

# **Roberttown Newsletter**

## **December 2021**



Merry Christmas!

It has been a lovely job to draw together all the exciting things that have been going on in school this half term. The children bring such enthusiasm and excitement to everything. A big 'thank you' to pupils, parents and staff for all the hard work and support.

I hope everyone has a fabulous Christmas and is able to spend time with their families and friends. We are looking forward to continuing the excitement in 2022.

### **Staffing Update**

During this term we have welcomed several new support staff and some staff are working in different roles.



Mrs Frost has joined us as a part time cover supervisor working in Y3 and Y4.

Mrs Balbontin has joined us as a teaching assistant working in Y5 and Y6.

Miss Harris, who works at Breakfast Club and Rascals, is providing additional teaching assistant support in KS2.

Mrs Walsh, who works at Breakfast Club and Rascals, is also working as a SEN assistant in Y3.

Miss West has joined us as a a SEN assistant working in Goodall class.

We are delighted to welcome them to Roberttown and feel sure they will quickly feel at home.



## Online Safety- Mrs Bordman

The 'Digital Literacy' strand of the computing curriculum teaches the children to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly. It encourages children to recognise acceptable/unacceptable behaviour and identify a range of ways to report their concerns about content and contact.



Throughout school children are 'drip fed' this information in context in a variety of ways in different lessons. Recently, all children in school signed their **Acceptable Use Policy** copies for home and school. This hopefully opened up some conversations at home about using technology safely.

In Reception and Key Stage 1, lessons and talking points have focussed around videos on [Smartie the Penguin - Childnet](#) - An online safety story for 3 to 7 year olds. Key Stage 2 have extended this learning with [The Adventures of Kara, Winston and the Smart crew - Childnet](#) - A fun cartoon that illustrates the 5 online safety **SMART** rules. Children have then used this knowledge to explore some scenarios they might find themselves in when using technology. Last week Years 3-6 also celebrated 'Be Internet Legends Day' – an online safety programme from Parent Zone, in partnership with Google. The event thanked children for all their hard work learning the Be Internet Legends code – to be Sharp, Alert, Secure, Kind and Brave when they go online.

If you would like any additional information about online safety at home or help with setting parental controls on devices or apps, please contact school. We want our children to be safe, confident explorers of the online world.

## Non- uniform Day- Supporting our local food bank



It is lovely to see the children dressed in their Christmas jumpers and wearing Santa hats and antlers- school feels very festive. It is also heart-warming to see the many generous donations that we have received for the food bank.

Each year we think about which charities to support and by helping our local food bank we are able to support local families.

*Thank you to everyone*

### Remembrance Day- Miss Wiles

During the period of Remembrance, the children took part in learning and activities to commemorate this special occasion. Everyone in school took part in a 2-minute silence at 11am on the 11<sup>th</sup> November to honour soldiers that have fought for our country and their families. The Royal British Legion provided the school with themed items to sell in order to raise money for their charity. The items and poppies were so popular they nearly sold out!



We would like to thank you for your generosity for such a good cause. Each class created a word collage about what peace means to them and every child in school created a poppy using their thumb prints that have created a huge mural in the hall to represent a field of poppies. The mural reminds us daily of the work we have done to remember and support soldiers and their families.

### PFA Christmas Raffle

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the PFA Christmas Raffle, donating prizes and buying tickets. The raffle has raised the amazing total of £691!

Winners are being contacted so that they can collect their prizes.

A special thank you to Mrs Mott for all the sorting and organising and Mrs Walsh, PFA Chair for all the hard work with this.

We are updating our reading books and will be using the money for this. Thank you to everyone.



## Spotlight on Priestley Class- Mrs Horner

Priestley Class have been very busy this half term. We began our 'Fire Fire!' project learning how to be historians and archaeologists with a visit by a historian who helped us to learn what life was like for Guy Fawkes. We were able to handle and draw artefacts as well as watch gun powder being lit to create a controlled explosion in the playground!



We have been super sporty over the last 6 weeks. We have loved our P.E. sessions this half term and worked really hard with Legacy Sport learning a range of ball skills, team games and exercises to build up our stamina.

We have been trying to increase our pace while running our Daily Mile and thoroughly enjoyed showing our progress during the speedy Santa Dash! Legacy Sport also came to help teach us bike riding skills with a fantastic session on the Balance Bikes.



The last few weeks we have been focused on learning our lines and song lyrics ready to perform the Key Stage 1 Nativity 'The Angel who nearly it missed it all! The songs are very catchy and we have used our best singing voices and acting skills during our rehearsals. We cannot wait to watch our performance over Christmas with our friends and family!



