

Southdale Sparkle

6 December 2019

Wow, what a night!



The children absolutely loved the disco. They danced the night away, enjoyed taking copious photos in the photo booth and relished the opportunity to have fun with their friends.

We are delighted to announce that we raised £1358 which will go towards our new library area. Thank you to our Southdale family for making it such a huge success!



Year 3

This week, the children have been working hard to piece together this year's Nativity. We have been singing, dancing, acting and preparing our costumes for next week's performances. We are incredibly excited and can't wait to surprise you all.

In **art**, we have been looking at the work of the illustrator Oliver Jeffers. He is the author of 'The Incredible Book Eating Boy' and has a unique and distinctive drawing style. We have looked carefully at his work and have tried to copy his style in order to create our own portraits. We shaded our skin tone using soft pastels and used black ink to define our key features. We are really impressed by the quality of the sketches produced, especially the shading of light and dark tones.



In **Religion and Worldviews**, we have been discussing the story of Noah in the Christian bible and why God decided to send a flood. We have considered the type of person Noah must have been for God to choose to save him. We have also discussed how people must have been behaving at this time for God to make this decision.



Year 4

In **Science**... our investigations have begun... we have set up an observation to monitor and observe the effect of different liquids on egg shells (teeth.)



In **English**... we have been completing our final paragraph of the children's adventure through the forest. They have finally arrived at the cottage, not any ordinary cottage but one made from gingerbread.

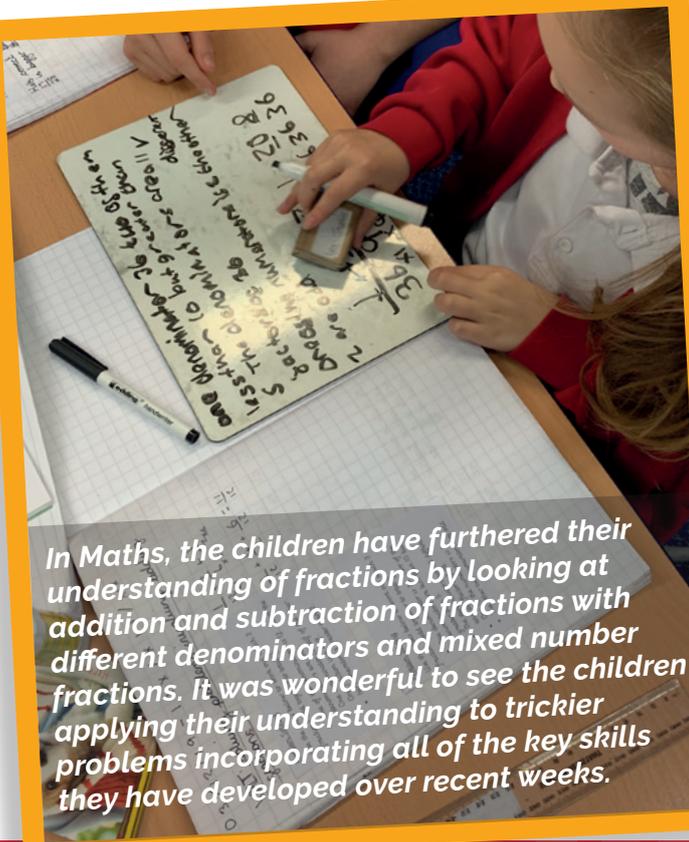
In **Maths**... this week, we are continuing to develop our use of timestables, particularly in solving problems and becoming fluent with the 6, 9 and 7 timestables.

So far, after a few days, the shells are already beginning to turn!

