



ENHANCE ACADEMY TRUST

NEWSLETTER

SPRING EDITION 2024

ST HELENS: WORLD BOOK DAY



Children, staff and parents at St Helen's thoroughly enjoyed celebrating World Book Day.

The day began with a 'Book and Pastry' morning where parents and carers came in to read a book with their child whilst enjoying a pastry and a cuppa.

Children brought in potatoes decorated as characters from books that they created at home. Three winners won a book voucher.

Throughout the day, children took part in a variety of books related activities, including a book treasure hunt where children had to find clues to work out who the famous character was. At the end of the day, a child in Year 3 said, "It has been the best day ever!"



ST BOTOLPHS: NEW READING SUMMER HOUSE

We have been lucky enough to receive a substantial donation from a local company to fund our new "reading summer house".

This will be used for small group work and also as a community library resource for parents to enjoy. The children are very excited and can't wait for it to be completed.

We have also got lots of exciting plans for a reading garden outside - complete with a reading chair and reading toad stools (perfect for outdoor reading). We are going to open this after the Easter break.



DIAMOND WOOD: STORY BOX COMPETITION

Mrs Price led a story box competition and we were so impressed with the quality of what the children produced! Everyone who entered received a personalised letter of thanks to their families. It was very difficult to choose the winners but we have now chosen. The winners will visit the local bookshop to choose their own prize!



OVERTHORPE: YOUNG VOICES



Overthorpe choir ventured out to Sheffield on Monday to perform at the Utilita Arena, with the Young Voices choir after months of singing and weekly practices.

The children from Key Stage 2 enjoyed creating their own posters and practised a range of songs before setting off at midday. An afternoon spent rehearsing and making friends with other schools ensured that we were ready to wow the audience with our evening performance. What an evening it was; rapping with MC Grammar, dancing with Urban Strides and developing an understanding of the performing arts created by the team at Young Voices.

We can all say we were very tired on the way home, but the children have memories to last a lifetime and were inspired by the singing, dancing and sharing the experience of enjoying the moment with so many others.

The children represented Overthorpe outstandingly well.

The most asked question of the night was 'Can we come to Young Voices again?' To which we replied 'Yes!'

Overthorpe will be back and ready to do it all over again next year. In the meantime, we look forward to performing in the local community.



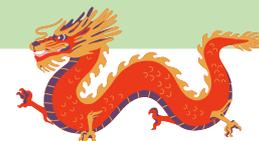
HIGHBURTON: CROSSCOUNTRY

On Thursday 21st February Miss Grist took 9 children from across Key Stage 2 to take part in the West Yorkshire Cross Country Finals.

Miss Grist said that everyone tried really hard and they all completed the race! Well done everybody!



ST GILES: CHINESE NEW YEAR



We celebrated Chinese New Year with lots of delicious food, songs and creative activities. It was wonderful to hear about traditions and share these with everyone.

#theyearofthedragon



ST GILES: FIRE SERVICE VISIT

Key Stage 1 had a visit from the Pontefract Fire and Rescue Service on Friday 23rd February as part of their History topic, The Great Fire of London.

They learnt about their modern equipment and clothing, including the many roles they do in our community. They even got to explore the firetruck! But most importantly they took away four top tips to stay safe!

- 1) Never play near water
- 2) Check your fire alarms regularly
- 3) Always wear a seatbelt
- 4) Never play with anything that could cause a fire.



HIGHBURTON: GIRLS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



On Tuesday 20th February, 9 girls from year 4 and year 5 took part in a football tournament.

Mrs Briggs said all the girls did really well and played brilliantly.

We were the runners up in the competition but only by goal difference. Well done girls!!



SANDAL MAGNA: WORLD BOOK DAY



World Book day is one of our favourite days of the year.

This year, we decided to think about healthy bedtime routines. We thought about this during the day, came to school in our comfy clothes and read bedtime stories. It was a great day!



ST BOTOLPHS: WHITE ROSE MATHS FAMILY SESSIONS

During last term, we have been holding some special maths sessions, from the White Rose Maths. These sessions have been after school and both parents and children have worked together to complete a series of maths challenges.

They were all thrilled to graduate at the end of the course!



