



# NEWSLETTER

27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

## A message from Mrs Harris and Mrs Willington...

As we come to end of the half term break, it is a chance to reflect on the successes of the year so far. I am delighted with how the children have settled into their new year groups. Children are displaying a real positive attitude to learning and are enjoying the topics on offer. I am starting to see improvement in presentation in books too. Well done to all our pupils for their hard work this half term.

You may have noticed our new penguin friends which have made an appearance on the playground this week (see last page for photo). Chosen by our school council, our new waste bins were paid for by our FOMS to brighten up the playground and to encourage pupils to separate their waste correctly.

We have ended the week, celebrating hard work and effort with our reading party. A big well done to everyone who was invited, for their dedication and commitment to their reading journey.

We have ended the week with a bang, with our Halloween disco. Children danced the afternoon away with some scary dance moves in our school hall. A huge thank to our FOMS for organising such a fun afternoon and for preparing the spooky treats for our pupils.

## Reminders and Messages

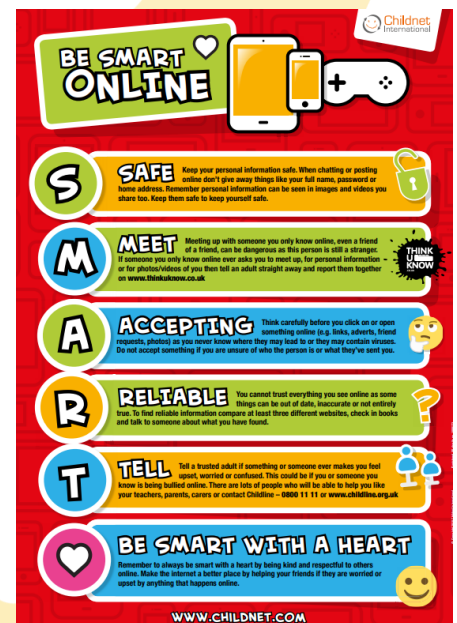
- Please remember to bring water bottles into school every day.
- Children should bring coats, hat and gloves to school as the weather is beginning to decline.

## A Message from The Friends (FOMS)

As well as pledging to support families with trip subsidies, we are also planning a whole host of events throughout the year. If you are interested in supporting our FOMS, please get in touch with the school office.

## Useful Online Safety Links

- [NSPCC](#)
- [UK Safer Internet Centre](#)
- [Childline](#)





# NEWSLETTER

**What have we been up to?**

## **EYFS – Mrs Willington, Mrs Dobson, Miss Spenceley & Mrs Halliley**

EYFS have had a week packed with activities, they have carved pumpkins and made their own pumpkin potions in these. The children turned into mini chefs, as they made their very own pumpkin soup from scratch, impressing staff with their amazing cutting and listening skills. We barely recognised our children as they entered EYFS on Friday in their Halloween costumes, a fantastic effort was made by all. We then screamed with excitement as we went along to our Halloween disco.

EYFS had a brilliant time on Wednesday on their school trip. We went to Hamsterley Forest and followed the 'Gruffalo Trail', linking to the text we'd been reading, 'The Gruffalo'. All of the children buzzed with excitement as we came up to the first wooden statue - we then began to recite the story along our walk. We can't express enough how impressed we were with all of the children's eagerness to join in, and their behaviour was perfect. When we returned to school all was quiet in EYFS, the children found their lunch, and their lunch was good.

We can't wait to begin our new topics and hope you all have a fantastic half-term and stay safe!

EYFS Team





# NEWSLETTER

**What have we been up to?**

## **Year 1/2 – Mrs Garnett, Mrs Aislabie and Mrs Niven**

This week, Year 1/2 have been continuing with their gymnastic routine, involving various rolls, such as pencil rolls and teddy bear rolls. They have also used a range of shapes and balances with their bodies.

During R.E. we made diva lamps with clay and then painted them to display, for the Hindu Festival Diwali. We also created our own Rangoli patterns.

In Geography, we identified the countries in the UK and discussed and located each country's capital city.

At the beginning of the week, we entered our spooky classroom to celebrate Halloween. Towards the end of the week, we all had the chance to dress in scary costumes, we enjoyed taking part in a range of Halloween themed activities and the children had a great time at the Halloween disco!

Thank you all for your continued support with your child's learning, we hope you all have a wonderful half term.







