



SACRISTON
ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER DEC 2023



WINTER

A message from our headteacher...

As we come to the close of another exciting term, it's a joy to reflect on the achievements and shared experiences that have made this term so special.

Our pupils have truly excelled in their learning, showcasing unwavering dedication and resilience. The love of learning at Sacriston Academy is a true testament to their commitment to being a Sacriston Star! The remarkable efforts of our pupils in all lessons have cultivated an inspiring atmosphere of achievement within our school walls. Their commitment to personal and academic growth has been truly commendable.

Beyond academic accomplishments, our pupils have embraced community engagement, participating in the village Remembrance Sunday events for example, that reflect the core values of compassion and empathy instilled at Sacriston Academy.

Continued overleaf...



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Stars light up the community!

Our Sacriston stars performed beautifully at our local Christmas light switch on event.



Children in Need 2023

This term we raised money for a great cause once again.



Sporting success

Our superstars have been back on the field doing an amazing job this term.



Roald Dahl Day

Everyone marked beloved children's author Roald Dahl this term.

Life Skills Club

This term we launched our new Life Skills Club that aims to build life skills to help children develop sound judgement and good habits for long-term stability, wellness, and success.

The first session kicked off with developing communication skills, team building and critical thinking. The group had so much fun, especially supporting our younger children and guiding them.

The session ended with everyone practising fastening shoelaces, a skill all of the children said they wanted to learn! We are so pleased with how they have progressed over the term!



Christmas around the globe

In Japan, people still gather to enjoy a meal on Christmas Day, although it's very different to our roast dinner - they tuck into a Christmas KFC feast! In 2016, it's estimated around 3.6 million Japanese families celebrate the Christmas holiday with a KFC.

In Germany, on 5th December, German children leave a boot or a shoe outside their bedroom door. When they wake up, if they've been good, they'll find their shoe filled with sweets! If not, they'll open their door to find a branch...



Head's message continued...

We have also extended a warm welcome to the new faces, both staff and pupils, who have joined our school family this term. Their enthusiasm for learning has injected a refreshing energy into our school environment. Reception and Nursery, have settled into routines well, laying a solid foundation for the educational journey that lies ahead.

As the holiday season approaches, our school has been abuzz with festive spirit. From the mischievous escapades of Buddy the Elf to the heart-warming melodies of our School Choir at the Christmas lights switch-on, the joy of the season is palpable throughout Sacriston Academy.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to our dedicated pupils, supportive parents, and exceptional staff for making this term a resounding success. Wishing you all a joyous holiday season and a well-deserved break!

L Parks

Louise Parks,
Headteacher



Lighting up the community

Our Sacriston Stars wowed the community during our local light switch on at the beginning of December.

Our wonderful Key Stage 2 choir performed a number of special Christmas songs for everyone and captivated the audience with their fabulous voices. The group represented our school brilliantly and gave everyone a lovely show.

Great job everyone!



Christmas to do list

We've put together a checklist full of festive fun to enjoy during the Christmas holidays.

- Watch a Christmas film
- Wrap a present with an adult
- Drink a hot chocolate with cream and marshmallows
- Go on a winter walk and pay attention to what you can see, hear and smell
- Play a board game with your family
- Listen to a Christmas song and sing along
- Make a Christmas card
- Wish someone a Merry Christmas!

Anti-Bullying Week

This term everyone marked Anti-Bullying week by taking part in a series of activities which highlighted the importance of reporting any bullying concerns and standing up for people.

The children all showed a brilliant understanding of who their trusted adults are and who they can talk to if they need someone.



Moving and grooving!

Our Nursery and Reception children began their fundamental movement lessons this term and what an amazing start they made!

The children showed not only how they can copy movements but how they can extend them too. The children have done a great job of following instructions during their learning and how to safely use space while they are in our school hall.



