



# Skelton

## PRIMARY SCHOOL

**BELONG - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE**



**Newsletter - Friday March 7th 2025**



The sun has been shining, the birds have been singing and our pupils have been working hard - spring has finally arrived! We have had a very enjoyable fortnight: Pancake Day, the hatching of our chicks, a birthday sheep(!), a book tasting with our grown-ups, the start of some new lunch clubs (Code Club! Art Club! Book Club!) and World Book Day in our pyjamas!



Our diligent School Council is meeting virtually next Tuesday with their counterparts at Burton Green and Forest of Galtres to decide on plans for

Red Nose Day (Friday 21st March - the date on the previous newsletter was an error). They will send out a letter with all their grand plans once it has been decided. Our next newsletter will be a Reading Newsletter by our new Reading Ambassadors. Their job is to raise the profile of reading in school and help us further develop a culture of reading for pleasure in school. They did a brilliant job presenting our World Book Day assembly so they are off to a great start. Stay tuned for more exciting reading plans! We hope you enjoy reading more about what we have been up to in the rest of the newsletter.

Ms El Oakley and the Skelton Team



## **Looking ahead: key messages and reminders**

### **Reading Records and the Reading Chart**

We want all pupils at Skelton to love reading - to discuss books, make recommendations and develop an intrinsic motivation to read. The reading chart and monitoring of reading records absorbed valuable time that we want teachers to spend with your children. We have therefore taken the decision to pause the reading chart and reading records. Instead, we want to incentivise pupils to be excited about their books and engage in discussion about them. This means that pupils will be asked to bring in evidence of their reading that enables them to show their understanding and enjoyment. Our Reading Ambassadors will tell you all about these exciting things in our upcoming reading newsletter: The Reading Ravens!

### **Woodpeckers Staffing Update**

We are pleased to inform you that Ms Fry will be beginning her phased return to work the week commencing March 17th. This will involve some small group work with the children and a gradual return to teaching in the weeks leading up to the Easter holidays. To maintain consistency for the pupils, Miss Darvill will also remain with the class during this period.

### **Lost property**

From this point, any unnamed clothing that is removed by children will be named by staff. We will use a Sharpie to write on the label. If you would prefer to use your own labels, please do this as soon as possible.

### **External Achievements**

Please bring in any achievements that happen outside of school so that we can celebrate these in our Achievement Assembly (Wednesdays). Please speak to the class teacher or email [hello@ske.hslt.academy](mailto:hello@ske.hslt.academy) to let us know.

## **Dispatches from Robins**

We are learning all about growing in Ducklings and Robins! We asked our friends what they are looking forward to:



"I'm looking forward to seeing the chicks hatch!" - D

"I'm looking forward to seeing my cress head grow more." - C

We also asked what they have enjoyed learning about!

"I've been learning about the parts of a plant. Roots grow down, stems grow up." - J

"I'm enjoying learning about 9 and 10." - E

Here's what else we have been up to - and a funny joke!

"We've been growing our own bean plants. Some of them are so tall; we think we'll be able to climb them like Jack!"

"I laughed at a joke at lunch time. Knock knock, who's there? A tiger. A tiger who? ROAR!"







## Dispatches from Woodpeckers

We are looking forward to our new maths unit mass, capacity and temperature. We will be participating in lots of practical activities and looking forward to learning new information. We are also very excited for Red Nose Day and Science Week. We might even get some special sea monkey visitors.....



In history, we have been learning about the Victorian period. We learnt all about how teachers used to be really strict and children didn't even have a playground! The children would have to wear a dunce cap if they were disrespectful and would even receive the cane.

In science, we have been learning all about vertebrates and their different characteristics. Did you know a whale and dolphin are actually mammals and a bat is a mammal too?! We have started a new story in English called the Bear and the Piano! It is a story about a bear who

travels to the city to perform in theatres but misses his home and friends in the forest.

On World Book Day, Miss Naylor made lots of silly voices when reading us Chocolate Cake and when Mrs Wilson read The World's Worst Teachers! We also enjoyed reading all the books at the book tasting this week - especially The Book with No Pictures. Some of the class have also discovered a fairy house outside - the fairies often leave nice messages for the class.



## Dispatches from Owls

We are looking forward to finishing our class news report, PE (gymnastics), playing football, learning more about Romans, and our computing lessons so we can finish our websites! We are currently enjoying:

- swimming "because I enjoy practising and I learnt that water polo uses a foam ball which can flood and get heavy!". "
- learning about volcanoes "a fun fact is that there are 4 different types of volcano - stratovolcano, shield, cinder cone and magma dome". "
- writing "I enjoy making my handwriting neater."



We have been writing a newspaper report about the eruption of Pompeii. We took a rope outside to understand exactly what perimeter is in maths. In science, we took a range of objects outside to see about the

shiny surfaces and put them in order of how reflective they are. We have been reading Malamander which we find interesting and funny - it's slightly scary and mysterious. We liked when Mr Barker was holding a shield to show us shield volcanoes. During learning, Mr Barker made me laugh because of his face. Mr Barker is very animated when he teaches with actions. The way we learn to remember words is by using fun sounds and silly voices. We also learnt about science variables by imagining a funny experiment where Mr Barker was in an oven. We also learned the independent variable song. We love games at playtime with the skipping rope - they are fun. We liked it when a bottle was used to show the different eruptions: effusive and explosive.



