

Headteacher's Newsletter

Issue 7 March 2025

Headteacher's Update

There is lots of excitement in school at the moment.

We have three projects which have been in the planning phase over the last few months, and we are now at a point where construction is underway!

Project 1

After consultation with children and staff we decided to enhance our outdoor provision by building an outdoor canopy classroom in the nature conservation area (NCA). Work has started today and will be completed, ready for use, on Monday. All classes will be visiting the NCA on Monday with an outdoor lesson planned for later in the week. With the new pathway, the canopy classroom, new fencing (by Mr Roberts) and the planting (by a fabulous team of parent volunteers) we are able to make the NCA a real feature of our school that will support easy access to outdoor learning for all.

We'll aim to open up the NCA on Thursday morning, after the Easter crafts sessions, for any parents who want to have a look and explore.



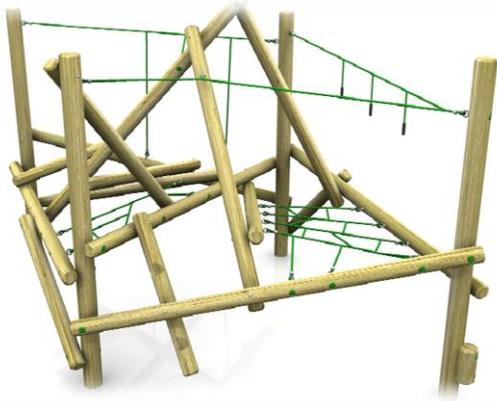
Project 2

Thanks to a visit to the library over half term and a very persuasive letter to the Headteacher, Teddie in Year 1 inspired his classmates to build a bug hotel. Construction took place earlier in the half term and the hotel is now home to many very happy bugs.



Project 3

When project three was shared with the children there were many wows and smiley faces! The next question was 'when will it be ready?' There have been a few tweaks to the original plans thanks to the opinions, preferences and words of advice from the children but, if all goes to plan, work on our new playground features should be starting the week after half term. We are upgrading the current astro turf and adding astro turf under the current trim trail. Ball walls will be installed on the KS1 and KS2 playground as well as a shaded seating area in our fenced off area, with an additional 'pick up sticks' climbing frame enhancing our current trim trail.



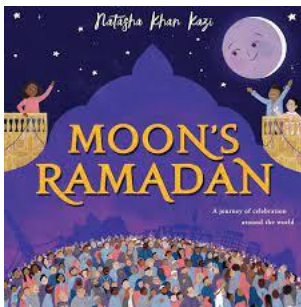
While work commences there will have to be some restricted areas in the playground so that we can keep everyone safe. The children are aware of this, and we will keep you updated of any changes. However, the children (especially our Year 6 children) were adamant they wanted it built sooner rather than later!

With all this going on, I'm not sure who's more excited, the children or the staff!

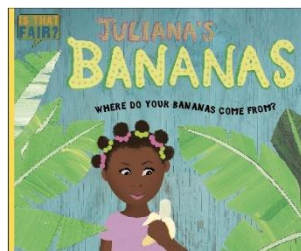


Recently, we shared the news that we have achieved the RED award – of all the awards, plaques and certificates school have been awarded over the years, this is the one that means the most to us. It is testament to the hard work that goes into every single day to ensure that we are guiding our children to be respectful citizens who celebrate and embrace each other's similarities and differences.

One of the many ways in which we do this is through weekly picture book assemblies. This half term we have shared the following books together.



Ramadan



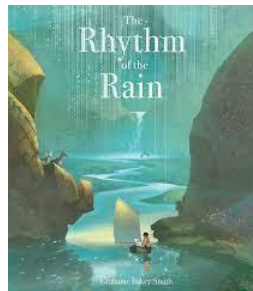
Fairtrade Fortnight



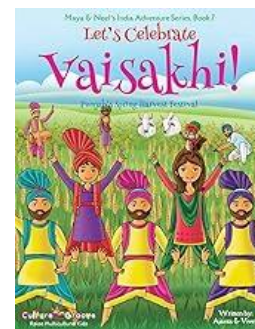
Holi



International Day of Forests



World water day



Vaisakhi

March and April is a particularly special time of year for many faiths and it is lovely to celebrate them together.

Parents and carers are invited into school on Thursday 3rd April from 8.45am to join their children in class for an Easter crafts session. The nature conservation area will also be open afterwards if you'd like to see the progress we have made down there – fingers crossed for some April sunshine.



Personal Development Events and Celebrations

Here is an update on the latest personal development experiences, beyond the everyday curriculum, that children have enjoyed recently – please do ask the children about them.

We enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year with an assembly and special lunch – Chef Brian excelled himself again – carving a dragon from a watermelon.



Some of our KS2 children have represented school this term in a Basketball tournament and in the Leeds Cross Country trials. Well done to Hal in Year 6 whose basketball talents were 'spotted' by the organisers and Zachary in Year 4 who got through to the West Yorkshire final, finishing 30th out of 163 runners.

Children in year 5 and 6 joined together to represent school in the Leeds inter-schools debating competition. Miss Yeadon and Mrs Benning were very proud of your efforts; we are already practising for next year's competition!

Year 3 enjoyed a visit to Leeds City Museum to support their Egyptian studies and Year 1 go to Temple Newsam House to explore the house and learn some traditional tales.

This half term we have enjoyed class assemblies delivered by the children in Years 1, 2 and 3. This is a super way of developing children's self-confidence and their presentation skills when speaking to a large group of people.

This half term also included additional learning around online safety as part of Safer Internet day, a visit from a Climate Change Ambassadors who delivered an assembly and will help us to run an Eco club in Summer term and a visit from a member of the School Wellbeing team to deliver 'promoting good health' sessions to children in Years 3,4,5, and 6.

Early Years had a visit from the sustainable travel team to introduce Little Feet to the children – a scheme to encourage our youngest children to walk to school. A big thanks to all the parents who are helping them to do this.

We also enjoyed celebrating Neurodiversity Celebration week - Mrs Benning delivered an assembly which introduced us to many famous neurodivergent people. We enjoyed discussing the strengths of neurodivergent people with a list which included a huge range of people from Simone Biles to Greta Thunberg and Albert Einstein to Channing Tatum.

Finally, we had the pleasure of welcoming Daria Phillips and Rebecca Rouch into school as part of the Leeds International Concert season. Daria and Rebecca entertained us by playing the flute and bassoon. Hedwig's theme and the Pink Panther theme were firm favourites.



And finally..... The Dunwells

Organised by Mrs Outram and funded by a grant from Artforms, Year 4 and 5 had the privilege of an hour's music workshop with Leeds indie band, The Dunwells. In the hour, each class wrote their own song and then performed it to the whole school in the afternoon. The Dunwells also played us a few of their own songs – the children (and staff) absolutely loved it, clapping and singing along with them.



Click the link below to listen.

<https://www.adelprimary.org.uk/news/?pid=10&nid=1&storyid=6>