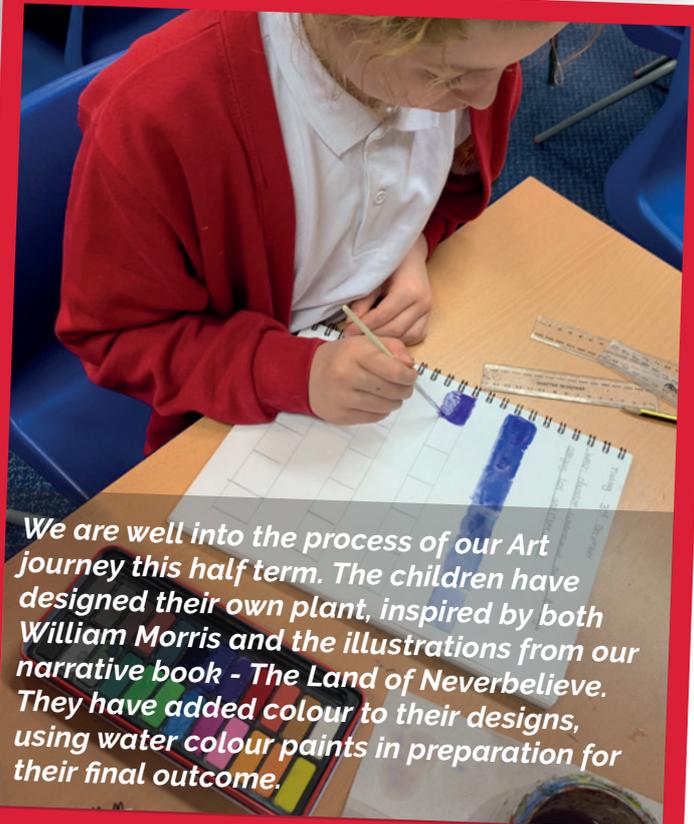
Year 5

In English, the children have completed their balanced arguments. To their surprise, after considering both sides of the argument, the chief islander has decided to keep the island open for tourism and scientific research. Following this, their narrative has moved on and they were stunned at the sudden arrival of a time capsule that contained a futuristic letter from 'Matrox' explaining how the island looked 100 years in the future. Unfortunately, we are sad to announce that the picture was an extremely grim one! This has now inspired the children to write a setting description about the dilapidated Land of Neverbelieve.

Science this week, has led the children to explore various ways in which seeds can be dispersed. They have worked scientifically and in groups to plan and conduct an experiment based on seed dispersal through wind using inspiration from dandelions and maple trees: How does the length of the wings effect the speed that they drop?



In Maths, the children have furthered their understanding of fractions by looking at addition and subtraction of fractions with different denominators and mixed number fractions. It was wonderful to see the children applying their understanding to trickier problems incorporating all of the key skills they have developed over recent weeks.

