



KNOTTY ASH
PRIMARY
SCHOOL
& DEAF RESOURCE BASE
LYDIATE
LEARNING TRUST

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 14th November

Loving Learning Together



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PRIMARY
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Latest News

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week saw us celebrate Bonfire Night together, in our now annual way. A lot of preparation goes into the evening and together with staff from Bright Park we hope you all enjoyed the evening and the fireworks. The event was bigger than ever this year and over the course of the night we welcomed 1000 visitors from the school and local community. I have included some photographs of the night below.

We also had children attending St. George's Hall last week for the annual Anti-Bullying Schools Project. This is a special event in our school calendar and one that staff and children alike take great pride in attending. Whilst there, our children performed a number of signed songs and were able to listen to key speakers discuss how bullying has affected their lives and how important it is that we all need to support each other if ever we go through difficult times in our lives. A big thank you to all of the Knotty Ash staff that organise this event, who without their hard work, this event would not happen.



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Sporting Achievements

We have two fantastic sporting achievements to tell you about this week. Firstly, our very own Frankie in Y1 has been a man in demand over the past few weeks and months. Frankie has been showcasing his football skills at most of the big clubs around the North West of England, as a transfer battle begins between these clubs! I was delighted to hear though, that Frankie attended a gifted and talented session at LFC and has been invited back. We will hopefully be seeing him in Arne Slot's starting XI soon!



I have also been contacted this week by an ex pupil of Knotty Ash, who has taken their sporting talents to the world stage. Lucas McClay, who is now 18 years old, is currently over in Turkey competing for England men's partially sighted football team in the World Cup. Lucas was an exceptionally gifted athlete when he was at Knotty Ash and it is wonderful to see that he has kept this going. Lucas is playing in the semi-final of the tournament today, so fingers crossed that England make it through to the finals on Sunday. These matches can be watched on Youtube if anyone wants to follow the progress of the team. It is also worth mentioning that Lucas is also one of the highest ranked British partially sighted tennis players and competes in this sport on the world stage too.



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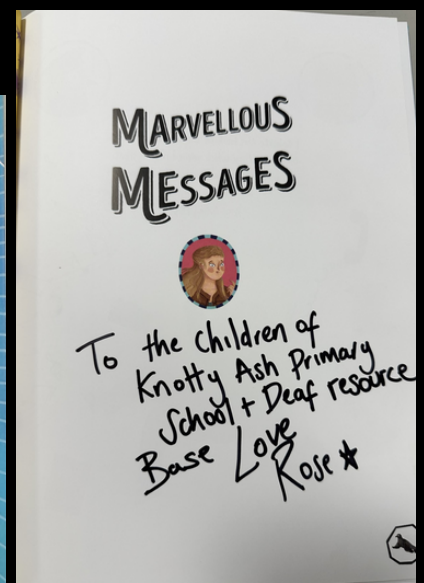
Pudsey Day

We celebrated Pudsey Day in school on Thursday and thanks to your kind donations we managed to raise over £450 for Children in Need. Thank you so much to everyone that supported us in raising this money for such a good cause.



Famous Faces

Our very own Mrs Rigg bumped into Rose Ayling-Ellis recently, as she attended her book signing over half-term. Those of you that remember, Rose won Strictly Come Dancing in 2021 and in competing in that series became the first deaf contestant on the show. She has recently released a new children's book called Marvellous Messages and kindly donated a signed copy to our school.



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School calendar - Autumn Term 2

- 19th-21st Nov - Y5/6 residential to Boggle Hole
- Week beginning 24th Nov - **Parent teacher meetings. Please ensure you have made an appointment to see your child's class teacher**
- 8th Dec - 2pm Reception class Christmas performance
- 9th Dec - Teach Rex visiting school for years 2 & 5
- 9th Dec - 9.30am Y5/6 Christmas performance
- 9th Dec - 2pm Y3/4 Christmas performance
- 10th Dec - 9.30am KS1 Christmas performance
- 10th Dec - 2pm Y5/6 Christmas performance
- 11th Dec - 9.30am Y3/4 Christmas performance
- 11th Dec - 2pm KS1 Christmas Performance
- 12th Dec - 9.30am Nursery Christmas performance
- 16th Dec - Whole school Christmas church service
- 17th Dec - Christmas dinner day
- 18th Dec - Classes Christmas parties / own clothes day
- 19th Dec - School finishes at 1.30pm for Christmas

Please be aware, the school diary is subject to change, so please keep an eye on the dates in future newsletters.