ALL SAINTS: A HEADGEHOG IN NEED



In a heartwarming display of compassion and camaraderie, the children of All Saints Featherstone Forest School sprang into action to rescue a hedgehog that was out in the daytime. Charlotte and the Forest School children carefully picked up the poorly hedgehog using a towel and fire gauntlets, placing it gently in a box.

The children spent time discussing the meaning of nocturnal and how it was unusual for a hedgehog to be out in the day. Charlotte took the All Saints hedgehog to Prickly Edge Rescue in Methley. The team at Prickly Edge informed us that the hedgehog was female and was quite unwell!

Following a discussion with the Forest School groups, we decided to name her Alice! With unwavering determination and a sense of responsibility towards our new woodland friend, the children rallied together to create a space to welcome her home when she was well enough after treatment and hibernation. This included a brand-new hedgehog house brought in by Julia from the rescue centre who also led a fantastic hedgehog workshop informing the children all about hedgehogs and how to look after them.

This act of kindness not only saved a precious life but also ignited a deeper appreciation for the delicate balance of the natural world among the young hearts of All Saints Featherstone Forest School.

We look forward to welcoming Alice home soon!



HORBURY BRIDGE: DISCO FEVER



On 29th February, our School Disco swung into town! Originally planned as a Valentine's event, but postponed due to snow to become a fantastic Leap Year celebration, it was simply a joyous occasion for everyone involved, from the Foundation Stage to Year 6.

The disco was abuzz with energy and excitement. Everyone enjoyed the many games, dance-offs, and, of course, our traditional HBA Conga. A big shout-out to Mrs Windle who led the conga for Key Stage 1, and to Mrs Calvert for taking charge of the train in Key Stage 2! In the spirit of keeping everyone well-fed throughout the night, we also served everyone's favourite Disco Dogs.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Horbury Bridge Academy Community Friends who dedicated their efforts to organise this fantastic event. The entire staff team also deserve a cheer for prepping the day; it's commitment and passion like theirs that allow such events to happen (plus, they love a boogie!).

Importantly, all proceeds from the disco are going towards our Playground Fund. We are thrilled to announce that the event made a profit of over £500. These funds will contribute to improving our playground, offering our pupils a better space for fun, games, and outdoor learning.



SANDAL MAGNA: TRIP TO TROPICAL WORLD

Reception went on their first proper trip to Tropical World in Sheffield. They had a brilliant time feeding the animals and holding some animals they had never seen before.

Reception were so exhausted from all the new learning some even had a little nap on the way home!



CHRIST CHURCH: WEAR BLUE AND WHITE DAY

Terry the terrier had a wonderful visit on 'Wear blue and white day' We raised an amazing £130 for Breakfast Clubs and Huddersfield Town Foundation.



DIAMOND WOOD: THE DIAMOND SINGERS



Diamond Wood now have a choir, The Diamond Singers! The choir have been practicing regularly and growing in confidence. They even performed recently in assembly and will be opening our International Women's Day event in March. Their favourite song at the moment is Rule the World.



ST MICHAELS: LEAVERS HOODIES

Our Year 6 children have been given a specially designed Hoodie in recognition of their last year at school.

The hoodie distinguishes them in school as the oldest children, who model the highest of expectations for all others. They wear their hoodies with pride and take seriously the responsibility that comes with wearing one.



HORBURY BRIDGE: BENCH BALL CHAMPIONS

We're brimming with pride to share the fantastic news that our Class 1 Benchball team emerged victorious in the recent Pyramid Benchball competition!

Taking on a formidable array of competitors, our talented young team displayed skill, teamwork and determination in every one of their matches.

They demonstrated exemplary sportsmanship throughout the event and we were all impressed by their agility, strategic gameplay, and outstanding teamwork.

Throughout the tournament, they managed to win every single game! We hope you will join us in congratulating them on their fantastic achievement. Well done, team!



ST MICHAELS: VIKING WORKSHOP



To enhance our History curriculum, many of our year groups go on educational visits related to the area of study.

Here are our Year 5 children at Wakefield Museum enjoying a Viking workshop.

They examined artefacts, like Viking Longships to get a better understanding of how Vikings lived.



CHRIST CHURCH: DAY OF REFLECTION

We took part in the Day of Reflection 2024.

