

Curriculum Newsletter

Spring 2022



Rainforest visit

Years 3 and 4 had a fantastic trip to Tropical World in Roundhay. Whilst we were there, we took part in a workshop in the morning. This allowed us to explore the layers of the Amazon and what animals may live there. We also looked at animal skulls to predict what we thought they might be. In the afternoon, we explored what it is like in a rainforest biome and saw animals such as a crocodile, snakes and different types of monkeys.



Our curriculum

We are very proud of our school curriculum.



Our curriculum will:

- Raise aspirations
- Develop essential skills across all curriculum areas
- Be inclusive for all learners including disadvantaged, EAL, SEND
- Promote healthy lifestyles
- Prepare pupils for their next step in education
- Teach reading as the 'master skill'
- Provide all children with daily mathematics, reading and English

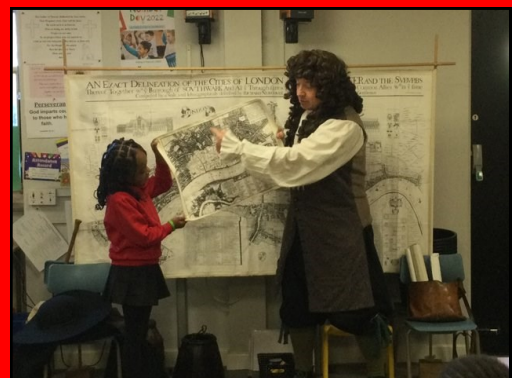
Year 2 had a visitor in this term to support with their understanding of the Great Fire of London.

Samuel Pepys friend explained how the fire started and spread, the children acted out being the fire to gain a greater understanding.

They then had to be Londoners and pass water buckets to understand how the fire was attempted to be put out.

The children had a fantastic day and learnt lots about the Great Fire of London and became part of the whole experience.

Great fire of London!

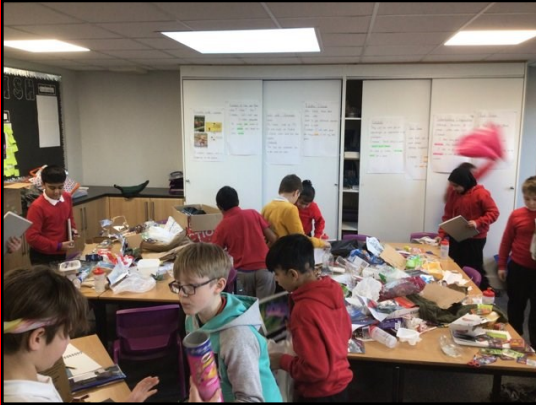


Music workshops!

Years 3 and 4 enjoyed taking part in a performance workshop using their topic of Rainforests as inspiration. We have worked with Lala from Artis all term to create some great music!



Eco Warriors!



Year 5 enjoyed sorting out the items brought into school as part of their recycled art project. Children then looked at their designs and chose materials in preparation for when they start making their animals in future weeks.

Years 5 and 6 have taken part in a zoom workshop about keeping our bodies safe and healthy. We also looked at how vaccines can help stop the spread of viruses and diseases.



Keeping safe!

Bikeability!

Year 4 and 5 enjoyed their Bikeability sessions. They learned about bicycle maintenance and either learned to ride a bike, or improve upon their existing skills.

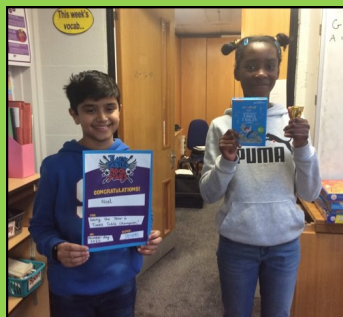




Father Michael's Leaving Service

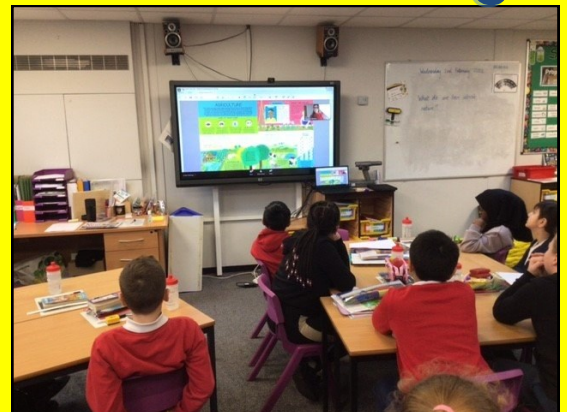
Lots of staff and children visited Church to say goodbye to Father Michael. Father Michael has been a governor at school for many years, and has worked closely with teachers and children, including our fortnightly collective worship. We will miss him and wish him all the best for his retirement!

Number day



In February, we celebrated Number day! We took part in a range of activities in school and celebrated jobs that use maths in the real world. KS2 also took part in a Times Table competition and came out in assembly to collect prizes. We dressed up as numbers and raised an amazing £274 for the NSPCC.

Climate change!



Year 5 and 6 have really enjoyed their webinar with author Georgina Stevens who has written 'Climate Action' - a new book about climate change around the world.

Homework!

