



# NEWSLETTER

22nd December 2023



## A message from Mrs Gibson:

We've had a wonderful end to an extremely busy and successful term. Thank you for all your support at our reading workshops, phonics drop ins, Science and RE afternoons, Christmas fayre and Christmas concerts! We are really looking forward to working with you to further develop opportunities for the children to share their learning with you over the rest of the year.

We'd like to give a big shout out to the children, staff, governors and families who work so hard every day to make Birley Spa such a fantastic part of our community.

At this time of year, it is lovely to see so many families excited about spending quality time together so on behalf of the staff and children at Birley Spa Primary Academy, we hope you have a fun-filled Christmas break and we can't wait to see you again in the new year!

## School Re-opening:

A kind reminder to parents that school will re-open to students on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January at 8:40am.

## After School Clubs:

Your child should have brought home a letter regarding our 'Lifestyle opportunity clubs' restarting. If you have returned this form to the office by Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January, you will receive a text confirming your child's place in which club they have been successfully entered in by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January. Payment will be required before Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> January to secure your child's place. Children without completed payment will be turned away from clubs.

## Christmas Events:

This week our children have participated in many Christmas themed activities ranging from Christmas Performances, Christmas Parties and Christmas Craft evenings!

We loved seeing all the families coming into school for all of these. Watching the children thrive whilst performing and seeing the children creating crafts together with their families on Friday was such a delight.

We will share the lovely photos with you as soon as we can.

## Thank you

As the term draws to an end, we would like to say a big thank you to Mrs. Horsfall, Mr. Jackson and Miss Brown for all their hard work as they move on to new opportunities in the new year. Good luck!

After Christmas, we are excited to be welcoming Miss Tierney (who many of you met at our recent pop-up cafe) as our new SENCO to work with the team moving forward.



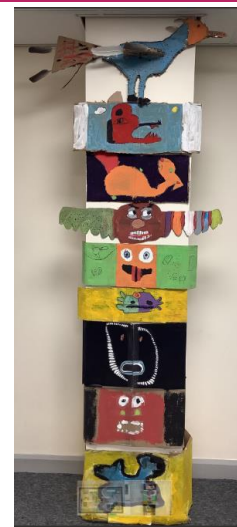
# Updates

## Integrated Resource

Our children in Class N have been working really hard to create a leaflet about our IR since the building works have been completed. They took real pride in sharing their leaflet with Mrs. Gibson who was delighted to see the school values of Creativity, Resilience and Teamwork being used so well.

They have also been busy decorating their new rooms with their learning outcomes.

The fantastic leaflet that they produced has been shared with each class and can be found [here](#) on our website.



## AGB cards

Each of our classes have created a card to say thank you to our governors who volunteer a significant amount of their time to support our school and who always take great pleasure in coming in to see our children. We're really proud of the cards that they've designed so we hope the AGB members like them.

## Snowflake

As you know, we recently raised money for the Sheffield Children's Hospital by wearing Christmas PJs. We are thrilled to share our new Birley Spa snowflake in recognition of our fundraising efforts! Thank you to everyone who contributed towards this wonderful cause.





# Staying Safe Online!

It's Christmas Time – Parents guide to help keep children safe online

## It's Christmas Time!



**A Parent's Guide to Social Media**



**A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures**



**A Parent's Guide to Gaming**



**A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming**



scan the QR code with your phone's camera to see the guides on our website



**A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming**



**A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers**



**A Parent's Guide to Fake News**



**A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings**

### It's always best to be prepared

Many parents may be planning to give electronic gadgets to their children this festive period.

Our guide is designed to help parents take a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games.

**Scan the QR code to find out more.**

**Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.**

**Parents** please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

**Skips Educational** Email: [info@skipsed.com](mailto:info@skipsed.com) Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with



**Skips**

[www.skipssafetynet.org](http://www.skipssafetynet.org)

## Useful Link for Parents:

### 5. The Communication Trust and ICAN Talking Point

Talking Point helps parents who are concerned about their child's communication development. They also provide information and strategies to help with this at home.

<http://ican.org.uk>



### 6. Better Health Start for Life

Ideas to help children aged 0-5 years to develop speech and communication.

<https://www.nhs.uk/start4life/baby/learning-to-talk/1-to-2-years/#anchor-tabs>



### 4. South Yorkshire Talking Together

This is a website for parents and carers living in South Yorkshire to help develop vital communication skills in children.

<https://sy-talkingtogether.co.uk/>



### 3. Sheffield Parent Carer Forum

They are an independent group of parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. Their main aim is to ensure the needs of our children are met. We bring together parent carers from across Sheffield to provide mutual support, exchange information, and influence policy and practice.

The SPCF have a dedicated Speech and Language groups for parents/carers which runs once every two months. There will be dedicated topics to discuss and support parents.

<http://sheffieldparentcarerforum.org.uk>



### 2. Sheffield Children's Speech and Language Therapy website

This is a website where you can find videos and information about developing your child's communication skills at home.