Our children planted Forget-Me-Nots to remember friends and family who were ill or lost their lives in the pandemic.



LEPTON: WORLD BOOK DAY



On Thursday 7th March, the school enjoyed World Book Day by dressing up as a word and taking part in a scavenger hunt across school!

The costumes that children wore were dazzling, with everything from 'fragile' to 'naive'. It was a great day had by all!



HORBURY BRIDGE: WEST YORKSHIRE CROSS COUNTRY FINALS AT TEMPLE NEWSAM

Last week, our school representatives participated in the highly competitive West Yorkshire Cross Country Finals. The event took place at the beautiful, yet challenging, Temple Newsam.

We are very proud of Romana, Mason, and Darcie who gave it their all and represented Horbury Bridge Academy brilliantly, showing dedication, determination, and grit.

Despite the gruelling conditions, our pupils pushed themselves to the limit and truly shone. We are awaiting the precise placings for two of our team as each participant wore timer chips to capture accurate times.

However, we can report a great achievement by Darcie. Out of a large and highly competitive field, she finished 14th overall. What's more, she also came 2nd out of all the participating Wakefield schools, a testament to her immense talent.

As soon as the remaining placements come through, we will be sure to update everyone. Once again, well done to all our participants.



BATLEY PARISH: WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day provided an opportunity for parents to come into school to support their child's reading at the start of the day. We finished the day with our traditional World Book Day Parade - the outfits were fantastic!



LEPTON: VISION WEEK

This half term, school celebrated our new school vision - Loving, Living, Learning - by taking part in a wide variety of activities, including cultural dance, money work and lots of fabulous art and craft work.

Children were joined by parents/carers who took part in these activities and got to see the whole school showcase. It was a fabulous week!



ST HELENS: CURRICULUM SHOWCASE

All staff at St Helen's have spent time enhancing the learning environments. Using current research, they have backed all displays in hessian, which is proven to be calming and inclusive.

Corridors have been transformed to showcase the whole curriculum. Every subject has its own display board celebrating work from Nursery to Year 6 and each class has a display to showcase their writing.



HORBURY BRIDGE: WELLBEING WARRIORS



Recently, our Wellbeing Warriors introduced Wellbeing Wednesdays! Every Wednesday the WW team lead activities at break and lunchtime for pupils to enjoy.

These range from arts and craft to dance and fitness. Last week saw pupils enjoy Yoga!

It was a great session and the pupils said how good they felt afterwards.



ALL SAINTS: SCOOTABILITY

At Featherstone All Saints, we really enjoyed taking part in a thrilling Scootability adventure training session. Due to us participating in the 'School Streets Programme' which we put in place to encourage safer parking around the school site, we were able to take part in this fantastic opportunity! Years 1, 2 & 3 joined in this brilliant initiative to combine fun and physical activity, as well as being educated on scooting safely.

Thanks to a generous donation from Team Rubicon at Scootability, we have acquired five shiny new scooters and helmets, which are an amazing gift for our children to use in school. Having these scooters means they can continue to build on the skills they have been taught during their Scootability course, from mastering the basics of scooting, to learning the valuable skills of balance, coordination and navigating obstacle courses.

The children had a day filled with laughter and learning. We feel there was a new found love for the outdoors discovered by some of our pupils and it was enlightening to see the enthusiasm they embraced for this, enjoying the outdoor play, and building on their friendships, they were gaining independence and responsibility for scooting while in a safe environment.

We are hopeful this Scootability adventure will encourage the children to foster a love of scooting and that it may help promote physical fitness and encourage children to ride to school.



ST MICHAELS: WORLD BOOK DAY



Our whole school really got into World Book Day this year. Love of Reading was oozing from every nook and cranny in the school.

Children dressed up in pyjamas and brought a teddy to school as a nod to bedtime reading. Teachers planned live reading lessons that were being done simultaneously in many schools in the country.

We ran a very popular Potato Competition - where potatoes had to be 'dressed up' as literary characters. Teachers did fireside readings to classes other than their own.

Perhaps the most special thing that happened was when our Reading Ambassadors went from class to class reading to children throughout the school.



ST MICHAELS: COLLECTIVE CREW

Our pupil leaders who are in Collective Crew led an assembly about Responsibility. They helped their peers understand the importance of taking responsibility.