## Spotlight on Van Tam Class – Mrs Glaves

Van Tam class have made a super start to their time in year 3, enjoying lots of new experiences and new learning. The children continue to be enthusiastic in all their lessons and have found a real love for both French and Ukulele.

In French, they have enjoyed learning how to greet people and can now hold mini conversations confidently. They have also read French language and amazed themselves with how much they understood.



PE has been a popular subject with the children. They have shown themselves to be resilient, brave and their skills are increasing weekly. They have shown themselves to be developing good sportsmanship skills.

Van Tam are active learners – they like to be up and doing. This half term, they have been active in their science lessons, comprehension lessons and PSHE. They showed a good understanding of both online safety and anti-bullying during our lessons in these areas. Internet Legends was a real success with the children learning how to stay safe on the internet.

Egypt proved a popular project with the children. They created canopic jars in Art and DT and some stunning pyramid silhouettes. They can now read hieroglyphics and tell you all about the Gods and pharaohs of Ancient Egypt. We were very lucky to have Reverend Sally visit us to talk to us about her time as an Egyptologist. The children were very interested, asking lots of questions and absorbing lots of information.



All in all we have had a very successful Autumn term. We are all looking forward to see what adventures in learning await us in the Spring term.

Do make sure that you ask them about TT Rockstars – they love working on this program.

### **Befrienders- Mrs Mott**

The Befrienders have been busy this term continuing to support our school as a 'listening service' and taking an active role in Anti-Bullying Week.

Antibullying Week took place in November and we started the week with Odd Sock Day. This raises awareness in a fun way to highlight that we are all unique and different. The Befriender Team also created a powerpoint for teachers to use in class when discussing friendship fallouts, the different types of bullying and how these affect our emotions and feelings.



All the classes during the week took part in a chain reaction of kind words activity. The key words from each class were then used to create a rainbow of kind words which is on display in the hall. Many thanks to all the Befriender Team for their hard work and commitment to their role.

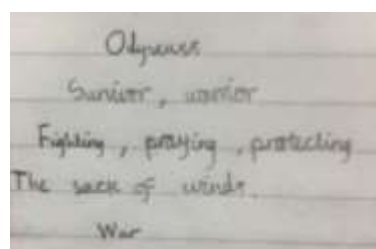
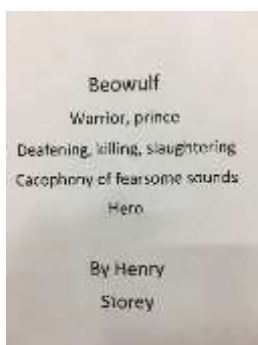
### **Balance Bikes – Mrs Goodall**



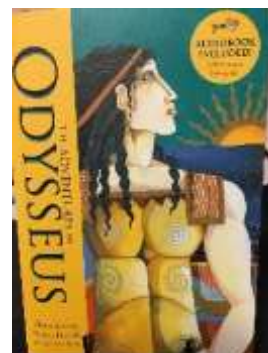
Balance bikes are a great way to get your child learning how to cycle, whilst encouraging their physical development and increasing their confidence. Legacy Sport delivered a full day of activities for all pupils in key stage one. The children enjoyed a session practising their balancing skills and building their confidence. This gave the children a sense of freedom and adventure.

## Spotlight on Gilbert & Green Class- Mrs Wood

We have had an exciting time this half term. We have really enjoyed our project about the Ancient Greeks. In English, we read our class book called 'The Adventures of Odysseus' and learned lots about Troy, Poseidon and some of the mythical creatures that caused Odysseus problems on his journey. Using this story, we wrote our own Greek myth with our own hero or heroine, mythical creatures and adventures. We have also learned how to write a cinquain and we have used our knowledge about Ancient Greece and what we have remembered about Beowulf from Year 4, to write our own.



Our history project has taught us lots about how the Ancient Greeks lived and the legacies they have left for us. We have learned about democracy; life in Athens and Sparta and how different it was; about Pheidippides and how he ran from the Plain of Marathon to Athens to tell of the victory of the Athenians against the Persians; we know that the Ancient Greeks believed in Gods and Goddesses to make sense of their world and we know that the Ancient Greeks held the first Olympics in honour of Zeus.



We can ask for things to eat and drink in a French café and we have used apparatus in PE to create a gymnastic sequence.

We have been busy mathematicians and scientists looking at multiplication and division and area and perimeter, and solutions and mixtures and how to separate them.

We are looking forward to a rest over the Christmas holiday and to all the new things we will learn in the New Year!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Mrs Wood and Year 5.



### CARE Group- Mrs Glaves

Care Group have had a very busy half term. They began the half term off by planning and delivering an excellent Remembrance Collective worship.



