



Parish Press Newsletter 18.10.24

What a fantastic half term we have had at Gainsborough Parish School! Thank you to all those parents who attended our Parents' Evening this week and took the time to really engage with their child's learning journey, working together to make sure all our children are happy, safe and learning. The children have really excelled across the curriculum this Autumn term and we are so proud of all their achievements. Our newsletter is again packed with information about the things we have been learning about, as well as celebrating our Vision champions, TT Rockstars and our wonderful home readers. On behalf of all the staff, we wish you a wonderful half term - do keep safe and enjoy a wonderful holiday and we will see you on Monday 28th October.

Richest Rocker (this week)

Class	Highest Earner
Miss Hensby's Class	Layla
Miss Green's Class	Emelia
Miss Brown's Class	Lenny
Miss White's Class	Christabel
Mr Anderson's Class	Olivia B
Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Marshall's Class	Amelia

1 - Huge well done to our Richest Rockers this week! I wonder who we will be celebrating next week! ✨🏆

Black History Month







We have really enjoyed learning about Black History this month. October each year is called Black History Month in schools, a time to celebrate the rich cultural heritage, achievements, and contributions of Black people throughout history. It's an opportunity for students and the community to learn about key figures who have shaped history, such as Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, and Nelson Mandela, as well as modern-day leaders in various fields. Throughout the month, we encourage everyone to reflect on the ongoing journey toward equality, engage in meaningful discussions, and participate in activities that celebrate diversity and promote unity.

In Reception, we have learnt about the Yam Festivals that are celebrated in Africa and how this compares to our Harvest Festival. The children had lots of fun watching videos and learning about the history of the Yam Festival, before exploring yams (or sweet potatoes as they are known in the UK) and using our fine motor skills to peel and chop them!

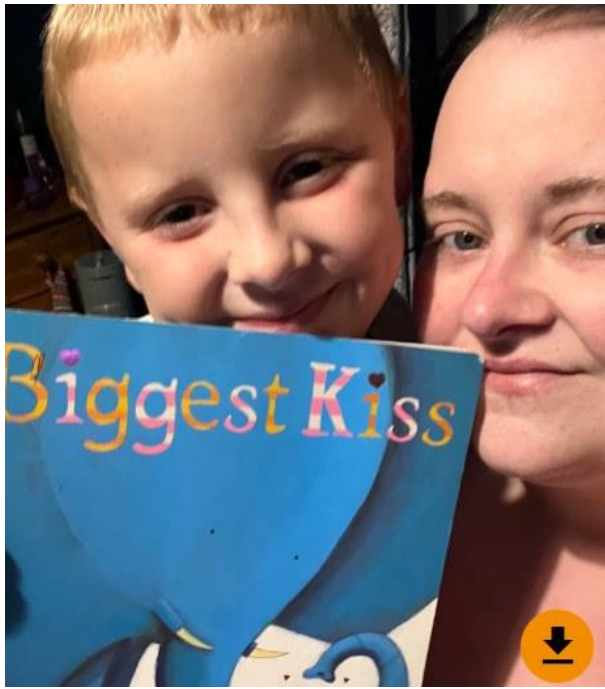
In Years 1 and 2 we looked at the extraordinary Mary Seacole, a Jamaican nurse who wanted to help Florence Nightingale's nurses in the Crimea but was told she was not needed. Mary was determined to help though, and made her own way there. The children sequenced the significant events in Mary's life and we found out that after the war, Mary's contributions were recognised by Queen Victoria. We were fascinated by her statue, which is outside St Thomas' hospital in London.

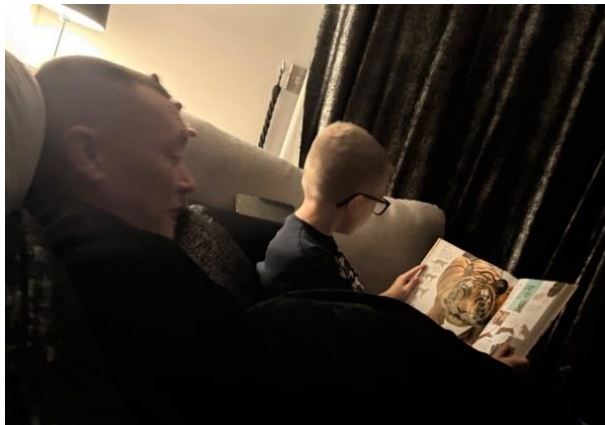
In Years 3 and 4 we have looked at the inspirational life of Alison Bennison who travelled to Barbados in 1960 to become a nurse in the NHS. We also looked at the life of Dennis Morris who followed his dream of becoming a photographer. He was originally from Jamaica and grew up in London. He photographed famous musicians including Bob Marley. We did an activity linking to our aspirations, how we can dream big and also stand up for others!