It was amazing to see how all pupils listened with such care and respect as the Collective Crew talked to them about taking responsibility for things, but most importantly - making sure that you follow through with the things you promise.



ALL SAINTS: UKULELE PERFORMANCE

At Featherstone All Saints, the children eagerly anticipate their weekly ukulele lessons provided by Wakefield Music Services.

For the past term, the enthusiastic Year 3 students have been mastering chords and melodies, while our Year 4 class have developed their skills over the past year.

Recently, their dedication and hard work paid off as they showcased their talent to their proud parents at a concert. With fingers strumming and voices harmonising, the children demonstrated impressive proficiency on the ukulele, leaving the audience impressed with their musical abilities.

It was a heartwarming display of the joy of learning and the power of musical education.



Thank you to everyone for their continued support this term.

We hope you have an enjoyable Easter.

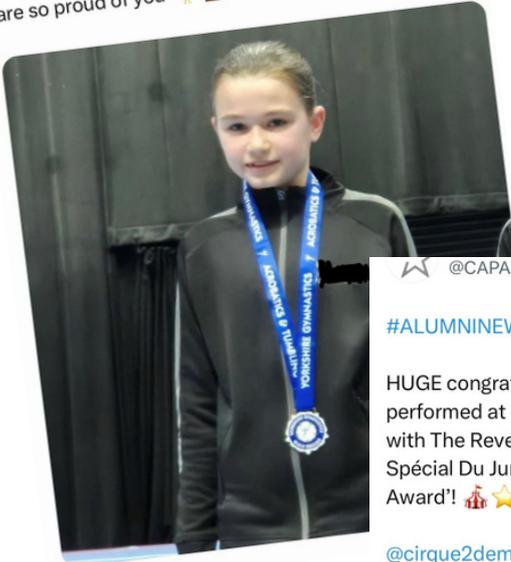


SOCIAL MEDIA ACROSS THE TRUST



St Giles Academy Pontefract
@stgilesacademy

One of our Year 6 children competed with her local gym club in tumbling. She placed in silver position and qualified for the English Championships in June. We are so proud of you 🏆 #StGilesPE #gymnastics



@CAPACOLLEGE

#ALUMNINEWS

HUGE congratulations to Seb Parker who recently performed at Du Cirque De Demain Festival in Paris with The Revel Puck Circus. They won both 'Prix Spécial Du Jury' and the 'Trophée Bretagne Circus Award'! 🎪🌟

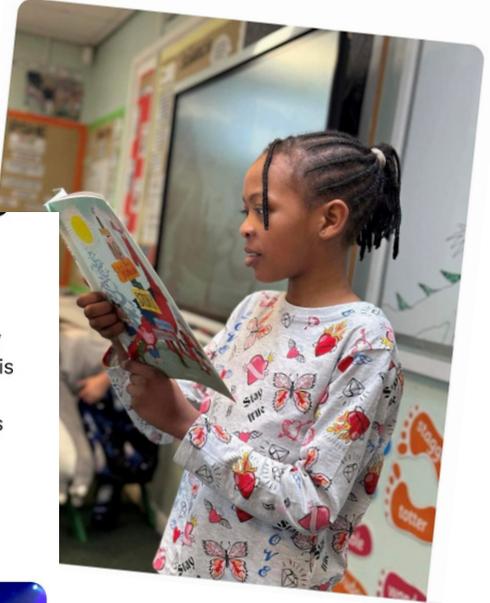
@cirque2demain #CAPACollegeAlumni #circus #awardwinners



St. Michael's
@st_michaels_ce

Follow

It's a daunting task to read to older children, but Aliya from Year 4 came to read to our Year 6s this afternoon and absolutely smashed it 😄 She received a wonderful round of applause from her captive audience 📖



St Giles Academy Pontefract
@stgilesacademy

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Class 3 - World Book Day 2024 📖
#WorldBookDay2024 #StGilesReading



St Helen's CE Primary School
@StHelICEPrimary

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Y3, 4, 5 and 6 have had four fantastic workshops from @primevruk. Alan introduced our school to the Amazon rainforest, volcanoes around the world, climate change and how this is affecting our oceans and a guided tour of the universe. The children were loved every minute!

