

Roberttown Newsletter

October 2021



We have had a very positive start to our school year. Our new Reception children seemed to have settled in quickly and throughout school there is a real sense of purpose and positivity.

The children have tackled challenges new and old and I am delighted to be able to share some of the highlights with you.

If you want to see more about what is happening in your child's class then do make sure you have signed up to your child's class Instagram account. If you would like to sign up and haven't done so already then please contact the school office who will forward you the details.

Welcome to Roberttown



This term we have welcomed Mrs Burgin (pictured) who has joined us as class teacher for our Reception/Y1 class.

We also have some new support staff:

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

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

Mrs Boselli has joined us as a teaching assistant working in Y3 and Mrs Armitage has joined us a lunchtime supervisor.

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

Keeping our children safe

We have noticed a number of cars stopping on the zig zag lines around school to drop children off. The zig zag lines are there to keep the entrances to school clear and safer for everyone. **Please protect your children by not stopping or parking on the zig zag lines.**



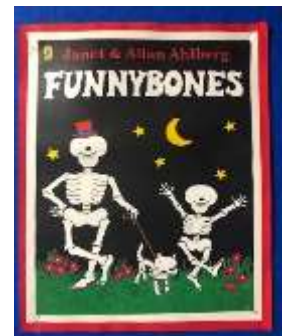
Spotlight on Jemison Class- Mrs Burgin



We have had a great start to the new school year, our reception children have settled in and great friendships have started to develop. The children have been working very hard on their numbers and handwriting and made a fantastic start on their reading journey. Well done!

The children have loved reading Funny Bones – one of our class books this half term.

We have read, danced like a spooky skeleton and retold the story, we have even done some skeleton art work! The story has even helped us learn the body parts in our science work.



The children had a fantastic autumn walkabout in the school woodland – the sun was shining and there were so many interesting changes to look at and discuss. It won't surprise you that we did some artwork with some of the things we collected. Can you spot the butterfly and the giraffe?



Our Harvest celebration with the rest of Key stage 1 has taken place this half term.

The children worked very hard learning the words to the song 'The Lord is good to me' The children made some super props; sunshine, rain cloud and an apple to go with our singing and actions. Well done –we are very proud of all of them.

Kirklees Cross Country Event- Mrs Mott

Pupils from KS2 took part in the annual Cross Country event on Tuesday 28th September at Whitechapel Primary School. Despite the challenging weather conditions the pupils who took part showed great resilience and perseverance in competing against pupils from six other schools. Competitors in Year 3 and 4 ran a course of 1000 metres and Years 5 and 6 ran 1500 metres. Our team from Roberttown were very supportive towards each other and all our pupils completed the course with some great results especially in years 3 and 4. The daily mile done by our classes each day is definitely paying off!



As a result of some brilliant performances we have 5 teams now through to the final at Leeds Road Playing Fields on Tuesday 2nd November where they will compete against schools from Huddersfield.

Thank you must also be extended to all the parents and families and Mrs Ratcliffe who braved the very wet conditions to transport and support our pupils.

Well done everyone!

Computing- Mrs Bordman

At Roberttown, our aim is to prepare the children for the future with the knowledge, skills and opportunities that will equip them for an ever-changing digital world. The children might not yet know what job or profession they want to do when they're older, some of their jobs won't have even been created yet, but we do know there is a strong possibility it will involve technology.



We were immensely proud of how quickly our children adapted to Home Learning and accessing new technology. We were lucky enough to support lots of children with loaned provision but with the use of different devices and software and the urgency in learning new skills it meant that our computing curriculum was noticeably adapted.

Whilst we plan to keep these new skills sharp, we have identified the need to highlight the coding

and programming elements of our computing curriculum. This half term children in Key Stage 1 have enjoyed programming Beebots and children in Key Stage 2 are using programmes such as Barefoot, code.org and Scratch jnr.

Computing is always a popular lesson throughout the year groups and it has been amazing watching the children pick up previous learning and skills learnt at home to work through their coding sessions. As ever, the use of terminology is always important when developing a subject so it has been great listening to children say “when I input this, this happens” or “my sprite isn’t working, so I need to go back and debug my algorithm”.

We have also restarted our Y2-6 Coding club on Thursdays.



Roberttown Befrienders- Mrs Mott



The Year 6 Befriender Team completed their training in September and were presented with their badges during Collective Worship.

The team are enthusiastic to start their roles in school in providing a ‘listening service’ for any pupil in school who needs to talk to someone about a problem or worry they may have.

The Befriender Team meet Mrs Mott each Monday lunchtime and they take turns to be on duty daily. All the team are looking forward to the year ahead representing school as a positive role model and to develop their own skills too.