In Years 5 and 6 we have looked at the incredible Pablo Fanque! He was the first ever Black circus owner, which in Victorian times was completely unheard of. The children have used their Reading Instruction time to find out all about him and his incredible life. For example as a young performer he could stand on a horse and even somersault from one horse to another! He was always kind and fair to the performers in his circus and showed that prejudice to race and class could be overcome by talent and hard work. He is even mentioned in a Beatles song! The children have finished the week by producing the most amazing 2 page spreads about his life.

Superstar readers! ✨















Online Advice



at The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides engage and enjoy parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Crime Agency, these guides have additional advice, tips and links. For further guides, tips and tips, please visit www.nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS

The "invisibility" of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:

- U Suitable for all ages
- PG For children aged 8 and above: this content may cause concern
- PG-13 Children under the age of 13 should not watch without an adult. This content probably features bad language, smoking or alcohol
- M Suitable only for 16-year-old and above
- 18 Suitable for an adult audience, with categories explicit: themes of violence, nudity or sex

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Streamable content makes it very easy for children to watch unsuitable films without their parents' knowledge. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly with streaming platforms, and what's not on TV is often available on YouTube or other video-sharing sites. It's not always clear what's available on these sites, and what's not is often readily found on social media.

FACT VS. FICTION

Many children are still finding it difficult to distinguish between what's real and what's not. This is especially true when it comes to horror films. The children's perception of the difference between what's real and what's not is often blurred, and this can lead to anxiety and nightmares.

PEER PRESSURE

Friends and teachers can often be a source of peer pressure. Children may feel that they need to watch a film to fit in with their friends, or that they are being teased if they don't.

CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's scary for one child could be scary for another. As many children are still finding it difficult to distinguish between what's real and what's not, it's important to be aware of the potential for anxiety and nightmares.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Some children have the ability to become so immersed in a story that they lose touch with reality. This can lead to anxiety and nightmares, and in some cases, to self-harm or other harmful behaviors.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children, watch it first. This will help you to decide if it's appropriate for your child, and to decide if it's worth watching with them. If you're not sure, it's best to watch it with them.

REMEMBER - IT'S NOT REAL

It's important to remind children that the content they're watching is not real. This will help them to understand that they are safe, and that the content is just a story.

DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that they find scary, it's important to talk to them about it. Discuss the content of the film, and help them to understand that it's just a story.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Use parental controls to restrict the content that your child can watch. This will help you to ensure that they are only watching age-appropriate content.

Meet Our Expert

Julie Young is an award-winning journalist at a secondary school. She has been involved with a variety of projects for over 10 years, writing articles and reporting on a range of issues. She is a member of the National Crime Agency's WakeUpWednesday team.

WakeUpWednesday The National College

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Wonderful advice this week as always. Films have a rating for a reason at the cinema, on video/DVD or watched or streamed at home. Age ratings and film classification | BBFC¹ Around Hallowe'en children may see that certain films are advertised that they want to watch, but you decide what they can watch. With this the guidance is very clear that films should always be age-appropriate and if they are not then the child is NOT emotionally or psychologically equipped to see them.

¹<https://www.bbfc.co.uk/about-classification>

Key Stage 1 poetry morning



Our Year 1 and Year 2 children were visited by poet Paul Cookson this week. We started by listening to and joining in with his fantastic poetry performance. Then we split into workshop groups to write our own class poems!

Our poems linked to our learning this term which included Space and mini beast habitats.

We all had a brilliant morning!







Record attempt thank you!



Wonderful news today that our contribution to the Poetry World Record has been officially recognised. We wait with baited breath to see if the record attempt has made it into the record books!



**OFFICIAL
ATTEMPT**



**GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ Title Attempt for Largest Poetry Lesson
(Multiple Venues)**

I want to say a huge, HUGE thank you for EVERYTHING you did to take part in this attempt to break the GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title for Largest Poetry Lesson (Multiple Venues). Whether that was using the teaching resources in class, submitting ideas, voting during the live lesson on Zoom, or watching the lesson on YouTube Live. I could not have done this without you.

