



Ambition · Bravery · Respect



# INTRODUCING OUR NEW ACADEMY LOGO



Following the exciting news that Oyster Park Primary Academy officially transferred to Castleford Academy Trust on 1st February 2025 we have a new logo.

Our new academy logo will be gradually introduced, with updates to wider branding, such as uniform, signage, and other materials, rolled out over the course of the academic year.

We hope you welcome this change, as we believe it represents the exciting future of our academy.



## Key Dates

### **Wonderdome- Mobile planetarium**

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025

### **Year 4 Healthy lifestyle workshop**

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025

### **Reception hand washing workshop delivered by school nurse**

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025

### **World book day**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### **Bringing books to life workshop**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> & Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### **Parents Coffee morning/focus on sleep talk**

9am Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### **Elvington Air Museum**

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### **Ancient Egyptians Workshop**

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### **Year 5 Fire Safety Workshop**

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### **Hinduism Workshop**

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> & Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### **Teach Rex Workshop**

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2025



**OYSTER PARK**  
Primary Academy

## Safer Internet Day

'On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, we celebrated Safer Internet Day in school.

This year's theme is

**'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'.**

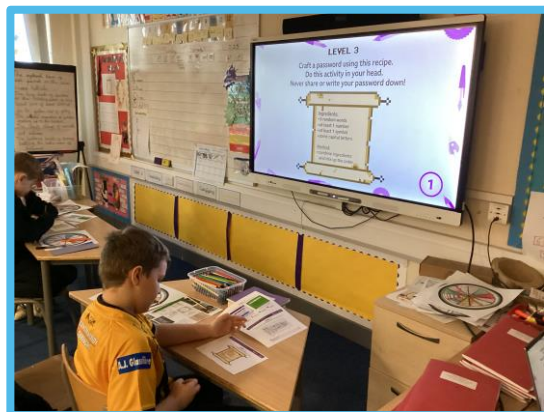
We learnt all about using technology safely, respectfully and responsibly and how to recognise acceptable and unacceptable behaviour online, as well identifying ways of reporting concerns about content and contact.

Some classes completed the BBC Live Lesson and completed the scam smasher challenges to showcase their learning.

## Let's play SQUASH!



This half term, 5F have been going to Pontefract Squash Club every Friday and trying their hand at playing Squash. They have been learning new skills and tactics which they have applied when playing games. It is fabulous to see the progress they are making.

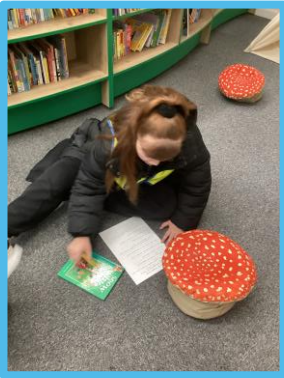


# Educational Visits

## Airedale Library

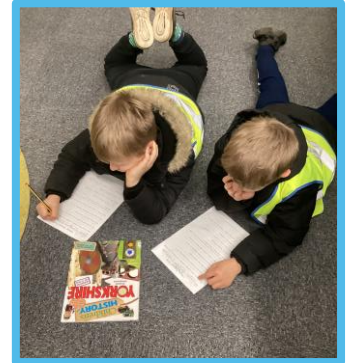
Over the half term, each class enjoyed a visit to Airedale Library.

The children took part in a book hunt, looking for particular books, genres of books and books linked to their learning.



The children were encouraged to explore the library to find a book of their choice to take back to school for their reading for pleasure sessions.

During the visit, the children also experienced the sensory/interactive room where the children could play team games and take part in mindfulness activities.

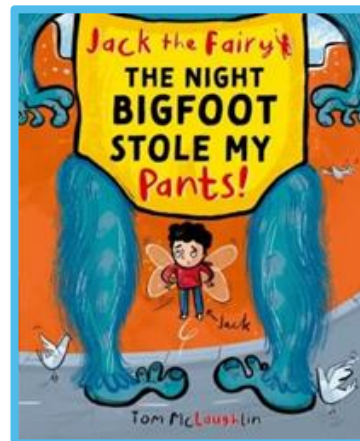


## Illustrator Visit

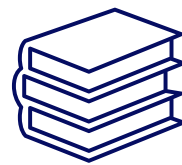
On Tuesday 26th November, our school was visited by Tom McLaughlin. Tom held workshops within individual year groups throughout the day. These sessions included storytelling, live drawing, illustration workshops as well as talking about his experience as a dyslexic author and illustrator.

There was lots of laughter and plenty of interactive fun. At the end of the sessions, there were opportunities for the children to purchase some of Tom's books and ask him questions about his time as an illustrator. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

If you would like to find out more information about the illustrator, then please visit <http://www.tommclaughlin.co.uk>.



# Curriculum Showcase

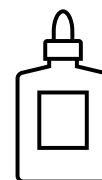
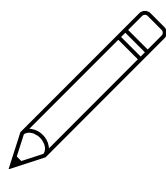
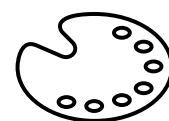


## Creating story books

In Design Technology, the children in Year 1 have been focusing on sliders and mechanisms to design and create their own moving storybook.

The children explored and experimented by creating different types of sliders and mechanisms. They then created their design criteria which was to create a moving storybook for the children in UFS. The children designed their books considering which elements would move and how they would create the different sliders.

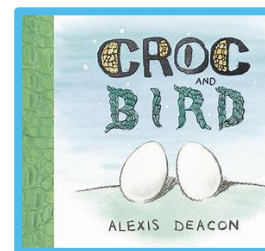
The children then created their own moving books based on their design criteria. The children did an amazing job and the children in UFS were very impressed!



