



SACRISTON
ACADEMY

SPRING NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022

WELCOME to our spring newsletter

This term we celebrated our glowing Ofsted report which highlights our commitment to providing our children with the best education possible in a fantastic learning environment. We are absolutely thrilled and could not be prouder of our community school and are so pleased that the dedication of our staff and families has finally been recognised! Our children are incredibly proud of their school and have told me on many occasions, "we are the best of the best." I wholeheartedly agree!

This term, we have welcomed lots of visitors into school including Adam Bushnell, Kevan Jones MP and Lord Russell. We have also celebrated World Wildlife Day, World Book Day and British Science Week. Sir David

Attenborough has even been in touch this term – how many schools can say that!?

We hope this newsletter gives you a snapshot of the many wonderful learning opportunities our pupils experience. Finally, could I take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support. Have a wonderful Easter break and we look forward to sharing a jam-packed calendar of events in the summer term.

Annalei Bartlett
Headteacher



'ALWAYS!' children

After discussions with our children and families we were delighted to announce our new, highest accolade in school – 'ALWAYS'.

Children who receive an award ALWAYS:

- give 100% in everything they do
- follow school rules
- are kind and considerate to others
- are a great friend
- are polite and well mannered.

The award includes a treasured, personalised teddy, a certificate and afternoon tea with Mrs Bartlett.



Learning with the Lords: Lord Russell

This term our Young Leaders had the fantastic opportunity of learning with a Lord - Lord Russell.

The session began with a short introduction to the role of a Lord. The children were then able to ask Lord Russell a variety of questions covering a wide variety of topics ranging from climate change, school

funding and what life is like in The House of Lords. Our young leaders loved hearing about the laws currently being debated and how they can have their say in the world of politics.



British Science Week

The theme of this year was 'growth' - a very relevant topic here at Sariston Academy!

Pupils learned about growth linked to science in many ways - the obvious growth of plants and animals, but more unusually, the growth of buildings such as the Eiffel Tower which in the summer months grows 15cm.

Jake knew all about this saying: "It's the heat that makes the metal expand and in winter when it's cold it will go back to its size and contracts."

Our children learned about the key qualities of a scientist and how stereotypes are being 'smashed'.

Our aim is to inspire our young learners to think differently about what it means to be a scientist and get them thinking about science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) as potential future jobs and aspirations!

IMPORTANT DATES

for your diary

25 APR - Back to school

02 MAY - Bank holiday

26 MAY - Break up for half term

Please keep checking our website and social media channels for the latest updates.



An assembly with Adam

We had the pleasure of welcoming author Adam Bushnell into school once again this term.



Adam started the day with an assembly which allowed us all to get involved in the retelling of Theseus and the Minotaur. Throughout the day, Adam worked with each class in school telling stories and sharing top tips for writing. Some activities included: story telling with Year 1; Stone Age writing in Year 3 and writing from different perspectives in Year 6!



Were social!

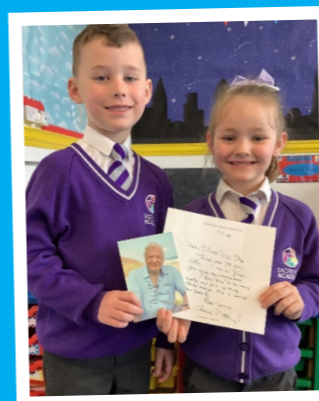
Follow our social media accounts to stay up to date with all of the latest news from around the Academy!



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A letter from Sir Attenborough!

After our wonderful wildlife lessons pupils wrote to Sir David Attenborough to let him know how much they had learned about animals and our environment, and how much they enjoyed his amazing documentaries.

We were astounded when we received a response! Pupils received a signed photograph and a letter responding to some of the questions they had asked. We are so delighted and feel very lucky to have received this letter from such an inspiring person who teaches everyone how to look after the world.



A visit from Kevan Jones MP

We were delighted to welcome Kevan Jones MP to our school this term to congratulate us on our fantastic Ofsted report.

The children were eager to share why they love their school, from wonderful reading opportunities, excellent resources, teachers who care and learning that is exciting.

The children also explained to Kevan that they are Sacriston Stars because they are kind to all, and never give up. Kevan and Biff (his dog), were delighted to meet our children and were very proud of everything our wonderful school has achieved.



Chinese New Year

This term saw the Chinese New Year roll in which is the year of the Tiger.

Early Years learnt all about Chinese New Year and listened to a story about how the animals were chosen by the Emperor to represent each year.

The children also had fun in class making tigers with play dough and using shredded paper dipped into paints to

print a mane on a dragon.

They even tried their hand at writing numbers in Mandarin and so much more. They finished off the morning parading through school dressed as a Chinese Dragon with accompanying music.





Caught in the act

To celebrate our love of reading we challenged our children to read in the most unusual places they could think of. I am sure you will agree that the children have been incredibly inventive!



Bullseye!

Year 3 and 4 were treated to an archery session Durham Schools Sports Partnership.

The classes kicked off by discussing the importance of safety when practising with bows and arrows. Pupils used their listening skills to know when to shoot and when to collect the arrows. Pupils then mastered the correct stance and handling of the equipment, before working on their shooting skills. Some children even managed to hit a bullseye!

Record breaking fun

Did you know that the Guinness World Record for a Curly Wurly stretch is 4.26 meters?

It was accomplished under three minutes by Tracy Sullivan in Frome in 2015. Across school, our children were set the challenge: How far can you 'grow' your Curly Wurly? This challenge helped our children understand more about a material's elasticity, while having fun and winning a treat at the end.