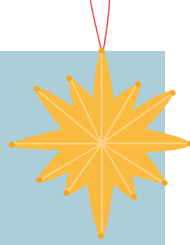
Brilliant breaktimes

Our fantastic play leaders gave out playground equipment and set up activities for children across school to enjoy at playtime!

All our play leaders are now having weekly training on games to play with the other children and are loving their new roles. The group helped build new equipment today and got stuck in helping the other children have fun.



Fabulous football



Team Sacriston kicked off their Autumn league campaign with two 1-0 wins back in October.

The team's winning streak didn't stop there as they've pulled some brilliant performances out the bag since then, including a 2-0 win!

Our girls' football team have also had a term full of success. They recently finished the term on a massive high after securing a 4-0 win!

We look forward to seeing how our sporty stars get on next term.



DATES

FOR YOUR DIARY

19 DEC - Break up for Christmas

04 JAN - Back to school

16 FEB - Break up for half term

26 FEB - Back to school

Did you know?

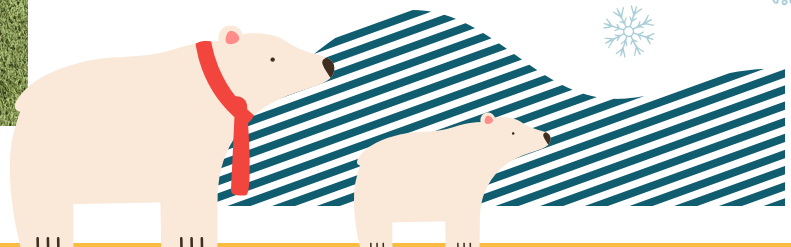
In Columbia, Little Candles' Day, or Día de las Velitas, marks the start of the Christmas season. Locals across the country place candles and paper lanterns on show in their windows, balconies and front yards and over the years, the tradition has evolved and now entire towns and cities are lit up around this time of year.

In Germany, every year on the evening of the 5th December, German children leave a boot or a shoe outside their bedroom door. When they wake up, if they've been good, they'll find their shoe filled with sweets! If not, they'll open their door to find a branch...



Chill out club

Chill Out Club is in full swing! The group played games, coloured in, played table football and built a Duplo tower as tall as Mrs Maw - well done everyone!



Roald Dahl Day

In September, Our Sacriston Stars celebrated Roald Dahl Day! As always, our children enjoyed an array of events centred around the iconic author on his birthday.

Reception and Nursery loved listening to Fantastic Mr Fox before making their own fox masks. The classes also worked as a team to create a colourful fantastic Mr Fox using printing with cotton reels!

Year 1 celebrated by learning all about the Enormous Crocodile. The group read the story, moved liked crocodiles and did lots of crafts to make their own enormous crocodiles!

Year 2 read George's Marvellous Medicine and learned about all the horrible ingredients George put in

his mixtures. Pupils were tasked with designing their own recipes and filling their 'cauldrons' with interesting ingredients for exciting effects.

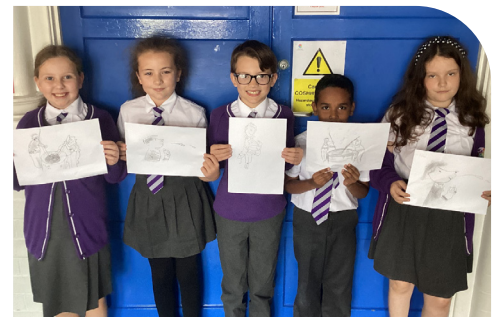
Children in Year 3 spent the afternoon designing their own sweets inspired by Willy Wonka in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

Year 4 marked Roald Dahl day by reading parts of Matilda. The group thought about the key moments in the story and acted them out in small groups and really enjoyed performing them to each other! The class discussed the characters of Miss Trunchbull and Miss Honey and drew portraits of them.

Year 5 read Boy, a book about Roald Dahl's childhood. The group

decided to take a closer look at some of the amazing illustrations which are in the autobiography. The class chose some drawings and had a go at sketching them in the style of Quentin Blake.