Literally.

Trying to break the record for the world's Largest Poetry Lesson would be a total failure if it was just me talking to myself!

Every single person that took part counts – and that includes YOU.

So thank you.

THANK YOU!

Now that you've taken part in this and helped create a poem that is published on the Children's Poetry Archive and will be published across the UK (including on radio, newspapers and magazines), I hope that you know that:

You are a **POET**.

And I hope that you go on to write and read lots more poems in the future.

Whatever is going on in your life, poetry can be a really useful way of exploring how you feel and what you think, connecting with others, making them laugh – and, in the case of our poem, encouraging others pause and reflect on what's really important in life.

I'm REALLY proud of our poem and I hope you are too.

Thank you.

Laura Mucha

In partnership with



Extra-Curricular Clubs

It has been fantastic to see how many children have taken part in our lunchtime and after school clubs. Our children are very lucky to have all these additional experiences provided for them. We have sorted the views on what children would like to do after half-term and we have managed to incorporate most of them into our offer for after the holidays. Please sign your child up as soon as you can on Parent Pay as places are limited and soon fill up. Please talk to your child about the commitment needed when they sign up for a club, especially at lunchtimes.

Coming up next term...



Some amazing learning has already been planned for next term!

In **Reception**, as the days grow darker we will learn all about light and how it is special to different people, starting with learning about the festival of Diwali. As the term progresses, we will learn about what nocturnal means and about how some animals prepare for winter. We will also be ticking off our next five at 5 experience by becoming starry eyed- more info on the way soon!

In **Years 1 and 2** we will be looking at the changes we see in our world in each season, in the weather and the physical changes around us. We will be exploring the past of our school and looking at how different it was in the past. In RE, we will be looking at the Bible and learning some of the parables that Jesus taught. We will also be preparing for our nativity performance in December, so be ready for lots of singing practise at home!

In **Years 3 and 4**, we will be looking at how the Romans invaded Britain by engaging in activities to help the children remember this time period. In RE, we will be learning about Hinduism and the important symbols connected to this religion through art and creativity. We will be linking this to our previous learning on Christianity and Islam as we explore similarities and differences between the

religions. For more exciting details on our learning journey see the website and our weekly Facebook posts!

In **Years 5 and 6** our primary focus will be on our English, using the classic book 'Holes' to support our learning. In Reading Instruction we will become more fluent readers through Free Verse poetry, Fiction texts, again using the book Holes and Non-Fiction texts using the book Colours of the World: Red Planet. In Maths will with be continuing with our Division work, before starting on Fractions and Shape. Science will be rounded off for the term with Plant and Animal lifecycles, whilst in History we find out what the Egyptians actually believed. Our Religious Education learning journey takes us into Hinduism with a Hindu experience day already booked in, with Personal Social Health and Economic Education looking at how our friendships change as we grew older. Music will be led by our visiting talented musician, allowing our children to reach the very top notes of their angels voices when singing. To link our Design and Technology to our History topic we shall producing the greatest shadoofs know to all of Egypt. In French we shall be able to talk about where we live and continuing to work on our pronunciation. Through the medium of technology our Computing learning will focus on Creating Media and Video production, popcorn at the ready. To support our physical wellbeing the children will show their talents in the areas of Basketball and Gymnastics. There will of course be daily spelling lessons and time for the children to improve and develop their handwriting. At the end of the term we will deepen our learning of and embrace the Christian festival of Christmas. This will include praying for modern day peace in the area around Bethlehem, the birth place of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ.

Vision Champions



A wonderful well done to our Vision Champions! Not only have they been showing our Core Four values of Community, Dignity, Hope and Wisdom, but also our special value this term of Friendship.

The children celebrated this week are:

- Cole Bartle and Holly-Ann White
- Mia McGill and Charlie Houldcroft
- Cayden-Scott Harrison and Skyla Antingham
- Bella-Rose Connelly and Reggie Skirrow
- Emelia Snell and Jacob Hands
- Tiernan Plumtree and Reilly Battrawden

See you after half term- have a wonderful, restful week!

We wish all of our community a great half term break, we will see you back at school on Monday 28th October.