Please spread the word! This advert will also be posted on the school and FOSS Facebook groups.**



**SCAPEGOAT HILL SCHOOL**

**OPEN EVENING AT SCAPEGOAT HILL JUNIOR AND INFANT SCHOOL**

**Ofsted GRADED GOOD**

ON WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER, COME VISIT OUR SMALL, FRIENDLY SCHOOL! WE'RE THRILLED TO WELCOME BOTH CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES TO EXPLORE OUR FACILITIES, MEET OUR DEDICATED STAFF AND SEE FIRSTHAND WHAT MAKES OUR SCHOOL UNIQUE.

**4:00 to 6:00 pm**

Explore our school, our curriculum and chat to staff. Light refreshments available

School Road Scapegoat Hill HD7 4NU  
Phone: 01484 647008  
office@scapegoathill.co.uk

## **Kirklees School Recycling Hero Award Nomination**



**KIRKLEES RECYCLING HERO AWARDS**

**We've been shortlisted for the School Recycling Hero Award, please nominate us for the People's Choice Award.**

THE GRAPEVINE MAGAZINE

Revive Kirklees

suez

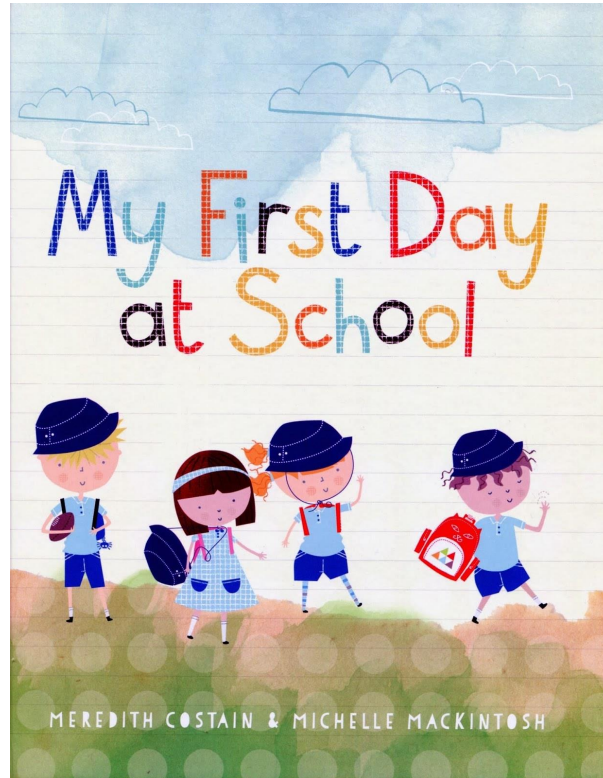
Kirklees COUNCIL

Scapegoat Hill Junior and Infant School have been shortlisted for the School Recycling Hero Award.

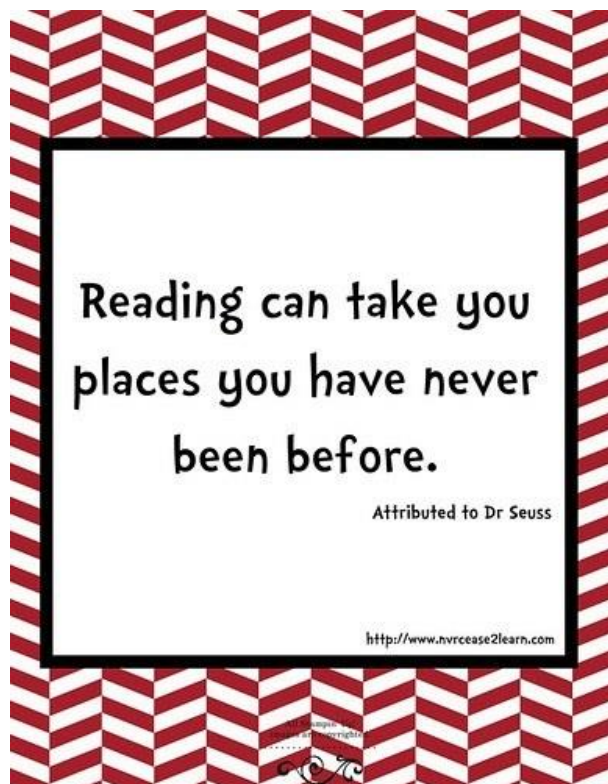
Please share this post and vote for us by using the link :<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/.../bin.../recycling-heroes.aspx>

Thank you for your support!!!

