

March '23

Time flies when you're having fun and that's probably why we can't quite believe it's March already... Busy behind the scenes are Easter preparations and we're extremely fortunate to have the help and support from St James' to help deliver a thoughtful, fun and uplifting seasonal 'Stations of the Cross' walk at the end of term. The thought of chocolate and eggs is never too far away and, with the wonderful support of Ann Jackson, members of the Christian community have been hosting an Easter raffle to raise funds which will help us refresh our playground markings. Mrs Shipperd and the School Council have been consulting the whole school to decide how to best utilise the playground space and their ambitious plans look fantastic! At the end of term, St James' will once again host our regular awards celebration where pupils receive recognition for displaying our Christian star qualities and also have an opportunity to share their personal achievements. A time to shine!

The village is very proud of its Fairtrade status and school couldn't be more delighted to support this crucial accreditation. The pupils are extremely keen to embrace all aspects of the initiative and we 'kicked off' the fortnight of celebrations with a fascinating and energising assembly from Pushpanath Krishnamurthy, a climate activist with a heart of gold. His infectious message resonated throughout the school and you couldn't resist being captivated by his passion for spreading the message about climate change. Our Eco Club are always looking at ways to promote reducing waste and their latest plans have involved a uniform swap event, light monitors throughout school and World Book day costume donations. Mrs Hartropp's dedication is a fundamental driving force for environmental change at Arnside School and the pupils are empowered by the fact that their voice makes a difference.

Book week was an excellent opportunity to celebrate all things literacy and all the staff agreed it was an outstanding success. Parents and staff held special book readings and we had a fantastic visit from Mrs Igo, local author of 'Hetty the Hen', to share her book, thoughts and inspiration with the whole school. World Book Day was certainly the highlight of the week and the pupils did themselves proud; the costumes were a-ma-zing! Thank to all involved and Ms Piper for co-ordinating a wonderful week.

Who doesn't love to experiment and test out their theories? Science week provided the perfect opportunity to celebrate all things scientific and the pupils' enthusiasm to question and explore proved why it is such an intriguing area of the curriculum. Parents and carers helped inspire the pupils with presentations of their everyday work, including dormouse surveying, blue iguana conservation, micro biology, and road / bridge engineering. Who knows what our pupils may invent, explore and develop...

"The important thing is to never stop questioning." Albert Einstein.

The FOANS (Friends of Arnside School) group are extremely busy with their fundraising plans for the term ahead. After a move-busting disco in February, the team have a Mother's Day plant sale, school spruce up and Spring Fair in their sights. Their fundraising efforts make a huge difference in school and one of the main benefits are the contributions towards trips and residentials. All of our activities are subsidised which means everyone benefits directly from the generosity of the school community.

Superhero Red Nose day, AONB tree planting at Tower Farm, National Trust Ranger days, a 'Spring into Art' Leighton Hall trip, a Charanga music concert, Pupil Parliament and the ultimate 'Bear Grylls' outdoor experience at Tower Wood, is just a taster of things to come. We love it.

Take care, Mr Sharp.