## Arts & Crafts

The children in Year 3 have been making cave paintings in Art. They explored prehistoric animals and enjoyed sketching them using charcoal. They made their own cave walls by using rice, lentils and sand to make the page 3D and have a rough texture and used earthy tones and pigments to paint their animals.

The children were fabulous artists and could even link their learning to their knowledge of the Stone Age in History.



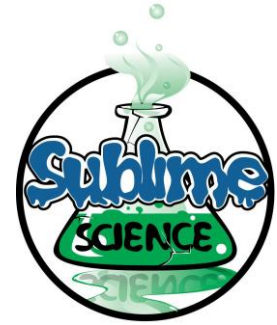
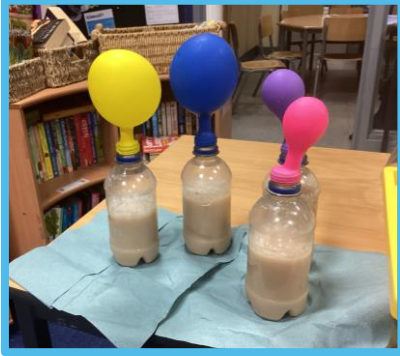
The children in Year 3 have been exploring the book *Croc and Bird* by Alexis Deacon this term as part of their Guided Reading

Picture Book Study. They enjoyed taking part in a range of activities over 5 days including exploring the book in detail by making puppets of the characters and then retelling the story with their partners. They also created a song together about the sky as the characters do in the story. They then enjoyed performing their song as the characters and even used instruments.



# Sublime Science !

As part of their science unit on classifying living things, Year 6 carried out an investigation to find out if yeast is a living organism. They used their prior learning of the characteristics of living things and worked scientifically. They learnt that the yeast consumed the sugar and excreted the waste product, carbon dioxide, which started to fill the balloon with gas.



On Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th February the children enjoyed a workshop by Sublime Science exploring lots of interesting science phenomena. They observed the chemical reactions when different were mixed together and used this to make their own slime. They added citric acid to sugar to make their own sherbet and used various sized balls to observe what happened when they were subjected to upward thrust. At the end of day, our scientist, Nuclear Nat, created a lemonade fountain by adding mints to a bottle of lemonade. The children had a great time and really enjoyed seeing how science is use in their everyday lives.

## Year 4 Science

In Science, the children have been investigating how to create working circuits using a variety of components such as bulbs, motors and buzzers. They tested various materials to observe which were insulators and which were conductors. Finally, they designed and created their own switches and tested these in simple circuits to evaluate their effectiveness.





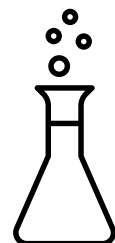
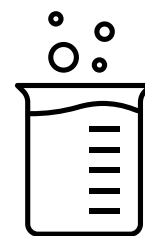
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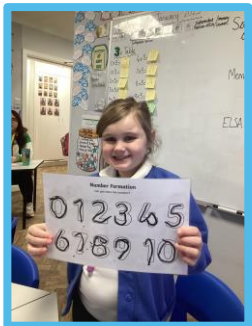


# Year 4

## The Harbour

In the Harbour this half term we have been doing lots of amazing learning. In Maths we have been looking at Place Value and Fractions, as well as Position and Direction. In English we have been writing our own detective narratives based on Hermelin the Detective Mouse. In our Science learning we have completed both Sound and Electricity units as well as making Torches and Pavilions in DT.

We have also covered Scratch in Computing and Still Life in Art.



## Collage Creations

In English, we created information reports all about polar bears based on the narrative we read, 'Leaf' by Sandra Dieckmann. We used the internet and non-fiction books to research facts about a polar bears habitat, diet and appearance and presented these using the correct structural features. Finally, we published our work using collage materials.





## MORE THAN CLUB!

The purpose of the More Than Club is to ensure the importance of good attendance is promoted to the whole school community. The focus of the initiative is to promote the benefits of attending school regularly rather than the consequences of non-attendance. Our ethos is 'We are more than just a school.'

### Why is attending school important?

Pupils with good attendance are more likely to do well at school. When pupils miss school, even for a short period of time, it can lead to gaps in their learning which might make future lessons more difficult for them.

Regular attendance helps pupils to feel part of the school community and enables them to develop good relationships with their peers and other members of the school community. This can have positive impact on their wellbeing and help them to feel more settled in school.

When a pupil attend school everyday, it helps to establish good routines and habits for their later life.

### Why is it important that my child attends school on time?

When children are late to school, they may initially feel unsettled and will miss vital learning. Schools are required to record late arrivals. If pupils arrive after the start of school 8:45am, it will be recorded as a late mark (L code). If pupils arrive after the register closes at 9:15am then their morning mark will be recorded as an unauthorised absence (U code).

### **We are more than just a school**

**We are a place to play, feel safe and belong**



**We are a wealth of enrichment opportunities**



**We are an arena of championship sports**



**We are a library of adventures**



**We are the preparation for future success**



Attendance above **96%**?

**You're what makes us more than a school**

**Time to join the 'More Than' Club.**

The More Than Club will celebrate good attendance for individual pupils each week through awarded them with a certificate and a treat. Half termly a class in EYFS, Key Stage 1, Lower Key Stage 2 and Upper Key Stage 2 with the most improved attendance will enjoy a class celebration. Then each term if a child's attendance is above:

- 98% at the end of the Autumn Term – Hot Dog Party
- 97% at the end of Spring term – Pizza Party
- 96% at the end of Summer Term- Ice Cream Parlor



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