## Dispatches from Kingfishers

We are looking forward to:

- the girl's football match on Friday (Principal's Note: this has had to be rescheduled due to the rain overnight!)
- World Book Day because we can come to school in our pyjamas all day!
- Pancake Day because we get to have pancakes for snack!
- We are SO excited to see the chicks in Robins. Hopefully we can see them with our buddies and it will help us with our farming topic in Geography.

We love art at the moment with Mrs Wilson because we are learning about graffiti and even got to produce our own pieces of graffiti in our books! Some of them were fantastic! Science is fun at the moment because we are doing lots of practicals, including filtration, evaporation and sieving different materials. Y6s have really enjoyed learning about algebra, especially the super tricky SATs questions!

We went to the theatre to see an adaptation of The Tempest. There was a LOT of Shakespearean language but we loved the fun costumes and especially, the character Caliban because he was really funny, particularly at the start when he was pretending to be an owl. We really enjoy visits as a class. We have also started a new topic in PE which is gymnastics. We are really loving creating routines with rolls, jumps and transitions. Some of us have surprised ourselves with our skills!

When we went to see The Tempest it reminded us of when A did an amazing 'modern-day' impression of Prospero having a conversation with Miranda. It was not very factual to The Tempest but was very funny and imaginative!

## The Skelton Spotlight

This week, we have chosen to interview Mrs Hunter!

**How long have you worked at Skelton?**

2 years!

**Who was the first member of staff you met?**

Miss Chaplin greeted me very nicely at the door - she was very kind and welcoming (Robins like Miss Chaplin too!).

**What was your favourite book when you were little?**

I have always loved reading Hairy MacLary. It is still one of my favourite books - we even have some of the





cat versions as well!

**What's your favourite movie?**

This is tricky - Paddington!

**What's your favourite food?**

If I was off out for tea, I would get spinach and ricotta cannelloni!

**What did you want to be when you grew up?**

I used to want to be a vet, then a teacher! I love being a teacher - it's magic. *(One Robin asked: is it because of the spinny chairs?)*

**What's your secret talent?**

I can cut hair!

**Why did you want to work at Skelton?**

It has lots of lovely children and the staff I work with are absolutely incredible too! I really like our values - they resonate with me.

**Where's your favourite place?**

The seaside! I like to be sat on the sand. (Robins like the beach too!)

**What do you like to do to relax?**

I like to read a book! A book and a cup of tea is the best.

### Dates for your diary

Please see all important dates below. Further dates, such as sporting fixtures, are in the process of being confirmed. We will inform parents via the newsletter when further dates are added.

### Spring Term

Date	Focus	Time and place
<b>w/c 17th February Half Term</b>		
<b>Tuesday 25th February 2025</b>	Kingfishers The Tempest RSC York Theatre Royal	AM York Theatre Royal
<b>Tuesday 4th March 2025</b>	Woodpeckers Book Tasting	8:50 - 08:15 Hall All Woodpeckers parents are invited as part of our World Book Day celebrations! Please check in with your pupil (register and lunch options) and sit down to try out a new book with some juice and pastries. £2 per child.
<b>Thursday 6th March 2025</b>	World Book Day	Wear pyjamas!

		Further decisions to be made by our new Reading Ambassadors.
<b>Friday 7th March 2025</b>	KS2 Girls Football Tournament	Y3/4 10:00 -12:00 Y 5/6 12:45 -2:45
<b>w/c 10th March</b>	British Science Week	Events in school
<b>Monday 10th March 2025</b>	Living Eggs arrive in Robins!	Robins classroom
<b>Tuesday 11th March 2025</b>	Woodpeckers Reading Workshop	08:50 - 09:15 Hall (Y2) and Woodpeckers classroom (Y1) All Woodpeckers parents are invited. We will complete some activities that reflect your child's learning and deliver some information about how to best support them at school.
<b>Friday 21st March 2025</b>	Red Nose Day	Celebrations to be decided by School Council
<b>w/c 17th March 2025</b>	Switched On: Rail Safety	In school
<b>Monday 17th March 2025</b>	Parents' Evening Reception - Y6	Hall (Letters to follow)
<b>Wednesday 19th March 2025</b>	$\frac{3}{4}$ Netball Match (new)	More information to follow.
<b>Thursday 20th March 2025</b>	Parents' Evening Reception - Y6	Hall (Letters to follow)
<b>Monday 31st March 2025</b>	Robins Trip to Grasslands	n/a
<b>Friday 4th April 2025</b>	Last day of school Non-Uniform day - charity fundraising	Charity to be decided by school council
<b>Easter Holidays</b>		
<b>Monday 21st April 2025</b>	Back to School	n/a