They have also been actively involved in the 'crisps for blankets' project. Our aim was to collect as many clean crisp packets as possible to create blankets for the homeless. We have so far collected and cleaned enough packets for 8 blankets. Thank you to Mrs J Wood for delivering these for us. Care Group have given up their own lunchtimes to clean, count and package these. We have lots more we can clean and package up after the Christmas break. I am very proud of their commitment to this project. Thank you to all parents and carers for their help too.



As a group, the children have come together to organise themselves maturely and sensibly. I am really proud of the way they worked together on their advent image for the calendar.

We have several activities to look forward to in the coming half term including planning and delivering our next Collective Worship.



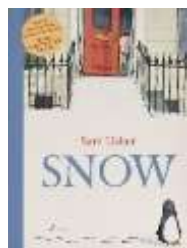
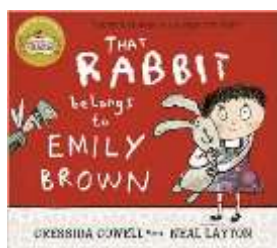


## Reading Books- Mrs L Wood

Reading should be an enjoyable and imaginative time for children, which can open up a treasure trove of wonder and joy for curious young minds. A child's reading skills are important to their success in school as they will enable them to access the breadth of the curriculum and improve their communication and language skills.



EYFS



Through reading at Roberttown CE J&I School, children have the opportunity to develop culturally, socially and emotionally as well as reaping the benefits academically. A 'Love of Language' is developed and fostered for the enjoyment, challenge and understanding of text.

Year 1/2

For each of the year groups from Reception to Year 6, there will be 6 books that the children will read, retell and enjoy. In addition to these, there will be another 6 books that the children will be encouraged to read before the end of their time in that class.



Year 3/4



These books have been chosen because they are quality texts and provide the children with the experience of a range of genres and authors. Some texts are linked to their English work to stimulate and support writing; some are chosen to support knowledge and understanding in the foundation subjects and others are chosen for pure enjoyment!

Year 5/6

### School Council- Mrs Goodall

School Council have been busy gathering information on how active we are as a school and how we can improve our playtime and lunchtime activities. We are now analysing that information and putting together a plan on how we can introduce some of the pupils' ideas in association with our sports partner Legacy Sport.

School Council, on behalf of Roberttown School, paid their respects on Remembrance Day and laid a wreath at All Saints Church Roberttown.



Well done to all members of the School Council for their creativity and commitment to produce our contribution in telling the Christmas Story.

School Council would like to thank you for all your donations to help us raise money for Children In Need. We raised £253 through our non-uniform day.

### Investors in Pupils- Miss Wiles

Investors in Pupils have been busy this half term. They have worked hard on a virtual tour of the school, coming up with their own plan of how to deliver the tour. They have also interviewed one of our school governors, Mrs Scott to find out more about her role. The ambassadors took this job very seriously, and Mrs Scott felt like she was in a very important interview! They thought carefully about the questions they'd like to ask her, and even helped each other with their cues during the interview. We'd like to thank Mrs Scott for her time and detailed answers.



The Investors in Pupils also welcomed some new ambassadors, James Ratcliffe, Maxwell Armitage, Ethan Pearson and Amelie Mallinson. They have already settled in well to their new roles and are eager to begin their journey as ambassadors.

### Eco Council – Mrs Bordman

We recently received recognition of an award applied for by Eco Council in July. We have achieved Level 3 of the RHS campaign for school gardening. This award recognises all the hard work from every child in school led by our motivated eco group. This week they will be deciding what to spend their £50 National Gardening vouchers on.



The Eco Council also applied for a donation from 'The Tree Council' and were overwhelmed to discover we had 5 fruit trees and 5 varieties of hedgeregrow whips delivered. With 65 holes to dig, the councillors shared their workload with some of their peers. Eco Council took responsibility for planting the fruit orchard which runs alongside the spiritual space and more children across Key Stage 2 helped plant the hedging along our school borders. Our aim is to encourage even more wildlife, create a screen in more sparse areas and to deter the cows from gate-crashing Key Stage One's playtime on the field!

Coming up: Eco-Council will be leading their classes in an enterprise project hoping to raise funds for gardening and our outdoor environment. Classes will be busy growing, creating, building, advertising and selling things you could place in your gardens to encourage wildlife at home. They will also be leading a presentation to all year groups focussing on recycling.





### **Nativity- Miss Wiles**

It's the time of year again where KS1 put on their annual performance of the Nativity. We wished with all our hearts that we could showcase it to parents but it wasn't meant to be this year.