<https://www.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk/services/speech-and-language-therapy-new-homepage/communicating-kids/>



### 1. Sheffield Children's Speech and Language Therapy Patient Information Library.

This is a website where you can find information about activities, resources and therapy techniques to help your child's communication at home





# STAR OF THE WEEK

## 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

Class:		
A	The whole class of Class A – For being amazing performers in our Wriggly Nativity.	
B	Isabelle – Showing great Resilience with her writing in provision.	Eliza – Showing great Teamwork in provision.
C	Rohan - for showing Creativity and Teamwork during our Christmas concert. Rohan stepped in as a King literally at the last minute during the night performance and did a brilliant job.	The whole of Class C - for Teamwork and Creativity during our Christmas production.
D	The whole class of Class D – Showing Teamwork and Aspiration during Christmas performance and being an enthusiastic singer.	
E	The whole class - for showing Teamwork and Resilience during our Christmas concert.	
F	Oliver – Resilience – Stepping up and challenging himself to take on a role in the performance.	Tiffany-Jayne – Aspiration by working hard to be the best she can be in listening to instructions.
G	Evie-Rose – Teamwork. She showed true dedication and support to her whole class by stepping in anywhere needed to make a brilliant Christmas performance.	Max – Resilience. He was scared about being on stage but pushed through and impressed everyone.
H	Sienna – Resilience. Sienna has been working very hard on her handwriting and presentation.	Libby – Aspiration. Libby has worked hard to achieve great results on her multiplication test.
I	Isaac - For showing aspiration through continued development of his multiplication tables.	Imogen - For showing aspiration through continued development of her multiplication tables.
J	Oscar – Being an absolute superstar and showing all keys values especially in his Christmas performance.	Charlie – Constantly showing all the values throughout his lessons.
K	Osca - For showing <b>Resilience</b> in improving his handwriting and presentation. Osca's work has improved vastly and I am very proud of the progress he has made.	Lucy - <b>Resilience</b> in Maths, Lucy has been trying really hard in Maths, and has excelled with progress in her Maths. Well done.
L	Abbey – Showing great Resilience in all lessons. You are making progress. Keep positive.	John-Henry – Showing great Teamwork in the year 6 poetry reading and showing good Resilience in lessons.
M	Ruby – Being Resilient in all your learning. You are a great Role model and your confidence shines through!	Kai – Showing Aspiration in English. Your handwriting is improving and you have great ideas.
N	Ivan - <b>Empathy and Tolerance</b> - Ivan has managed really well this week with all the changes to routine and extra activities we have completed.	

# Weekly Attendance

## 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

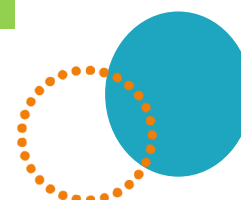
### Whole School target: 96%



EYFS	A	83.6%
EYFS	B	88.1%
Y1/Y2	C	92.5%
Y1/Y2	D	92.1%
Y1/Y2	E	93%
Y3	F	89.4%
Y3	G	95.8%
Y4	H	84.6%
Y4	I	90%
Y5	J	95.9%
Y5	K	95.6%
Y6	L	91.1%
Y6	M	86.5%
Y3/Y6	N	<u>100%</u>
<b>Whole School Attendance</b>		<b>90.8%</b>

At Birley Spa Primary Academy we are committed to helping all pupils to achieve their full potential. Good attendance is a key factor in raising pupils' attainment and supporting their personal development. **In line with DfE and Local Authority policy, we do not authorise holidays taken in school time and we work with families to do everything they can to support their child to attend school every day.** Whilst it is appreciated that children are ill from time to time, please think carefully before allowing your child to be absent from school. The chart below provides an indication of how just a few days absence can significantly impact a child's overall attendance percentage and impede their learning:

Description	Attendance	Whole Days Lost	Lost Hours of Learning
Excellent	100 – 99%	0 – 2	0 – 10
Good	98 – 96%	4 – 7.5	20 – 37.5
Requires Improvement	95 – 91%	9.5 – 17	47.5 – 85
Persistent Absentee	90 – 86%	19 – 27	95 – 135
Critical	85 – 80%	28.5 – 38	142.5 – 190



# Dates for the Diary

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Event:</u>
25 <sup>th</sup> December – 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Christmas Holidays INSET day – school closed
<b>9th January 2024</b>	<b>School Reopens to children</b>
12 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Additional individual photo session (Mop-Up Session)
17 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Visit from Anti-Violence Campaigner
12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Half term Holiday
19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	School Reopens for children
19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Young Voices Trip for Year 5
29 <sup>th</sup> March – 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Easter Holidays
15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	School Reopens to children
6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	<b>Bank Holiday – School Closed</b>
27 <sup>th</sup> May – 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Half term Holiday INSET day – School closed
4 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	School Reopens for children
23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024	Last day of the Academic Year
2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2024	INSET Days – School closed