‘Befriender training was really fun and not as tricky as what I thought it would be. This year I would like to help someone who really needs it and help them feel happy.’ Maisie

‘I really enjoyed my training and would like to be able to make someone’s day before I leave Roberttown’. Isla

‘Befriender training wasn’t what I expected, it was way more fun! I now understand that we are a listening service for pupils in school to help them feel happier.’ Danni

KS1 Harvest- Miss Wiles

Key stage one enjoyed learning about why we celebrate Harvest and reading some stories based around the theme of food. Goodall class and Berners-Lee class both read the story of the Little Red Hen, and Berners-Lee class retold the traditional tale in their own words as their performance to the rest of the key stage.



Jemison class learnt the song 'The Lord is Good to Me' to perform to everyone. They had beautiful singing voices and were so passionate when performing the actions! Priestley class learnt the story of 'Vegetable Glue' for their performance, a story that highlights the importance of eating your vegetables!

Each class has been discussing Harvest, and its significance. Goodall class made their own Harvest festival displays, which you can see on the photo. Lincoln from Berners-Lee told me that 'we should be thankful for the farmers that grow and harvest the food' and Charlie from Goodall class said 'harvest is where food from the fields is chopped down.' The KS1 staff were so proud of the class' performances and the engagement from children in their lessons on Harvest.



The Good Samaritan - Mrs Glaves

We have continued to develop our school story of the Good Samaritan. The children know and understand this story and we are now learning about how this bible story is relevant to today's world and their own lives today.

Each week we celebrate our Good Samaritans in Celebration Collective Worship and the children can nominate people who they feel have been a 'good samaritan' in school.



School Council – Mrs Goodall

We are asking the question – **How active are we as a school?**

Over this and next term school council are looking at how active we are within school and after school. We are hoping to gather information and ideas from the pupils to help us make the most of playtime, lunchtime and after school clubs. School Council will be liaising with the school's sport partnership Legacy Sport to see how the pupils' ideas may be incorporated into the school day.

Legacy Sport are running a sports camp through the October half term holiday - please see details below:

Legacy Sport FREE holiday camp for 5-11 year olds.

A range of fun activities to keep your child active during October half term.

The camps will run from Monday 25th October to Wednesday 27th October 10am-2pm.

MFG Sports Centre, Kitson Hill Road, Mirfield, WF14 9EZ

You will need to bring a drink and lunch.

Places are filling fast, so if you want to book on, please follow the link below.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/legacy-sport-holiday-camp-tickets-190910046087>



School Council are also looking forward to organising and hosting a collective worship, non-uniform day and a talent show in aid of Children in Need. The pupils will be performing in front of the school on Friday 19th November. We are confident that the day will be fun and enjoyable for everyone.

Losehill Hall- Mrs Wood



Year 5 had a fantastic time on their residential trip to Losehill Hall. They were very excited before the trip and the experience lived up to their expectations and more! They took part in many indoor and outdoor activities, such as: an endurance walk up to Hollins Cross and along the ridge to Lose Hill; gem panning; missile building and launching; code breaking; shelter building and fire lighting; orienteering and rune deciphering.

The children showed real endurance on their walk as it was rainy and windy – but not a moan was heard – we were so proud of them. They particularly enjoyed gem panning, where they panned for crystals and other non-precious gems that occur in the local environment. They could check these against the identification board and then best of all – they could take them home.



Missile building was a real team effort where the children had to build a missile to protect an egg. This was then launched into the air – very exciting – and hopefully their egg survived. The children gave their team some very inventive names – ‘The Eggterminator’ and ‘Scrambled 5’ to name but a few.

We all had an amazing time, including the staff, the children made some super memories and they can’t wait to go on their next adventure in Year 6.



Care Group – Mrs Glaves



Care group have been busy this half term. They have met twice and created an action plan of ways of moving the group forward. Recently, they have monitored Care tables, to ensure that they reflect our school ethos. They have fed their results back to their classes and discussed with them the purpose of our Care tables.

We have discussed the Good Samaritan and its relevance to the modern world. They are in the process of creating a short video acting out scenes from our story - scenes which the children in school will recognise as being reflective of their lives.

They have also put a lot of thought into positive messages for the children in our school – and have devised positive slogans which are to be laminated and hung off the fences in each key stage. These will be able to be read by children who may be feeling a little down. Hopefully a positive thought will enhance their mood.

It has been a busy half term and we look forward to developing our work further next half term.