This week has been Anti-Bullying Week in schools across the country. The children in all classes have been doing different activities exploring this issue. This resulted in a wonderful assembly today in which we discussed celebrating our differences. This afternoon, I was visited in my office by Devon in Y4. After our assembly, she had gone away and made me a wonderful card and I really wanted to share the message she had written within it. Devon wrote;

‘Be happy, be kind, be loving, be grateful, be spontaneous...BE YOU.’

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Attendance

REMINDER ABOUT SCHOOL ABSENCE PROCEDURES

- Please inform the school office before 8.40am if your child will be absent from school
- You may be asked to supply medical evidence such as medication or appointment letters
- Please arrange appointments outside of school hours where possible
- If you have not contacted school, Mrs Ashcroft will contact you to find out the reason for absence
- Mrs Ashcroft/Mrs Kehoe may contact you at the end of the school day to enquire about your child and discuss their return to school the following day
- Mrs Ashcroft will continue to contact you each day that your child is absent to check in and offer support where possible

Honesty and Integrity

Being open and honest about your child's absences - including holidays - is key to building trust and supporting their learning. Clear communication helps to keep accurate records, plan for missed work and offer the right emotional support when they return. Our attendance ethos means that every child is welcomed warmly back to school and checked in with, but this can only happen if we understand the reason for their time away.

Punctuality reminder

8.00am - Breakfast Club opens

8.40am - Doors open

8.50am - School day begins

9.00am - School gates close

*Children are classed as being late if they arrive any time after 8.50am. After this time the children are missing the start of their day which includes: wellbeing check-in with teachers, feedback on learning, basic skills interventions and the start of lessons such as phonics and English.



Appointments

We kindly ask for your support in ensuring that pupil learning time is protected. Please arrange medical and other appointments outside of the school day - either after school or during the school holidays. We understand that some appointments are unavoidable, but frequent absences during lessons can disrupt your child's progress and the rhythm of the school day. By scheduling outside of school hours, you help us maintain continuity and give your child the best chance to thrive.

Class attendance winners this week...

YEAR 2 - 97.85%

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Class News

Nursery



This week has made very busy . We have been celebrating World Nursery Rhyme Week 2025. Our nursery rhymes this week were Humpty Dumpty, Sing a Song of Sixpence, I hear Thunder, Two little Dicky Birds and When I was one. We enjoyed learning them all. We have also been celebrating Children in Need by dressing up and doing lots of fun activities. We remembered all the soldiers who died and were injured in war by making poppy biscuits on Remembrance Day.

Reception

Reception have been working hard to read and write words this week and we are all very impressed!

We have spared looking at our new topic of space and have enjoyed the story 'The Baboon on the Moon'. The Baboon is very sad and lonely so the children have thought of lots of ways to cheer him up!



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Class News

Inf. DRB

This week in Infant DRB, we learned about Remembrance Day. We watched a short animated film about poppies with Ann during our BSL story time. The children enjoyed seeing the bright red flowers and learning that poppies help us to remember.

We made a lovely class poppy wreath for our door by painting our hands red and green and printing them on paper. The children were very proud of their beautiful artwork! We also had lots of fun making and tasting some yummy poppy biscuits!



Year 1



This week we've enjoyed our first full week back in school. The children have learnt in Maths how to write addition number sentences to create fact families. In RE, this half term we are learning about different religious celebrations. This week we look at Hanukkah and the different ways to celebrate this festival. In Art, the children have continued their work on Lucy Casson. They really enjoyed using what they have learnt to create their own beings, as seen in our picture for this week.

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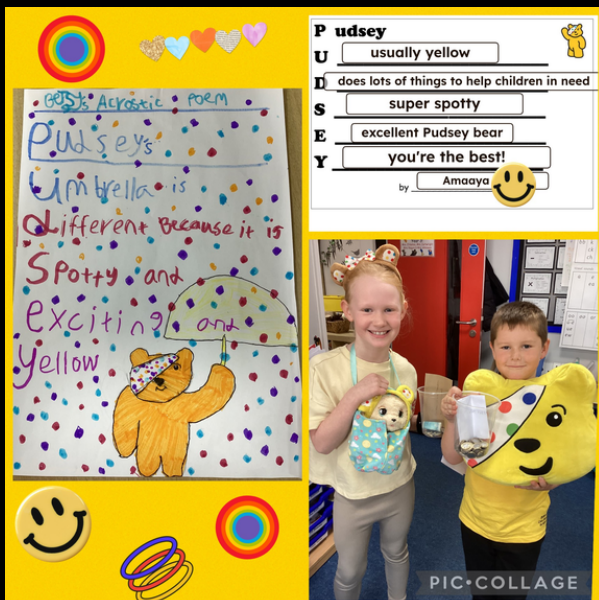
Class News

