



SACRISTON  
ACADEMY

# NEWSLETTER

APR  
2023



# SPRING

## A message from our Headteacher...

**Spring is the shortest term of the school year but it has still been very busy!**

We have welcomed a number of visitors into school this term who have all commented on our well behaved and hardworking children as well as the warm feeling that is evident throughout the school. I could not be prouder of their comments.

In staff news, we celebrated the birth of Miss Ayton's daughter – Sofia, and she even paid us a visit to school. Congratulations also to Mrs Cossey who became a grandma last month.

Ms Freeguard leaves us at the end of the spring term and is very lucky to be travelling the world for a while. Ms Freeguard has many roles across school but is most well known for her passion in supporting our Key Stage 1 children to improve their reading skills. She will be a huge miss to our Sacriston Academy family and we wish her the very best of luck.

Have a lovely Easter break and here's hoping for some warm weather and sunshine!

*L Parks*

**Mrs Louise Parks, Headteacher**

## In this issue...



### World Book Day

We saw the return of the much loved event this term and were wowed by everyone's costumes.



### British Science Week

Pupils celebrated all things science in this popular national event.



### Lots of fun!

Our Sacriston Stars have had a great term packed full of knowledge and even some trips outside the classroom!

# Reception in full bloom



Reception children have been learning all about the butterfly life cycle this term.

The class created their own butterflies using a range of different materials and techniques such as painting, folding, and twisting pipe cleaners. The group worked hard to follow the different steps to make their brilliant butterfly creations.

# The wheels on the bus

Year 3 had an amazing afternoon at their multi-skills festival at Maiden Castle this term.

The group learned how to play basketball, worked together in problem-solving games and even got to try out some street dancing. The class enjoyed every minute of the adventure, including the bus ride!



# World Book Day 2023

At the beginning of March, we were once again delighted to celebrate World Book Day.

We started our day with a whole school assembly where pupils were greeted with fictional characters including Spider-Man, Elsa and The Very Hungry Caterpillar!

Throughout the day, all pupils took part in a range of exciting activities including recreating artwork from the illustrations of the book, *We're All Wonders*, spending time reading to different children from different classes and even taking part in live lessons with real authors!

To add to the excitement, each class visited our new school libraries, where pupils can read their book in a comfortable environment and check-out any book they want to take home.





# Faith at spring

As a predominantly Christian country, most of the UK celebrates **Easter** during the spring time to mark the resurrection of Jesus after his crucifixion. Each year, Easter Sunday takes place on a different date - the first Sunday after the full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox.

**Passover**, a spring holiday in the Jewish calendar, also takes place in spring. Passover celebrates the Biblical story of the Israelites' escape from slavery in Egypt. It is tradition to eat a special bread that does not contain yeast (unleavened bread) called matzo. You must have speed on your side when making matzo as the bread begins to rise after 18 minutes!

**Ramadan** is celebrated by those who follow Islam and this year it's from the end of March to the end of April. Those who celebrate Ramadan practice fasting, prayer, reflection and celebrating community. Food can only be eaten after sunset or just before dawn, meaning many families create plentiful feasts to enjoy after daylight hours.



# Musical marvels

This term Year 4 have continued to learn to play the cello and viola and have started listening to a range of different songs and appraising them. The group chose 'Three Little Birds' to begin learning and have been focusing on finding the correct notes and playing these back to our music teacher.



# Online safety

This term we marked Safer Internet Day at Sacriston Academy and this year's theme 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'.

In assembly everyone spoke about how sometimes people can be unkind online and that sometimes information shared online is not always the truth. Linking to this year's theme, the group talked about what they should do if they ever feel worried about something that has happened online. Our digital leaders and art leaders have spent time creating posters to reinforce this around school.

# A walk with wildlife

The weather is getting warmer and the days brighter, so why not take a walk out in the fresh air with a grown up during the holidays?

See how many things you can find on your walk from our spring checklist:

- Daffodils
- Birds
- Trees
- Shapes in the clouds
- A rabbit
- Insects
- A snail
- A worm



# British Science Week

We celebrated British Science Week with a special assembly talking about the connections between science and other subjects. Each year group looked at topics that related to biology, physics or chemistry and saw how they linked to subjects like art, history and technology.



## Easter jokes

**What's an Easter bunny's favourite sport?**

*Basketball*

**Why don't rabbits get hot in the summer?**

*They have hare conditioning*

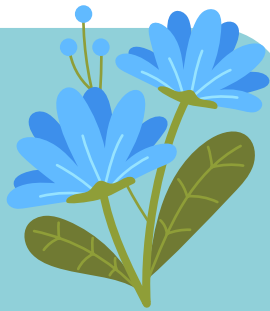
**What do you call a transformer bunny?**

*Hop-timus Prime*

**Why does the rabbit bring toilet paper to the party?**

*Because he is a party pooper*

## Global Easter traditions



In the UK, hot cross buns are eaten to represent the crucifixion of Jesus. We also see supermarkets packed with Easter eggs - did you know in 2021, we spend a whopping £299 million on them!?

Some North Western European communities kick off Easter celebrations by enjoying a bonfire while people from Italy often gather for firework displays which dates back over 350 years!

In the city of Antigua Guatemala people mark Easter by covering the streets in colourful carpets to prepare for the Good Friday procession through the city.

What is your favourite Easter tradition?

# DATES

for your diary

**31 MAR - Break up for Easter**

**18 - APR - Back to school**

**01 MAY - Bank holiday**

**08 MAY - Bank holiday**



## Bubble-tastic

This term our Nursery children looked at ways to create bubbles and had lots of fun blowing through straws to make their bubbles as big as possible. The class were very happy with their results and had even more fun popping them!

## It's an enigma!

This term Year 6 welcomed Liz from Bletchley Park into school to help them with their topic, Britain at War.

Liz brought with her an Enigma machine that was actually used by the Germans in World War II to transmit coded messages. An Enigma machine allows for billions of ways to encode a message that made it incredibly difficult for other nations to crack during the war.

Liz demonstrated how it worked and the group were amazed at the intricate details inside the machine. The class also got to see a virtual tour of Bletchley Park while Liz explained its importance during WWII. Before Liz left, she held a special assembly for other pupils to share her knowledge.







# WHAT WOULD DAVID DO?

Is your child an eco champion? We're launching a new eco-campaign in school to encourage all students to join our exclusive What Would David Do? (WWDD) club, where membership is reserved for our most eager energy experts, resolute recyclers and superior species savers.



←  
**MERCH!**

Your child is in with a chance of bagging this year's must-have uniform embellishment if they can prove that they have worked hard to save energy, reduce waste and improve the environment around school and at home.

Students (even sixth formers!) across the North East Learning Trust will be sent one of our limited edition pins and certificates at the end of each term if they can prove that they are an eco champion.

Is there anything you can do at home to help them bag one of our recycled wooden David Attenborough pins?

## HOW TO WIN A BADGE:

START AN ECO INITIATIVE

SHOW PROOF OF YOUR ENERGY SAVING

SHARE ECO IDEAS OR PROJECTS + MORE

### How to apply:

Your child will need to download an application form and fill it in (including a signature from their teacher) before sending it to NELT Head Office. At the end of term our eco champions will be decided and their place in the WWDD club confirmed with the delivery of their certificate and pin.

Visit: [nelt.co.uk/WWDD](http://nelt.co.uk/WWDD)



North East  
Learning Trust