Investors in Pupils – Miss Wiles

Investors in Pupils Ambassadors have met this half term to deliver attendance award certificates to pupils who achieved 100% attendance during the summer term. The ambassadors each spoke to their own classes and handed them out. They have also discussed the plans for Investors in Pupils for the new school year.



As part of the induction category of the Investors in Pupils Award they have decided to create a welcome video available for all of the Roberttown community. The welcome video will include the ambassadors showing you around school as they were aware due to Covid restrictions some pupils and parents won't have had chance to walk round the school. Keep your eyes peeled for their video!

Eco-Council & Gardening- Mrs Bordman

The Eco-Councillors recently met with Mrs Bordman to discuss their immediate plans and to start creating their action plan. They discussed their own environmental concerns and talked about the 'Earthshot Project'. When thinking about the 5 categories of Nature, Air, Oceans, Waste and Climate the children wanted to think about what our contributions to environmentalism could be.



Next half term the children will be introducing their ideas to their classes and will be leading more projects on gardening, recycling and using less energy. The Eco Councillors want to work in the community and will be doing a 'litter pick' in the village. Eco-Council will also be working closely with CARE group and their application for the Fairtrade mark.



The representatives from each class have been encouraged to take ideas from their peers to discuss at future meetings. Having conversations at home about recycling, not purchasing single use plastic, encouraging wildlife in gardens, passing on clothes/toys or reducing travel are some examples of developing your child's awareness of how you help at home.

The Eco-Councillors were also happy to see the plants grown by Washington-Carver and Priestly classes. Some children met with Louise and Sue from 'Roberttown in Bloom' to plant on Commonsides and to handover more flowers. Look out for the winter flowers in the planters around the village next week.



Safeguarding

A reminder that all schools are required to have designated safeguarding leads and at Roberttown school these are Mrs Laycock-Smith, Headteacher and Mrs Wood, deputy headteacher.

If you have any concerns about the safety or well being of a child please contact Mrs Laycock-Smith or Mrs Wood straight away.

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.



Y1 Jemison Class	Lily-Mae Bradshaw		Kaisan Rafaqat	
Priestley Class	Edward Shingleton	Arya Benson	Maxwell Armitage	Amelie Hunter-Paul
Berners-Lee Class	James Ratcliffe	Amelie Mallinson	Sebastian Illingworth	Rosalie Furness

Van Tam Class	Hariz Younis-Butt	Evie Murphy	Finley Baxter	Alana Tandy
Washing Carver Class	Evelyn Mayor	Max Darlington	Amelia Benson	George Simper
Gilbert & Green Class	Henry Storey	Zaid Rafaqat	Esme Stewart-Padgett	Amalie Harman
Watson & Crick Class	Annabel Martinus	Finley Whitaker	Harriet Longfield	Edward Hall

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.



KS1	KS2
Zayyan Younis-Butt	Maddiya Hussain
Beckii Walsh	Reagan Spear
Mrs J Wood	Georgia Robinson
Sebastian Illingworth	Evelyn Mayor
Lily Mae Bradshaw	Heidi Proctor
	Kitchen Staff

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KS2 Harvest- Mrs Glaves

Our harvest this year centred around the idea of what is harvest and all the people involved in getting the food to our table. Each class in KS2 performed an aspect of the harvest to help our understanding.

Year 3 recreated the harvest using African Dance and Djembe drums.

Year 4 looked at where our food comes from and the footprint we leave on the world. Their message was shop local.

Year 5 told the harvest story through a class poem and year 6 told us the story of a day in the life of a farmer through self composed diary entries.

We are very proud of KS2 for their thoughtful contributions. Well done to year 6 for their narrations and Bible readings.

We would like to thank all KS2 parents for their generous harvest gifts which have to support local families through the food bank.



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	watsoncrick@rjipupils.co.uk	Rjis.watsoncrick
Gilbert & Green	Y5	Mrs Wood	mrswood@rjipupils.co.uk	Rjis.gilbertgreen
Washington Carver	Y4	Mrs Bordman	mrsbordman@rjipupils.co.uk	Rjis.washingtoncarver
Van Tam	Y3	Mrs Glaves	mrsglaves@rjipupils.co.uk	Rjis.vantam
Berners Lee	Y1/2	Miss Wiles	misswiles@rjipupils.co.uk	Rjis.bernierslee
Priestley	Y1/2	Mrs Horner	mrshorner@rjipupils.co.uk	Rjis.priestley
Jemison	R/Y1	Mrs Burgin	mrsburgin@rjipupils.co.uk	Rjis.jemison
Goodall	Rec	Mrs Clayton/ Mrs McCann	goodall@rjipupils.co.uk	Rjis.goodall

School Office Contact Details: 01924 403532 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.