

# The Bythams School Newsletter



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## Friday, 22nd March 2024

We have enjoyed the warmer weather this week – Spring is here! This week in school we held assessment week for children in Key Stages 1 and 2. Children concentrated and worked so hard to complete their NFER assessments. These enable us to track each child's progress against national standards for their year group. We will share your child's progress with you through the upcoming parents' evenings. We plan to host Parents Evening in school next term, as we would be delighted to share your child's books, work and displays with you. Your child may attend this meeting with you.

Our EYFS and Key Stage 1 teaching assistants participated in a day of training on Wednesday, delivered by the English School Hub Literacy Specialist. As a Read Write Inc School, our TAs have been extremely focussed on their delivery of this systematic phonics programme. We work closely with the both the English and Maths Hubs to ensure the latest research for best practice is delivered throughout all teaching and learning for all children.

We were also visited on Monday by the Deputy Director from the LEARN SEND Hub, as we are part of the Lincolnshire SEND Project this year. We are aiming to achieve the SEND Award at the end of the programme. Best practice and inclusion for children with additional needs benefits all children. There is presently much research about memory for deep learning and neuroscience that we are implementing through our teaching practices this year.

Have a wonderful weekend, Mrs Ives.

### Key Dates

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March**  
**3.10- 4.30pm**

Bytham's Big Book Swap,  
cake stall and Forest  
School

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Last day of Spring Term

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April**

First day of Summer  
Term - Children return to  
school

**1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

Parents evenings  
(appointments letter to  
follow).

### PE Days

**Tuesday:** Foxes  
swimming

**Tuesday:** Badgers at  
Witham Hall

### Wood School

Monday: Foxes

Wednesday: Squirrels

Thursday: Badgers

### Attendance

Well done to Foxes  
class with 92%  
attendance.

Our whole school  
attendance this week  
was 92%.

## This week's award winners are:

### Squirrels Class

The achievement award for Reception goes to Thomas for his Wood School interaction.

The achievement award for Year 1 goes to Jonathan for his progress in phonics.

The achievement award for Year 2 goes to Jessica for her excellent handwriting skills.

### Foxes Class

The achievement award for Year 3 goes to Mason for excellent narrative writing.

The achievement award for Year 4 goes to Poppy for an excellent effort and approach to her assessment.

### Badgers Class

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

The achievement award for year 6 goes to Ethan 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

### 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'.

## Bythams Big Book Swap – date to remember!

At the children's request, they would like a Big Book Swap and cake stall every term.

This time we are also opening the Mini Spinney and having marshmallows over a fire. We will hold this event after school on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March.**

**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

Children have been using the system of 'Rainbow Challenges' in their continuous provision across all areas of the EYFS curriculum. Each challenge has a colour, so that when all challenges have been completed, they have all the colours of the rainbow. Our challenges and activities have been linked to the theme of 'Easter' this week.

In maths, children have been sorting, classifying, and counting small eggs, chicks and Easter themed objects, applying their knowledge of number. The challenge to create patterns on eggs in developing fine motor skills for writing has been very popular! Children are applying their knowledge of letter sounds to blend and read 3 and 4 letter words with increasing confidence.



## Squirrels Class – Years 1 & 2

Mrs Jack supported children in Key Stage One to undertake their maths assessments and phonics progress checks this week. They performed with confidence. We are so proud of their progress! In Wood School, all of Squirrel's Class have been learning how to use tools safely. They were taught how to use a saw with support and created log animals - 'a log dog!' They used wool, pipe cleaners and charcoal to create the faces and features of their animal.

Children interacted and applied problem-solving skills to construct fairy houses with twigs and natural objects they found in the spinney, as well as enjoying imaginative play in the mud kitchen.



## Foxes Class – Years 3 & 4

After watching film footage of deep seas to create atmosphere and inspire them, children described a setting and character in detail to create a well-developed plot, using inverted commas to indicate direct speech. Children began by drafting a plan for a dilemma story set in the ocean depths, imagining that they were a lone diver or a member of a team exploring an amazing underwater world before writing their narrative. They read aloud their stories to the class. We heard some fantastic stories!

In DT, foxes completed making their pencil cases with Mrs Morris and some volunteers from the local community. They are very proud of their finished products!



## Badgers Class – Years 5 & 6

This week in Badgers class, the pupils have worked hard and shown creativity, imagination, perseverance, and critical thinking.

In maths, the class has displayed remarkable perseverance and determination in completing their NFER assessments.

In English, the focus has been on enhancing our imagination and storytelling abilities. The students have been honing their narrative writing skills by using their imaginations to construct engaging stories.

In our science lessons, we have continued our exploration of light and delved deeper into the significance of reflection and refraction. The students have engaged in hands-on experiments and discussions, allowing them to develop a solid understanding of these scientific phenomena.

In our art lessons, we have successfully finalised our plans for our final abstract portrait. The students have shown great enthusiasm and creativity.

The focus in our computing lessons this week has been on practicing the use of formulae on spreadsheets and interpreting data.

# 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.