We would like to welcome our new Reception children to Scapegoat Hill School- we hope you have had a good time so far. We have certainly enjoyed having you around.



## Useful Websites for Recommended Reading Books for Children across school.



We all enjoy a good book and so do the children at school. We have attached some useful websites where you can find new books which are age and Key Stage appropriate for your child.

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks1-school-pupils/100-best-picture-books-to-read-before-you-are-5-years-old/>

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/category/reading-lists-for-ks1-school-pupils/>

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/category/reading-lists-for-ks2-school-pupils/>

We also have other information in our 'Reading' tab on our website. It explains more about our Boomreader reading diary app and our Bug Club Phonics programme. There are videos, resources and guidance on how you can support your child with their reading at home.

[Reading - Scapegoat Hill Junior & Infant School \(scapegoat-hill.kirklees.sch.uk\)](http://scapegoat-hill.kirklees.sch.uk)

## Robinwood Residential, Todmorden, September 2024

What a fantastic time our Year 6s have had at this years residential at Robinwood. There were lots of compliments from the staff at Robinwood on the children's politeness, willingness to have a go and their resilience. The children did lots of exciting activities

including raft building, caving, canoeing, giant swing, zipline, night line, crate challenge, trapeze, archery and team games.





## Class 1

**We have been getting to know ourselves, each other and our school environment in Class 1 this half term.**

**In Geography**, Reception have been getting to know our school both inside and out. While on an autumnal walk to investigate around the grounds they also began to notice some features of the changing seasons.

Year 1 have been reading, using and making simple maps. They have learned all about aerial 'birdseye' views and we have also discussed the village our school is in, our town and our country. We have really enjoyed zooming in and out on Google Earth to support this.

**In Science**, we have been learning all about parts of our bodies and also about our five senses and what they help us do.

Year 1 have been identifying, draw and even building bodies and then labelling them with their correct names. They have identified which body parts link with our five senses and have then experimented with how and what our senses are used for. As you can imagine, the taste test was a BIG hit!

Reception have used their sight to explore autumn and the changes which have been occurring. They used their sense of smell to make Mrs. Reid some beautiful new perfumes using herbs from our garden. They have also been working on their use of their hearing to listen to sounds in and around our school environment and to begin their phonic journey! They especially enjoyed using their taste to try the gingerbread people they made when investigating changes which occur during baking.









*1 - In R.E., we talked about how some Christian communities celebrate the Harvest Festival as a way to give thanks for the food we have.*

*We had a wonderful visit to the Scapegoat Hill Baptist Church next to school. We saw their beautiful display which they left up especially for us to see.*



*2 - The lovely people from the chapel then gave us all the fruit and vegetables which they had left and we were able to open our own farm shop for the week.*

## Class 2

This half term we have been working hard on our maths skills, understanding the place value of numbers and recently working on addition and subtraction. The year 3s have completed some challenging work, practising the skills of column addition and subtraction for 3 digit numbers! In science we have explored the topic of skeletons, looking at some of the main bones in a human and other animal's bodies. We have learnt that some animals, such as the beetle, have a different type of skeleton outside of their body called an exoskeleton!

We have enjoyed learning about volcanoes, mountains and earthquakes in geography and many of the children have extended their learning at home about this topic. We have learnt about the different parts of a volcano, including the magma chamber, ash cloud and lava. We even had a practice earthquake drill in the classroom where we had to take cover under the desks! Recently, the children completed some field work exploring what types of rocks we

have in our local area and around the school grounds. We talked together about where these types of rocks came from.