Year 6 focused their Roald Dahl day around the book 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. The group read extracts from the book and discussed their favourite characters and events within the narrative. After that, the class took part in art activities based around their favourite characters. The group recreated some character drawings from the book itself before creating a silhouette of Willy Wonka and his famous sweets.



Remembrance Sunday

Two of our Year 6 pupils joined Sacriston residents for a Remembrance Sunday in November.

Our two pupils read the poem 'In Flanders Fields' and lay the poppy wreath from all of the staff and children at Sacriston. The children were nothing short of fantastic, true Sacriston stars.



International Day of Languages

To celebrate European Languages Day this term, children across school took part in different themed lessons and activities to mark the occasion.

In Year 1, pupils learned about all things French. They listened to French accordion music, discovered where France is on a map and mastered saying "Hello, my name is..." in French!

Year 2 spent the week learning some Italian. The group were taught some basic phrases and numbers to 10. They then had a whistle-stop tour of Italy's culture and history, culminating in designing their own pizzas with a range of healthy toppings.

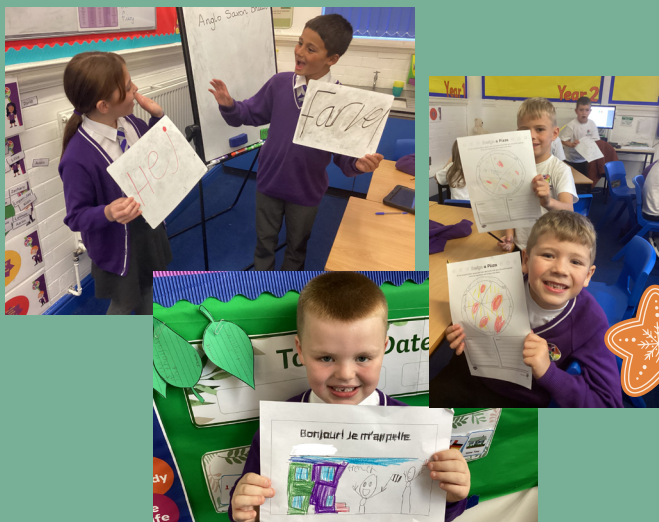
Year 3 explored the Greek language. The class began by discussing the location of Greece on a map, before practising saying some Greek greetings, such as hello and goodbye. Once they had mastered them, they moved on to Greek nursery rhymes and had a great time singing Twinkle Twinkle Little Star.

Year 4 looked at Denmark and created an impressive fact file including information on the Danish flag.

Year 5 learned different phrases in Greek before creating an information poster welcoming people to Greece and including some of these phrases.

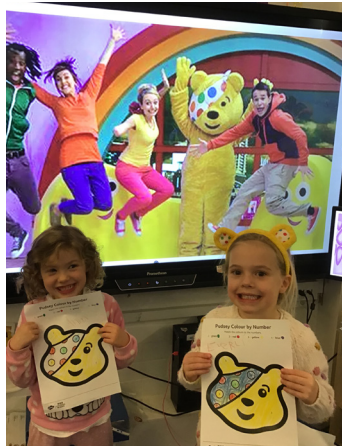
Year 6 delved into Germany's language by learning phrases and numbers. The group then created a worksheet named 'All about me' and wrote in German sentences.

C'était une super journée (It was a great day!)



Meet Dolly

Meet Dolly the therapy dog! This term we welcomed Dolly into school to enjoy a relaxing afternoon with our students who read stories to her and gave her a lot of love! The group can't wait to see Dolly again next week - well done everyone!



Children in Need 2023

This term everyone at Sacriston Academy had a 'spotacular' time celebrating Children in Need! Staff and pupils all stuck to this year's theme wearing spots and completing the 'bearpee' challenge. Thank you for all your kind donations for such a good cause!