# What have we been up to?

Year 3 and 4 have been newspaper reporters this week, writing and editing their newspaper reports on the meteor shower, based on the book we have been reading in English 'Look Up'.

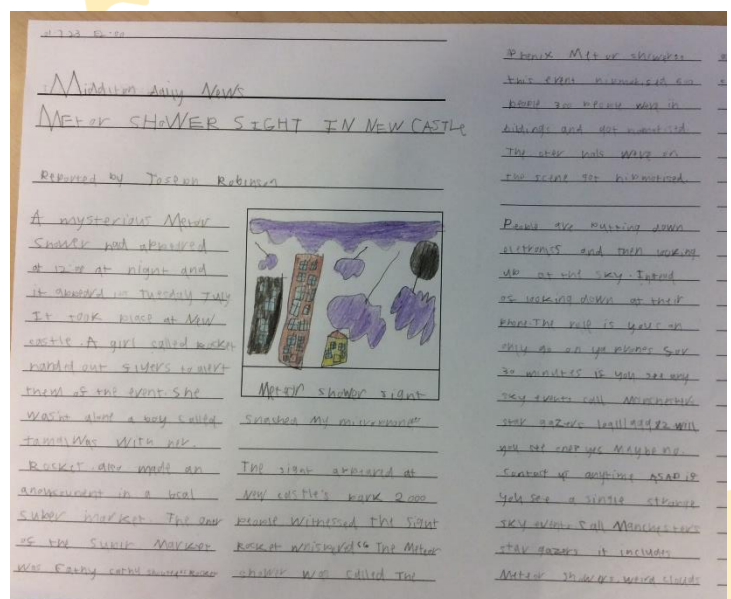
In RE, the children have continued to learn about the symbols of Hindu God Ganesh including the sweets that he holds to represent the sweetness of life, and his large head for wisdom.

In our History topic 'Through the Ages' the children have begun to learn about the Beaker folk who brought bronze to Brittan at the beginning of the Bronze Age.

The whole class worked really well together in PE to learn their whole class gymnastics routine ready for the festival after half term, which looks brilliant!

On Friday all the children had a wonderful time coming to school in their spooky costumes and going to the Halloween disco!

We hope that everyone has a lovely half term and appreciate all your contributions to your children's learning so far this year!





# NEWSLETTER

**What have we been up to?**

## **Y5/6 – Miss Dobinson and Mrs Emery**

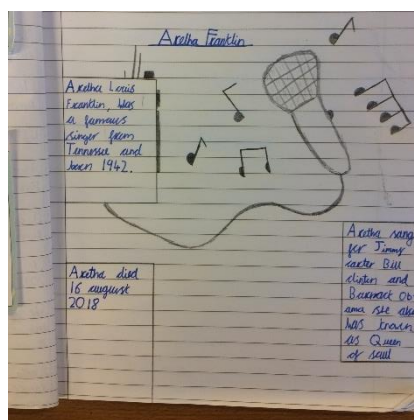
Year 5 and 6 have had a fantastic final week of our Autumn half-term. We have researched the life of our Black History Month Sister, Aretha Franklin, before writing a biography on her life. To go alongside this, we have also completed some African inspired art, creating patterns and using bright, vivid colours to make it pop!

We have also explored power hierarchies in the Shang Dynasty, reasoning with how power affected their lives. We also discussed how power affects our lives, and all children agreed that the government holds the most power in the country, followed by our parents!

All children have shown phenomenal progress in their swimming this half-term, and have gained further confidence in water. In P.E, we put all of our learnt skills to the test in games of basketball – it was fantastic to see such enthusiasm for the sport!

To the end the week, we had lots of 'spooktastic' fun completing Halloween activities, and partying at the school disco!

We hope you have a fabulous half-term, and can't wait to hear about your adventures when we return to school in November!





# NEWSLETTER

## Upcoming Events:

Date	Event
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	Break for Half Term
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Pupils return to school
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Boys Football League, King James Secondary BA, 4-5pm
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Cross Country Event at Staindrop Academy
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Gymnastics Festival, Bishop Barrington, Years 3/4
Thursday 16th November	Boys Football League, King James Secondary BA, 4-5pm
Friday 17th November	Children in Need – wear something SPOTTY along with CiNeed accessories if desired. A suggested donation of £1 per family
Thursday 23rd November	Boys Football League, King James Secondary BA, 4-5pm