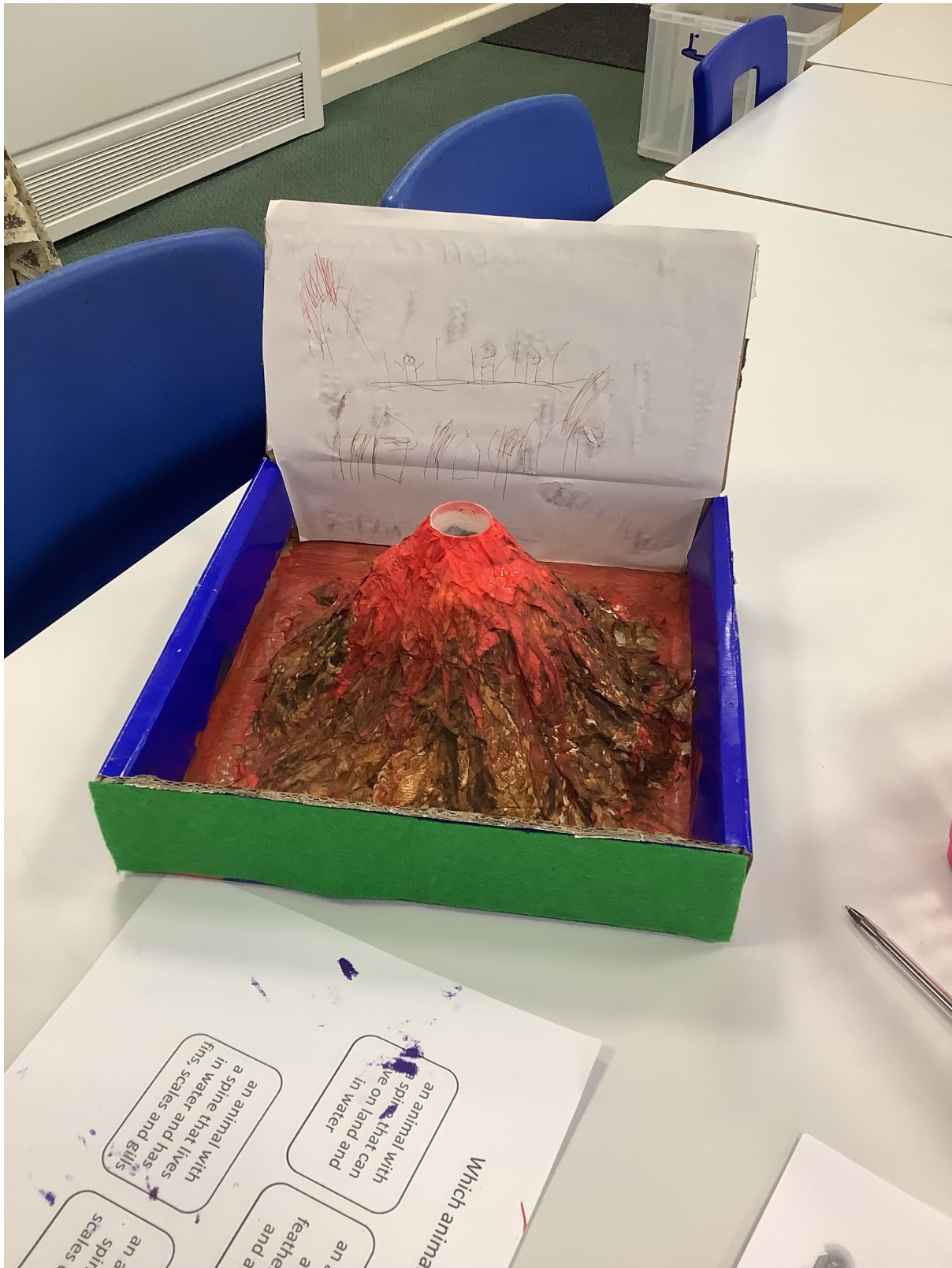
The children have continued to work hard on their literacy skills and have created some excellent writing including a short narrative about the very blue Thingamajig. They used alliteration and expanded noun phrases to add more detail and description to their writing.

The year 2s worked in small groups to role play being the penguins of Madagascar during our reading groups.



Class 2 went on a field trip around the school grounds to explore what rocks there were and where they may have come from.





Noah and Archie created their own volcano at home as part of their homework. They were going to add some different ingredients to it to see if it erupted!

## Class 3

We have been learning about place value including negative numbers in class 3. We have been solving tricky problems like the one below. Can you work it out? We really enjoy our maths; here are some comments from children about what they love about maths.....

A company has plans to construct a building with floors above and below ground.



If we build from floor  $-10$  to floor  $10$ , we will have 20 floors in total.

Do you agree? Explain your answer.

