

# Autumn Term 2 Newsletter

## 6<sup>th</sup> November – 19<sup>th</sup> December

### Headteacher Message:

This half term has been another fantastic one filled with lots of new learning and experiences for the pupils, and definitely one we will remember with our Ofsted visit. We knew there would be an inspection after 13 years of waiting and having previously been exempt but nothing prepares you for the adrenaline filled days. I know in the letter I shared after the 2 days, I expressed my happiness and sense of pride and this remains, especially now we have processed the pages of positive feedback the inspectors verbally gave. I look forward to being able to share more with you when I am allowed. It is fair to say that all the OBS staff, will be enjoying the Christmas break with a smile on their faces! 😊

As always, I want to thank you as parents for your continued support with school and your child's learning this half term. Without our positive relationships and your commitment to school life we would not be able to offer the wealth of opportunities to the pupils that we do. It has been fantastic seeing so many of you in school over the past few weeks for our newly branded PROUD Assemblies, watching the Nativity show, Willow craft morning, Christmas tree light switch on and parent workshops.

To all our families, I want to wish you all a merry Christmas and a safe and memory filled 2 week break with your child. I know for some families the school holidays come with their own challenges; please always seek support if you need and know that our doors are always open with a listening ear.

I look forward to seeing all the pupils back in school on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Mrs L Duffin

### Nursery

The children have made us all very proud this half term! I think you will all agree that they blew us away with not only how brave they were to stand up in front of so many grown ups but also how beautifully they sang in our Christmas play! Well done Nursery! You smashed it!

Once again, we have had a very busy half term. The children have loved spending time outside exploring the icicles and icy puddles. The children have been working hard to learn to put their coats, hats, gloves and scarfs on. It is great to see so many children being independent! It has been lovely to see the children forming friendships and helping each other in their play. What kind and caring children we have in Nursery!

Well done Nursery for a very successful first term at school! We look forward to carrying on our learning with you all in the new year.



## Foundation 2 – Oaks and Chestnuts

What a fantastic and festive half term we have had at school! Blossom room was transformed into a Christmas Post Office and the children had the opportunity to make cards, write letters and wrap presents to add stamps to and take to the 'cashier' at the post office. We also celebrated the seasons by taking an Autumnal walk and drawing the signs of Autumn that we could see. We are proud of the lovely art work that the children have completed this half term- in particular the pointillism rangoli patterns where children dabbed cotton wool buds into paint and dotted them to complete the pattern, such super precision and creativity. We look forward to seeing all the exciting learning that takes place next half term when we look at... Space!



## The Willow

This half term we have focused on 'Marvellous Me' – a topic all about our bodies. We learned names and signs for different body parts, and thought about the PANTS rule to keep ourselves private and safe. Learning about our senses has been fun with lots of food tasting, noisy fun with musical instruments and smelling different scents. We've thought about how to keep our bodies healthy with practised hand-washing, teeth-cleaning and wrapping up warm. Eating the right foods is so important for a healthy body and so we enjoyed exploring different fruits, vegetables and making healthy sandwiches.



### Year 1 – Class 3 and Class 4

This half term we have worked hard in our 'Night Adventure' topic where we have learnt about the important historical figure of Guy Fawkes and different types of animals, when they sleep and what they eat. We also enjoyed the story 'The owl who was afraid of the dark'. Some of the children have thought about their highlights:

Sienna - I loved making the owls with Mrs Maker.

Danilo - My favourite was making my creative homework owl house.

Italy - I liked making the sparklers on the WOW day.

Serayah - My favourite thing was learning that Guy Fawkes tried to kill the king.

Mohammed - I liked thinking about what animals are herbivores.



### Year 2 – Class 5 and Class 6

This has been a great half term for Year 2. The children have loved our 'Mission to the Moon' topic, and have been learning about lots of different astronauts such as Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, Michael Collins and Helen Sharman. We have written our own news reports about a mysterious alien landing on the school grounds, and we loved making moon buggies with Mrs Maker. The children have 'wowed' the teachers with some of their amazing homework projects too, thank you for helping them at home!



### Year 3 – Class 7 and Class 8

Our topic this half-term has been 'Extreme Earth'. We've been learning about earthquakes and other conditions. On our Wow Day we made volcanoes that erupted! We also learnt about layers of the earth. One of my favourite bits was when we looked at all of the different types of rocks. We also found out how you measure earthquakes on a Richter scale and dug up fossils. In Literacy we were looking at the Stone Trolls and found out 'The truth about Trolls'. We have done lots of drama and dance and we even had a fake earthquake! By Ali



### Year 4 – Class 9 and Class 10

We have had a busy and fun half term in Year 4. We have been learning about the Romans and have written our own adventure stories and news paper reports. We have learnt about many aspects of Roman life, including why they invaded Britain and Hadrian's Wall, we have even attempted to recreate our own Roman roads using biscuits and chocolate! Swimming has been a highlight of our half term, we have enjoyed building on our swimming skills. We also had the opportunity to learn about water safety and practise some self rescue skills.



