

The Bythams Weekly Newsletter



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Friday 2nd December 2022



This week, the children have been enjoying a whole school themed writing week, sharing ideas around a 'secret door' and developing story ideas for where it might lead to using a wordless picture book 'Journey' by Aaron Becker as a stimulus. The children have completed some fantastic writing and they should feel proud of themselves. My thanks to Miss Paparozzi for organising this activity.

And so, just like that, we are into December and the final two weeks of term! The next couple of weeks promise to be busy but extremely enjoyable! Our thanks to Rasells Nursery for delivering our Christmas tree earlier this week - the staff and pupils in Badgers class have done a fantastic job of decorating this.

We are looking forward to our nativity performances on Wednesday for the Hedgehogs and Squirrels classes. Please remember that places are strictly limited so do remember to bring your tickets to gain access to the hall on Wednesday. Please access the hall via the hall door at the front of the school (through the blue gates). Refreshments will be available and we will also be holding a raffle to win a Christmas Hamper so please do bring a little bit of cash with you - all money raised goes to supporting the school! On Thursday, it will be Christmas Jumper Day in school. Please don't feel the need to buy anything if your child wishes to participate - homemade tops are acceptable too! Please ensure that Christmas jumpers or tops are worn with school uniform, this is not a non-uniform day. We will not be collecting donations in school but instead request that you visit [Donate | Save the Children UK](#) should you wish to contribute to the Save the Children charity.

There are lots of bugs and illnesses around at the moment and we are experiencing some staff shortages as a result. Please do bear with us during this time!

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Martin



Key Dates

- w/c 5.12.22
- Wed 7th Dec
Hedgehogs/Squirrels
Nativity
- Thurs 8th Dec
Christmas Jumper Day
- w/c 12.12.22
- Mon 12th Dec
3:30pm KS2 carol
concert
- Tues 13th Dec
10am Coffee morning
and carols LBVH
- Wed 14th Dec
Panto!
- Thurs 15th Dec
Christmas lunch
- Fri 16th Dec
Last day of Term 2!



This week's award winners are:

Hedgehogs Class

Xander has been managing his emotions really well this week despite lots of changes. He has been telling Mrs Bengé if something has upset him. He has also been following instructions when asked and completing his tasks. We are so proud of you Xander, well done!

Squirrels Class

Reuben has received the Award of Excellence for his superb attitude to learning and always trying his best.

Darcey has received the Award of Excellence for her work in phonics, trying extremely hard when learning and applying new sounds.

Foxes Class

Connor has received the Award of Excellence for some creative adjectives and ambitious vocabulary to describe both characters and setting in his narrative writing.

Jade has received the Award of Excellence for singing and performing the actions to our Christmas songs so creatively.

Badgers Class

Dottie has been awarded the Award of Excellence for a fantastic piece of surrealist artwork.

Louie has been awarded the Award of Excellence for being such a positive member of Badgers class.

Charlie has been awarded his pen licence for consistently joining his handwriting.



PE for Term 2

- Hedgehogs:** Tuesdays
- Squirrels:** Mondays and Fridays (Fridays at Witham Hall)
- Foxes:** Tuesdays
- Badgers:** Mondays



Well done to **Badgers class** with **88.57%** attendance this week!

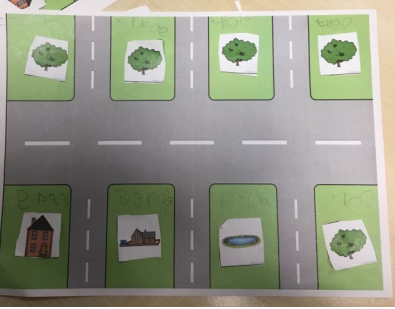
Our whole school attendance this week was **86.75%**.

Term so far: **93.96%**



Hedgehogs Class

The week, Hedgehogs have been learning all about maps and position. We made our own maps and practised our cutting skills to add different landmarks to them.



We have had the dolls house out this week and have been placing the dolls in different positions such as on top, next to, under and beside furniture to show that we understand positional language. We have also been using our senses

outside to see what smells we can smell in nature. Hedgehogs have been fascinated with the new whole school story this week called 'Journey'. This book has no words and the children have been coming up with their own stories looking at the pictures and using their imagination. In art this week we have been making our own repeating patterns to make our own wrapping paper to wrap a special gift.

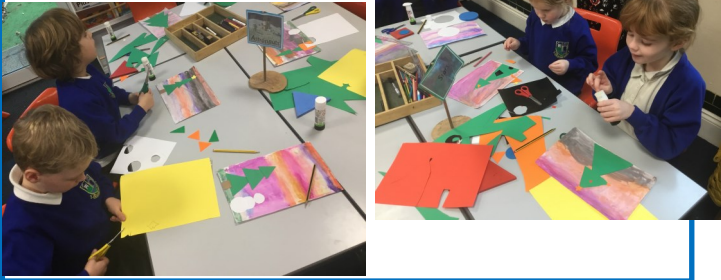


We have continued to create our own balanced shapes in PE this week and we are getting better at holding them without falling over!

Squirrels Class

The children have been busy practising for the Nativity this week, and they are doing so well! We won't spoil any surprises but we are looking forward to welcoming you all next week.

We are looking at 2D and 3D shapes in maths, as a fun way to start the topic and the start of the Christmas period we made Christmas shape pictures. The children will then put these in their books and count how many shapes they see. Some of the art work will be put on display at Little Bytham Village Hall.



Foxes Class



This week children have written a narrative for the story of 'Journey' by Aaron Becker; an adventure book with fantastic pictures telling a story, but with no text. Foxes have been both creative and imaginative in their talk for writing, using adjectives and ambitious vocabulary in their descriptions of the characters, setting and events within their writing. We used watercolour to paint our favourite scene from the book.

In maths we continued to develop our secure understanding of multiplication and division facts. We used concrete representations, creating arrays, as well as grouping and sharing to solve number problems.



In our topic work for science and DT, we have used construction to develop our understanding of forces and friction, building wheeled toys ready to test them on different surfaces. We have also been practising songs and actions to perform at our upcoming Christmas sing-a-long!



Badgers Class

Badgers class have been continuing their topic work of 'Gallery Rebels' this week. We have focused on surrealist art and the children were given the task to produce a piece of 'automatic art'. They closed their eyes and let their pencils do the work. The final pieces were great



In assembly last week, the whole school was introduced to a secret door. They discussed where this door could lead to and all children have written (or performed) a narrative piece of writing. Badgers have worked hard this week to plan and begin writing their narrative, considering all of the wonderful places the main character could travel to.

Christmas has also begun in Badgers class and we have been practising our songs for the Christmas sing-a-long in a few weeks time! Families: you are in for a treat!