So, we became movie stars instead, as we polished our halos, groomed our donkeys and warmed up our voices to show everyone via a film. The story we have told is 'The Angel Who Nearly Missed It All', featuring a hapless angel who is always late. The year 2 children worked really hard to learn their lines and the year 1 pupils sang brilliantly throughout. Will the Late Angel eventually make it to meet Mary and Joseph, and help the rest of the Angel Chorus celebrate the most important event of all? KS1 parents should keep an eye out for the link to access the film.

### **KS2 Carol Service- Mrs Glaves**



How lovely was it listening to the children sing Christmas Carols outside?

Well done to all the children for their wonderful singing, it really got us in the festive spirit.

Well done to our year 6 soloists and to our year 5 and 6 readers. We hope you enjoyed your hot chocolate and sang along with us.

*Thank you to all those involved in making the carol service such a success.*

## Half Term Superstars

Our half term superstars have received their certificates. We are very proud of their super attitudes and hard work this half term.



<b>Y1 Jemison Class</b>	Ben Lister		Freddie Olinic-Overton	
<b>Priestley Class</b>	Jacob Wood	Aubrey Oldroyd	Thomas Worley	Frankie Olinic-Overton
<b>Berners-Lee Class</b>	Robyn Wilson-Terry	Bonnie-Nell Newton	Adam Parker	Benjamin Scott

<b>Van Tam Class</b>	Tilly Sumner	Hudson Marsden	Lola Rourke	Joey Forsyth
<b>Washing Carver Class</b>	Lily Green	Zach Trigui	Daisy-Belle Wood	Rafi Wells
<b>Gilbert &amp; Green Class</b>	Lily Marlow	Aaron Hickman	Evie-Mai Carr	Zaid Rafaqat
<b>Watson &amp; Crick Class</b>	Maddiya Hussain	Jenson Hewson	Layla Hull	Yousuf Ahmad

Each week in Celebration Collective Worship we award certificates to pupils who have shown the values of the 'Good Samaritan'. The parable of the 'Good Samaritan' is at the heart of our school and children can be nominated by staff or other pupils.



<b>KS1</b>	<b>KS2</b>
Alex Hartley	Ellie Butterworth
Beckii Walsh	Alexander Battye
Dylan Bentley	Alarna Terry
Seb Illingworth	Max Naylor
Cole Barber	Emrhys Balding
Kaisan Rafaqat	Finley Baxter
	Louis Biddle

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## Communication

A quick reminder of the different ways that we can communicate now.

Our class email addresses are:

Class Name		Teacher	Class Email	Instagram
Watson & Crick	Y6	Mrs Baker/Mrs Dolby	<a href="mailto:watsoncrick@rjipupils.co.uk">watsoncrick@rjipupils.co.uk</a>	Rjis.watsoncrick
Gilbert & Green	Y5	Mrs Wood	<a href="mailto:mrswood@rjipupils.co.uk">mrswood@rjipupils.co.uk</a>	Rjis.gilbertgreen
Washington Carver	Y4	Mrs Bordman	<a href="mailto:mrsbordman@rjipupils.co.uk">mrsbordman@rjipupils.co.uk</a>	Rjis.washingtoncarver
Van Tam	Y3	Mrs Graves	<a href="mailto:mrsglaves@rjipupils.co.uk">mrsglaves@rjipupils.co.uk</a>	Rjis.vantam
Berners Lee	Y1/2	Miss Wiles	<a href="mailto:misswiles@rjipupils.co.uk">misswiles@rjipupils.co.uk</a>	Rjis.bernierslee
Priestley	Y1/2	Mrs Horner	<a href="mailto:mrshorner@rjipupils.co.uk">mrshorner@rjipupils.co.uk</a>	Rjis.priestley
Jemison	R/Y1	Mrs Burgin	<a href="mailto:mrsburgin@rjipupils.co.uk">mrsburgin@rjipupils.co.uk</a>	Rjis.jemison
Goodall	Rec	Mrs Clayton/ Mrs McCann	<a href="mailto:goodall@rjipupils.co.uk">goodall@rjipupils.co.uk</a>	Rjis.goodall

**School Office Contact Details:**      **01924 403532**      [office@rjis.org.uk](mailto:office@rjis.org.uk)

We will be continuing to send regular information and updates. We will be using:



**Parent Hub-** will be used for short reminders of dates and meetings  
**The details for Parent Hub are attached to this letter. Please contact the school office if you have any issues accessing the information.**



**Parent Mail-** will be used for letters and items requiring permission e.g trip letters



**Parent Pay** – will be used for payments for school meals, Rascals and Breakfast Club, after school clubs and trips.