Year 2

It's been a great week here in Year 2. Everyone enjoyed getting our new fossil set out from the science cupboard to use in our Art lesson. We looked very carefully at the samples and photos and then used fine liner pens to sketch them. In the next lesson, we'll use watercolour paints to add detail and texture. In Maths, the children have been practicing adding and subtracting by ten, noticing how the number in the tens column changes. We're getting much more confident with using our number bonds to ten in more complex addition and subtraction sums too. In English, we're examining our feelings and building a rich collection of adjectives to describe them. In P.E. Our new topic for this term is jumping and landing and we're developing our techniques well. The children are working very hard indeed. Have a great weekend!



Year 3



It's been a week of special events with Anti-Bullying lessons and assemblies, fundraising for Children in Need and Remembrance Day. We learnt all about why we wear poppies and stood beautifully for the two minutes silence in class. We were so respectful - our teachers were very proud of us. Pudsey has, of course, been a theme throughout the week. Our Seesaw homework was to write a Pudsey acrostic poem - we certainly have lots of ROARsome poets in Year 3! We also found out about the first Pudsey Bear, made in 1985, who actually had brown fur and a red bandana! We created expanded noun phrases to describe Pudsey (as he is now) and made our own little Pudsey Bears.

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Class News

Year 4

Year 4 have had a very nice week. They have explored area in maths using concrete resources to explore making shapes and finding the area. Later in the week, they moved on to multiplying and dividing and have made a really good start to this topic. They really enjoyed exploring "poo clues" in science and using their knowledge about animals to make predictions. They explored painting for the first time this year mixing primary colours to make secondary colours as well as exploring warm and cool colours and then adding further detail with tints and shades. They explored the city of Liverpool in history researching information online to create a fact file. The children also really enjoyed exploring pitch in their music lesson and using the keyboards.



Year 5



Year 5 have had a very exciting week taking part in art, music and dance lessons with the pupils expressing their creativity through different mediums. In art, we have been starting our final pieces based around our Benin Art, we used a mixture of materials like charcoal and watercolour paint to produce detailed and textured pieces. In English, we have been exploring speeches and we have been inspired by Martin Luther King to write our own speech on 'Our dreams for the world' which we will preform in class next week! It was great to finish the week with Pudsey Day on Thursday as we brought in teddies, dressed in yellow and completed some Children In Need themed tasks in the afternoon.

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Class News

Year 6

Year 6 have had a great week. They have been busy writing speeches inspired by Martin Luther King Jr's 'I have a dream' speech, writing all about their hopes for a perfect world. They are sounding very inspirational and we are excited to perform these soon. Another highlight of this week was in science, where we created our own levers to investigate how lever length affects its strength. We used lollipop sticks to create catapults and had lots of fun testing their strength with marshmallows. It was also great to see lots of our year 6 children making the most of new clubs this week, learning new skills in netball and music club. Keep up the hard work year 6.



Jun. DRB



It's been a thought-provoking week in Junior DRB! We've been learning about and celebrating two very special days – Armitage Day and Children in Need.

On Tuesday, we focused on Armitage Day. The children learnt about why this day is so important and how it gives us a chance to remember and thank those who have helped and protected others. Everyone took part in a two-minute silence, showing great respect and understanding as they reflected on what it means to be brave, kind, and caring.

Then on Thursday, we turned our attention to Children in Need. The children discovered how this charity supports children and families all over the UK, and were amazed to learn that Deaf Active – a local youth club that many of our pupils attend – has received a Children in Need grant to help fund their after-school and holiday clubs. This really brought the message close to home and helped the children see how fundraising can directly benefit their own community.

Everyone looked fantastic in their colourful and spotty outfits, and they had a brilliant time taking part in creative craft activities.

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Thank you all for your continued support you give us as we look to support your children to grow and thrive. Have a restful weekend and see you all bright and early on Monday!

Mr. England

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