Negative numbers

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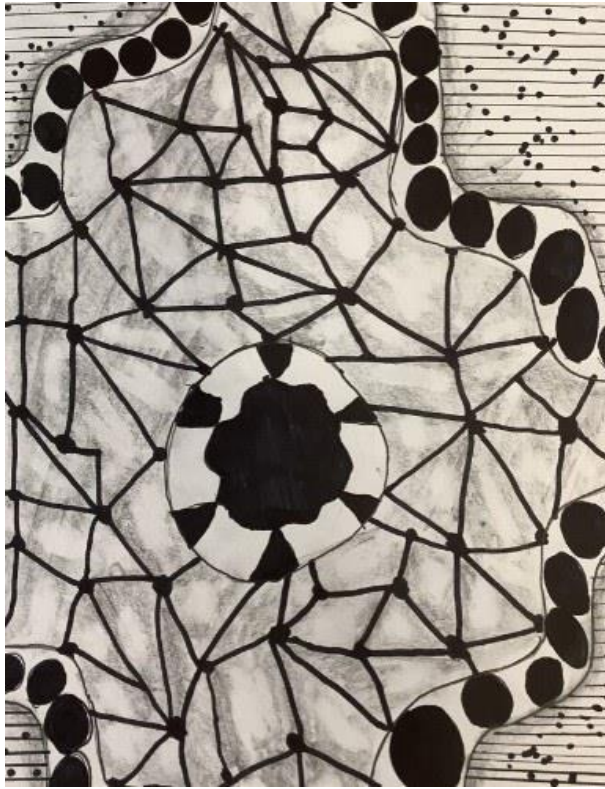
## Art - using our sketchbooks to develop drawing skills

During our art lessons, class 3 has dedicated our time to our drawing skills. We have used our sketch books to regularly practice our techniques. Experimenting with various drawing materials, including felt tips, pencils, and pastels, has enabled us to explore different artistic styles. Our focus has been on the use of lines and perspective to create captivating artwork that draws the viewer in. In addition to our skills' development, we have found inspiration in the works of Edgar Degas, a famous French impressionist painter known for his drawings of dancers. This exposure has broadened our understanding of various art movements, such as surrealism and realism. We hope you enjoy a small sample of our work.

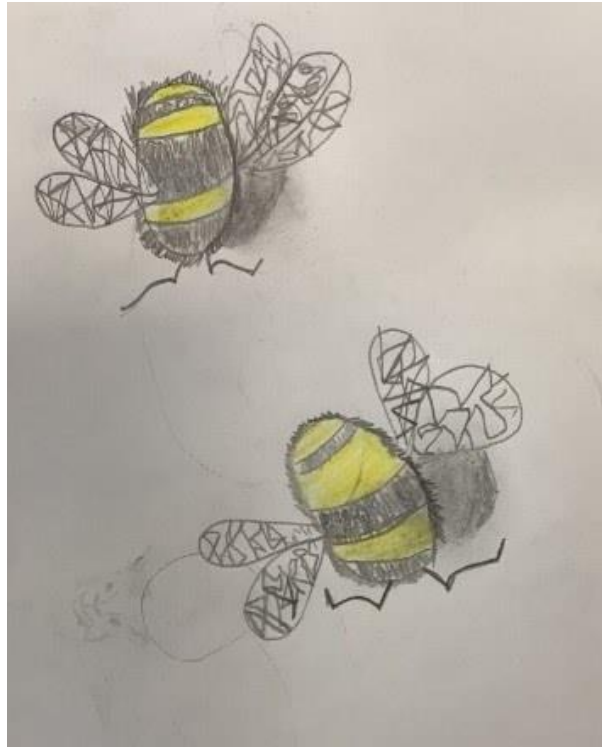












We enjoy descriptive writing in class 3. Here are some samples of our writing from this term.

In a vast dry landscape, dusty sand dunes curved like pointed hoods under the sun, rocky dunes called the sand. It was dry and cracked in life. Clouds were grey and covered the sky completely. Quick sand spreaded across the ground. A small figure stood in the middle of the desert.

The dusty, sparse landscape with sand gleaming in the sky. There were dunes like daggers with sand that could cut a hole in your foot. sand with sand like quick sand. grey clouds with rain what could flood ~~and~~ a planet. The small figure in the distance ~~walking~~ <sup>was</sup> walking slowly with questions about the dusty landscape.

The barren & sparse desert could make anyone annoyed, angry, frustrated - How can I leave? There were dunes of solid sand dunes everywhere. The sand dunes were rock hard like bricks.