We have continued to be amazed by some of the homework projects we have received, that started this year. Look at this amazing example of a rainforest made by a Year 3 child!



Balance bikes

Ks1 children learned the importance of wearing a helmet when riding a bike. The children began their training by using balance bikes to develop their balance and confidence.

They then moved on to using pedal bikes.



St Giles

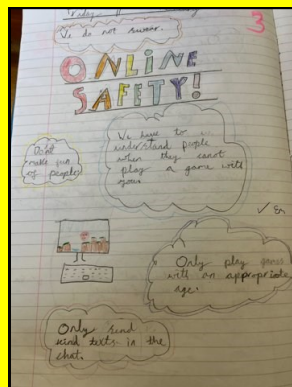


Carl from the St Giles project visited school to give a talk to Year 5. Carl discussed with the children what is required to be a responsible citizen and there was also a focus on gangs and what constitutes a gang. Carl also discussed the realities of gangs and how children need to be careful when using social media.

Online safety!

Across school, we have been finding out how to stay safe online and how to behave responsibly.

Year 3 made posters to show how we can help ourselves and others to stay safe online. Keeping safe online is a key priority for us and is discussed regularly with all children across school.



Reading Rucksacks - Reception & Key Stage 1

After half term classes 1 to 8 will be introducing their 'Reading Rucksacks' to help encourage children to read for enjoyment over the weekends.

Each weekend 2 children from each class will have the opportunity to take home the rucksack to enjoy with their grown ups.

For more information click on 'Parents' then 'Reading'.



Building workshop and books!



Years 3, 4 and 5 enjoyed an assembly, presented by Balfour Beatty, about the building industry and all the great work they are doing around Leeds to make our roads better and safer. They even got to take away their own story about a group of cones on a building site.



Book week!

We had a fantastic week at school, celebrating all things reading! The children and staff got dressed up for book day and enjoyed a range of visitors and special events at school. KS1 had a storyteller come into school, and KS2 met an author and bought signed copies of his book. We also enjoyed guessing which one of our teachers was reading to us in the Masked Reader. Reception also came to school in their pyjamas and read stories around a campfire. We also raised an impressive £266 which will be used to purchase books in school.



Stone Age

Years 3 and 4 loved taking part in the Stone Age workshop. They got the opportunity to explore some Stone Age artefacts, including antlers for tools, flints, axes and knives. They also learnt how to trap and kill a woolly mammoth and how to trade goods with other families or tribes.



Farm visit

Year 1 really enjoyed their visit to Meanwood Valley Urban Farm. We learned about composting and how compost is made. The children then collected a variety of green and brown matter, along with some minibeasts to make their own compost. We also planted some herb seeds.



Helping Ukraine

To help Ukraine in these troubling times, we have donated all of our Easter Egg raffle money to the good cause. We raised an impressive £300!



Tour of our locality

Year 2 went on a little blue bus tour of Leeds this week, just like London tourists go on a Big Red Bus tour of London. We saw, photographed and learnt about Leeds Town Hall, Leeds Arena, Leeds Kirkgate Market, the Recycling Centre and Elland Road.

The children loved the trip and got to experience what it was like to be a tourist.



School of rock!



Some children have been working with a company called Rocksteady this term. They have been learning songs and performed to their friends!

A great performance from our Rocksteady bands. They were amazing! After only 10, half hour practices, the two bands each performed a song.

A massive well done to them all for their commitment and attitude to the performance. I can't wait to see what they produce next term!

There are still places available on the Rocksteady program in the school.

If your child is in Years 4 or 5, then go to the Rocksteady website to find out how your child could become the next rock legend:

rocksteadymusicschool.com

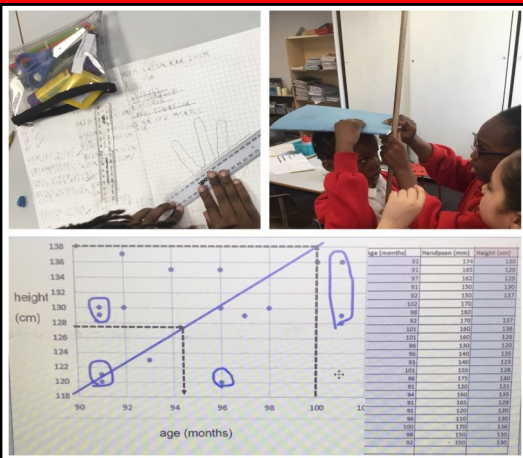
Chicks and ducklings

Nursery and Reception have been watching chicks and ducklings hatch from eggs. We saw them grow and loved having them in our classes. Children from all across school got very excited and wanted to see them too!



Science week!

This term, we took part in Science week across school. We looked at the theme of 'Growth' and took part in a range of investigations across school. We also looked at people who have jobs in science to inspire us and develop our aspirations.



Leeds United visit

Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed working with Leeds United on making right choices. Children worked in small groups throughout the workshop and developed skills in listening, participation, sharing ideas and respecting other peoples ideas.



Fire engine visit

Years 1 and 2 were very excited to be visited by our local firefighters. They brought their fire engine to school and showed us how it worked. It also helped us think about the designs for our latest DT project!

