

The Bythams School Newsletter



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Friday, 14th June 2024

This week at The Bythams has been a whirlwind of activity! Our pupils have been buzzing with energy as they immerse themselves in a variety of summer projects. In art lessons there has been vibrant graffiti artwork in foxes' class and Egyptian clay craft in badgers class. Elderflower cordial is being produced by squirrels' class - there's never a dull moment! Our younger pupils have enjoyed story time and creative play in their new café role play, while year 6 are preparing their leavers concert. Playtime and after-school Wood School club has been filled with teamwork, showcasing the wonderful spirit of our school community.

As we wrap up another busy week, I wanted to highlight some important assessments that our pupils have completed this week. Our Year 1 pupils participated in the Phonics Screening Check, which helps us ensure that they are developing essential reading skills and identify those who may need additional support. Meanwhile, our Year 4 pupils took the Multiplication Tables Check, a vital tool for measuring their fluency in multiplication, a cornerstone of their mathematical education. We are proud of the hard work and dedication our pupils have shown, and we appreciate your continued support in their learning journey.

Have a super weekend,

Mrs Ives

Key Dates

Wed 19th June

Cake, Coffee, chat and
SEND 2.00-3.00
School Photographs

Fri 21st June

Sports day 9.30-11.30

Tues 25th June

Badgers to Casterton
College for science
workshop

Thursday 4th July

Pupil reports sent home

Friday 12th July

Y6 – PGL day

Wednesday 17th July

Y6 Leavers Production at
Witham Hall

PE Days

Tuesday: Squirrels at
Witham Hall

Wood School

Monday: Foxes

Tues/Wed: Squirrels

Thursday: Badgers

Attendance

Well done to Badgers
class with 96%
attendance.

Our whole school
attendance this week
was 92%.

This week's award winners are:

Squirrels Class

The achievement award for Reception goes to Hughie for his sports day practice.

The achievement award for Year 1 goes to Eliot for his fantastic shape collage.

The achievement award for Year 2 goes to Rosie for great use of phonics in her writing.

Foxes Class

The achievement award for Year 3 goes to Maddie for excellent work in Maths, Geography and class discussions.

The achievement award for Year 4 goes to Thomas for excellent work in English.

Badgers Class

The achievement award for year 5 goes to Harry for his effort in English.

The achievement award for year 6 goes to Harvey for his effort in English.

The Bythams 'Reading Road'

Our Class Books

Squirrels

The Hedgehog by Dick King Smith

Foxes

Malamander by Thomas Taylor

Badgers

Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman

Mrs Jack's recommendation

Hello! A Counting Book of Kindness by Hollis Kurman

Families running away from war, floods or scary places need a safe place to live. This counting book beautifully illustrates hope, action and the importance of kind gestures. From beds 'to keep us safe and warm' to 'sharing new stories and words'.

Read Write Inc.
Phonics

Parent videos

To help you support your child on their reading journey, we will be sharing a different parent video each week. Click on the picture link below to view the video.



RWI Virtual Classroom Videos –

Squirrels Class

Each week we will be posting virtual classroom videos to share with the children for additional home support. If you are unsure which group your child is in, please talk to your class teacher. The links will expire after a period, if you would like anymore, please get in touch.

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Squirrels Class – EYFS



We embarked on a creative adventure this week, building our very own puppet theatre! This hands-on project allowed the children to explore their imaginations as they designed and constructed their puppets and the theatre itself. Working together, they crafted characters to retell our traditional stories, culminating in delightful performances. This activity not only fostered teamwork and communication but also encouraged self-expression and confidence in our youngest learners. The joy and enthusiasm in their eyes were a testament to the power of creativity in early education.

Squirrels Class – Years 1 & 2



Year 1 and 2 enjoyed a wonderful hands-on experience in Wood School this week making elderflower cordial, connecting them with nature and teaching valuable life skills. As part of their exploration of plants and seasons, the children collected elderflowers from the school garden, learning about the plant's life cycle and the importance of sustainable harvesting. They carefully followed a recipe, measuring ingredients and observing the changes as they mixed and boiled the fragrant flowers. We will conclude with a tasting session, to sample our delicious homemade cordial. This project not only enhanced children's understanding of natural processes but also promoted teamwork and a sense of accomplishment.

Foxes Class – Years 3 & 4

Several children from Foxes class have been attending after-school sessions at Wood School, led by Christine, as part of an exciting extracurricular provision. These sessions have provided the pupils with invaluable hands-on learning experiences in outdoor survival skills. They've mastered the ancient art of using flint to light fires, a challenging but rewarding skill that fosters patience and precision. In addition to fire-making, children have been engaged in building intricate dens and hideaways among the trees, enhancing their teamwork and problem-solving abilities.

The sessions have also included a culinary adventure, where children learned to cook delicious popcorn over the campfire. This activity not only satisfied their taste buds but also taught them about the importance of fire safety and outdoor cooking techniques. The smell of freshly popped corn wafting through the woods added a delightful sensory experience to their learning. These after-school sessions at Wood School have been a fantastic opportunity for the children to connect with nature, develop new skills, and create lasting memories.

Badgers Class – Years 5 & 6

In our Maths lessons, we have been revisiting multiplication and division, consolidating understanding of these key concepts through various practical activities and problem-solving tasks.

In English, we have crafted effective sentences for short stories with a focus on bringing characters to life.

In Art, we investigated different clay pots of ancient Egypt.

In RE, we have been delving into the study of Islam.

Christine has included a picture of the cake made by Esther, Magdalena, Poppie and Thalia. It's a lemon curd cake and everybody thought it was delicious! The girls used their Thrive Hive session not only to cook but to talk about "girl power" and the role of women in today's society. They were very pleased with the excellent cake they made as a team, learnt new skills and finally enjoyed sharing the cake with their friends and family!



Wood School – Tool use

We are focusing on tool use on Wood School this week, Squirrels class used a bow saw and started to make their own log animals, these included log dogs, piglets and sharks. They then had great fun taking them for walks around the Mini Spinney. Next week we will be hammering legs onto their animals.

Badgers class learnt how to use knives safely, they whittled a stick to then toast a marshmallow over a fire.