In the distance there was a robot ~~was~~ creeping. At his own pace. The robot staggered through the desert ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~side~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~sharp~~ ~~rock~~ ~~the~~ robot collapsed on the rippled sands. In the corner of his eye he saw an eye-catching Sapien. The sapling struggled to exist on this mysterious planet. He searched over to the sapling carefully because he didn't want to decrease his chance of survival. The sapling waved in the air like a woman hand.

The barren, sparse landscape ran as far as the human eye could see. Dunes, had sand dunes covered the red, gray dunes, and looked like giant, curved dragons. The summit of the dunes was as sharp as a butcher's cleaver. The conditions were unforgiving, and no regular being would be able to survive there. The dunes kept crumbling over in often sending small sand boulders flying to the ground. The weather was hot and humid, and it felt like it would be at least 40°C. Although how hot it was, grey clouds scattered the sky, however not dropping a single drop of rain. A small figure loomed in the far distance. It was walking along the sand miserably. Zooming in closer, you would be able to see the silhouette fully. It had glowing blue eyes like light-up LED lights.

## Bikeability September 2024

In early September, the Year 4 children participated in a Bikeability session. Despite the chilly weather, they began their training in the school playground and progressed to the nearby roads upon successfully completing the initial session. We are pleased to report that all participants passed and received their certificates. We encourage them to enjoy their cycling adventures.



## Forest School October 2024







We have enjoyed our first Forest School session of the year this term. It was great to see Maggie and Rosie again. We used a bow saw, drilled, whittled and tied knots, to make our incy wincey spiders.

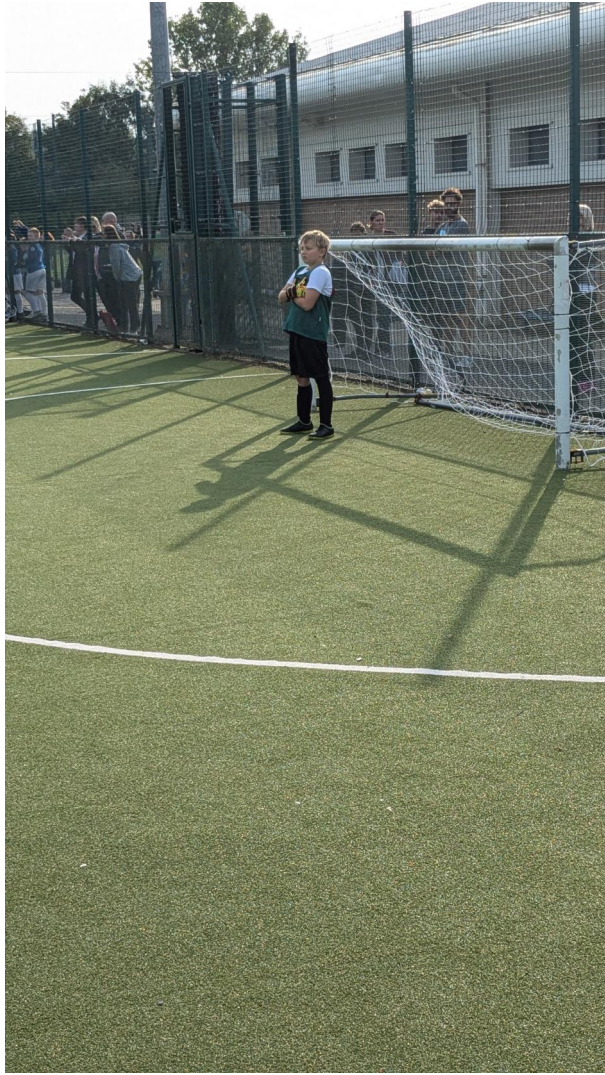
## **Sporting Events - Football Tournaments and Cross Country**