### Year 5 – Class 11 and Class 12

In year 5, this term has been amazing! On our Science Space Day, we all made egg-drops and we had to protect them from breaking as they fell. We made a Science fiction game, had an inflatable solar system and rotating models, this brought the learning to life! We wrote a newspaper report about space exploration! Did you know the earth tilts at 23.5 degrees? On our WOW day, we made aliens, they are displayed in our classroom. Did you know there are 8 planets in the solar system; Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune? By Class 11



## Year 6 – Class 13 and Class 14

This half term, we have been learning all about World War II. We were lucky enough to start our topic with a Wow Day when we learned all about rationing and were then able to make carrot cake based on a food rationing recipe. It tasted yummy.

We were also lucky enough to go to the Holocaust Centre and learned all about the lives of Jewish people during the war and in the horrible camps they were forced to live in. At the centre, we also followed the journey of a young German Jewish boy called Leo and got to understand and see how his life changed dramatically once the Nazi's took control of Germany. We found out that the end of his journey was aboard a train as part of the Kinder Transport which escorted him to safety in Britain.

We have also learned about other key events in World War II such as how the war started, which countries were involved and the Dunkirk evacuation.

Alongside our topic work we have continued our literacy work which has included reading 'The Boy in The Striped Pyjamas' which tells the story of Bruno, a young German Boy and his friendship with a Jewish boy called Shmuel. Our writing has been linked to this and has involved writing an Adolf Hitler Biography and a narrative involving characterisation and dialogue.

Our numeracy work has focussed on our arithmetic skills and fractions, we have been dividing fractions, multiplying them and finding fractions of a number. It has been hard but we have learned lots.



## Mrs Maker

**Year 1** Van Gogh starry night inspired owl pictures. Lots of experimental mix media work.

**Year 2** We have been designing, making, and evaluating luna rover moon buggies. We have also been experimenting with different paint techniques to produce a moon picture.

**Year 3** We are compared two different Artist Turner and Warhol and produced art in their styles. We used these skills to produce our own extreme weather pictures. We have also studied Zentangle and Bridget Riley (Op art) and produce pictures inspired by these.

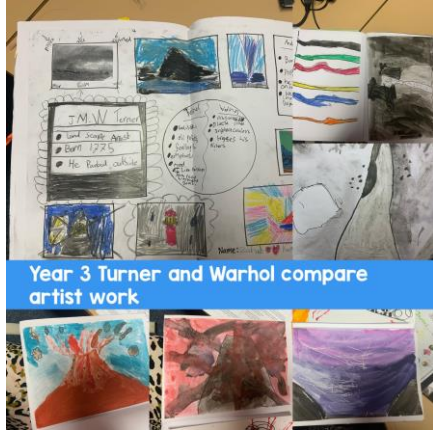
**Year 5** We have studied the work of Chesley Bonestell and produced some incredible watercolour and mix media space pictures. We have looked at atmospheric perspective and created another world landscape. This has been put together to produce a collage.

**Year 6** We have looked at the art of Henry Moore and experimented with the materials he used in the war. We have looked at natural and manmade forms and produced sketches to show 3D form and texture. We have also looked at the artist Jen Stark and produced some amazing drip art looking at the colour wheel, these will go in a collaborative art installation in the art room

**Mrs Maker continued.....**

**Art competition**

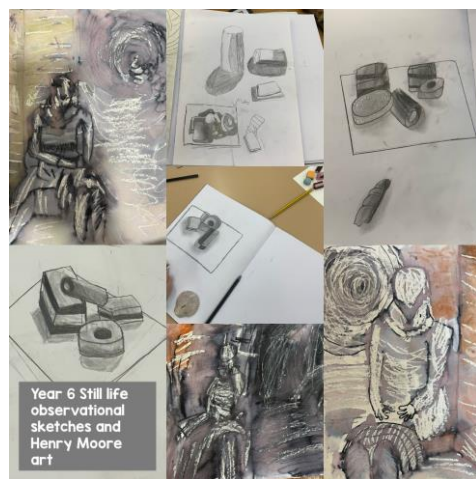
Liliana was the runner up in Alex Norris Christmas card competition. Her beautiful hare watercolour illustration captured the judge's eye. She won panto tickets for her and her family, a selection box and certificate. Her work will be on display in his office on Bulwell Highstreet.



**Year 3 Turner and Warhol compare artist work**



**Year 2 Luna Rover Moon buggies**



**Year 6 Still life observational sketches and Henry Moore art**



**Year 4 after school art club**

**Year 5 Chesley Bonestell inspired Space watercolours**

**Year 3 Zentangle and Op art**



**Year 1 Van Gogh barn owls**



**Year 4 Chris after school art club**