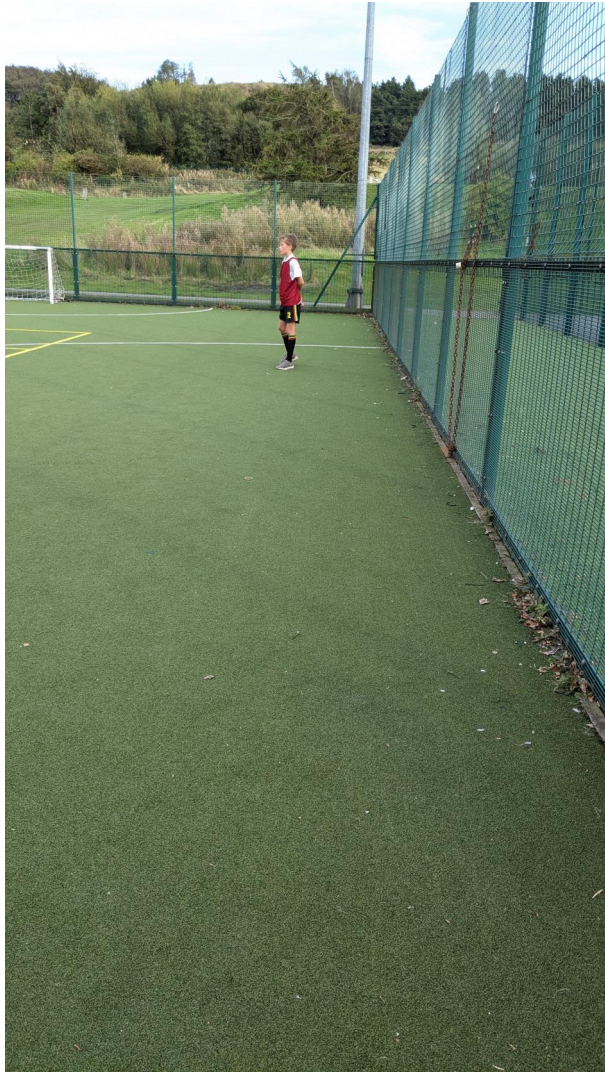
The children in Years 4, 5, and 6 had the opportunity to take part in a football tournament at Colne Valley High School. They played exceptionally well as a team and never gave up trying to score goals. They finished second in their league. A huge congratulations for the effort and determination you all put into the games!

We would also like to say well done to Rory in Year 5 and Franky in Year 2 for participating in the annual School's Cross Country for Colne Valley Schools. Despite the very muddy conditions, they ran impressively and successfully completed their races. Rory is progressing to the finals at Leeds Road on Tuesday, 22nd October. Well done to all the children who represented the school brilliantly at these events!















## Visit from the Benedetti Foundation

The Benedetti Foundation was established in 2019 by violinist Nicola Benedetti CBE. They deliver transformative experiences through mass music events and provide equal access to music participation and appreciation for all. Led by Nicola and a tutor team comprising exceptional educators and performers from across the globe, we unite those who believe music is integral to life's education. We were lucky to have a visit from a percussionist this term. The children commented on how it was nice just to listen to the music instead of play it and how they loved how the percussionist used the instruments in different ways.





## School Improvement Priorities

- To improve children's speaking and listening skills through effective questioning.
- To finalise the school's behaviour curriculum.
- To ensure curriculum plans are carefully considered and well sequenced (Ongoing from last Ofsted report in 2020).

## MyHappyMind



More information about MyHappyMind can be found on the website:<https://myhappymind.org>. If you need help accessing the MyHappyMind app for parents, please contact the school office.

## Information for Parents on MyHappyMind

Dear Parents,

We have introduced a program to all year groups at school called myHappymind.

myHappymind is all based around helping children to understand how their brain works and to support them in developing positive skills and habits to be their very best selves!

myHappyMind is delivered in schools by class teachers through a series of interactive lessons and then the children apply these learnings throughout the day.

To further embed this learning, myHappyMind has developed a Parent App. These resources can be accessed online on your computer, or through an app on your phone. The Parent App will support you as a parent in understanding what your child is learning, activities for you to do together at home and also a Kids Zone featuring myHappyMind Games plus much more!

To access these materials just go to <https://myhappymind.org/parent-resources> to create your free account. You will need to enter your name, email, and authentication code.



Your authentication code is 107645

Or simply scan this QR code to sign up

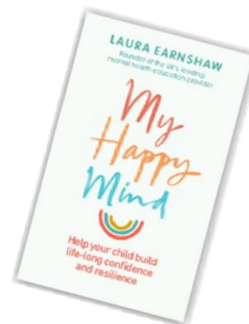


Once you have created your account, you will receive an email with the next steps on downloading the app.

We really encourage you to make use of this free content so that you can support your child in getting the best out of the curriculum.

If you have any questions about myHappyMind, please contact your class teacher.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Miss Shackleton".



If you have any technical questions about accessing the resources, please contact **[hello@myhappymind.org](mailto:hello@myhappymind.org)**

Want to learn more? Check out myHappyMind founder Laura Earnshaw's best selling book on [Amazon](#).

Many thanks,

Miss Shackleton

## Attendance - Celebration Across Classes

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

Attached are the details regarding attendance throughout the school. We appreciate your continued support, particularly in light of the recent changes announced during the summer. Congratulations to the Reception class for achieving the highest attendance in the school thus far this year.

### Attendance by Year Group

Reception	9	99.5
Y1	12	98.0
Y2	8	91.6
Y3	11	94.9
Y4	12	96.7
Y5	12	95.0
Y6	11	97.5

### After School Clubs

Monday - Homework for EYFS to Year 6

Tuesday - Clay Club



Wednesday - Gardening (this will not continue after half term but hopefully start again next year)

Thursday - Dance

Friday - No Club

## Walking home, Mobile Phones and Chewing Gum

Please could we ask that you contact the school office to let us know if and when (specific days needed) your child is walking home. Only these children and if absolutely essential can bring a mobile phone into school. This must be put in the school office to ensure that we are following safeguarding procedures.

Please can we make sure that children do not bring chewing gum into school, unfortunately we keep finding it and it is very difficult to remove from carpets and furniture. It also distracts from learning.

## 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 even 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: [www.kirklees.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

## School Meals

At the beginning of the Autumn Term, 2nd September 2024 the price of the school meals increased by 20p. The new price will be **£2.75** per meal a day.

Please check your Parent Pay account regularly to ensure the account is in credit. Thank you

## School 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. Every Friday we send out the Friday Flyer to keep you updated weekly about school events as well as local events and news.

## Fire Safety

We had another visit from Slaithwaite Fire Station to talk to us about fire safety in the home and also at Bonfire Night. We learnt a great deal. If you would like to see some of the points we covered please click on the website on the link below:

[Bonfire Night Safety | West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service](#)



## **Healthier Together QR Code Poster - support with daily life 2024**

Below are some QR codes for various help topics which have been sent to us by Locala Health and Wellbeing. Please use your phone to access the relevant topic.

# Worried About Daily Life?



West Yorkshire  
Health and Care Partnership



  
**Healthier Together**  
Improving the health of babies, children and young people throughout West Yorkshire

Got a mobile? Great!  
Access our information  
on your smartphone



Open or  
download  
QR scanner



Scan QR  
code



View  
landing  
page



**Keeping Your Home Warm**



**Money Worries**



**Looking After Yourself**



**Housing**



**Damp and Mould**



**Digital Access**

[www.wyhealthiertogether.nhs.uk](http://www.wyhealthiertogether.nhs.uk)

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/09/02/back-to-school-week-everything-you-need-to-know-about-school-attendance/>

<https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>

## 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.**

## Parking

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**

## Dates for your diary

23rd October	End of term party
23rd October	Break up for Half Term
24th October	Year 5/6 Cross Country Final SNHS—4.15-5.15pm
4th November	School returns
5th November	Year 5/6 Basketball—CVHS 4.15pm—5.30pm
7th November	Outdoor Classroom Day
7th November	Year 5/6 Basketball @ CVHS 4.15-5.30pm
10th November	World Science Day
10th November	Anti Bullying week
13th November Flu Vaccinations	School Open Evening for new starters and current families.
15th November	Children in Need
19th November	Cross Country Final Y3-Y6 @ Leeds Road 12.30-3pm

20th November	Re-cycling Award at Dewsbury Town Hall
26th November	Meet the Mayor - School council
28th November	Wreath making class—7pm onwards
2nd December	Forest School
6th December	Christmas Big Sing
12th December	Christmas Festival
12th December	Christmas Jumper Day
w/c 16th December	Christmas Performances
19th December	Christmas Disco
20th December	School Closes

## Term Dates

	<b>School Breaks Up</b>	<b>School Re-opens</b>
Half Term	Friday 24th May	Wednesday 5th June
Summer	Monday 22nd July	
	<b>School Breaks Up</b>	<b>School Re-opens</b>
Autumn Term		Tuesday 3rd September
Half Term	Wednesday 23rd October	Monday 4th November
Christmas	Friday 20th December	Monday 6th January 2025
Half Term	Friday 14th February	Monday 24th February
Easter	Friday 4th April	Tuesday 22nd April
Half Term	Friday 23rd May	Monday 2nd June
Summer	Friday 18th July	

School will also be closed Monday 5th May 2025.