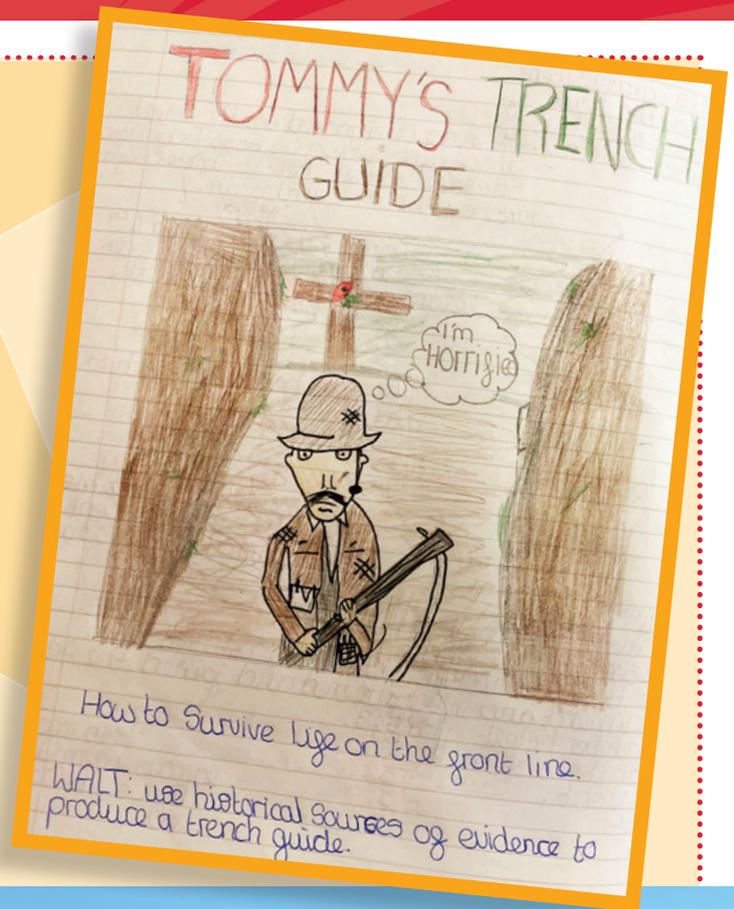
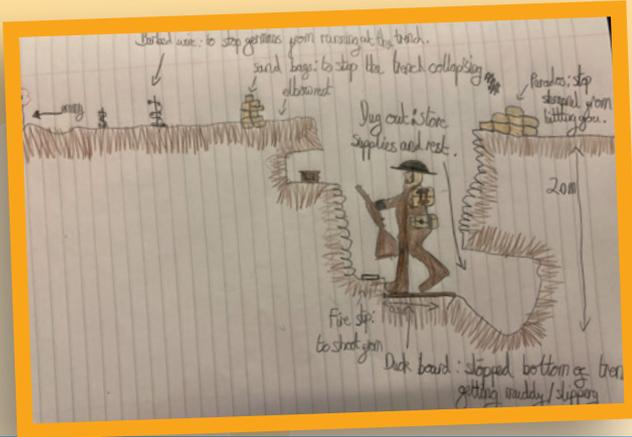


We are well into the process of our Art journey this half term. The children have designed their own plant, inspired by both William Morris and the illustrations from our narrative book - *The Land of Neverbelieve*. They have added colour to their designs, using water colour paints in preparation for their final outcome.

Year 6

In **English** we have written, edited and published our biographies of renowned war poet Wilfred Owen. Not only have we studied his poems in English, we have also used our skills as historians to research into the major events of his life.

In our **topic work** we have been making our own 'Tommy's Guide to the Trenches' - a guide to surviving the squalid conditions of the Front Line!



To commemorate the Christmas Truce of 1914, our Year 6s left the trenches on Wednesday and exchanged gifts on the field. We recreated the sporadic kick-about that broke out between the two sides in four games of football. Afterwards, we took the time to reflect on how this event was an incredible testament to what humanity can overcome in the darkest of hours.



Supporting your child at home this week

YEAR 3 THIS WEEK

Nativity: Please help your child to learn their lines for the Nativity.

Reading: Please read with your child at home and ensure that they are reading for **at least 20 minutes a day**.

Maths: Please support your child by encouraging them to practise their times tables using the app **TT Rock Stars**. We have started to look at the 4 times table. Children will need to know their 4 times table as well as the related division calculations.

E.g. $3 \times 4 = 12$ so $4 \times 3 = 12$ and $12 \div 3 = 4$ so $12 \div 4 = 3$

Spelling Pattern: In spellings next week, we are learning to spell words that end in **-ture** which sounds like **chuh**.

E.g. **adventure, nature, capture, mixture, furniture, creature, future.**

Theme: Our themes for this half-term are **obsession, health and well-being**. Please talk to your children about how important it is to look after our health and how we can do this my **looking after our body and our mind**

YEAR 4 THIS WEEK

Reading: Please read with your child at home and ensure that they are reading for **at least 20 minutes a day**. Why not find an interesting word which you can find the **definition of** and share back in class.

Maths: Please continue to support your child with helping them to consolidate the **times tables** learnt in year 3 these are **3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9**

Themes: Our new themes for this narrative are: **poverty, survival, crime and punishment**

Spelling Pattern: We are competing our work on the prefix **inter-** to words such as **internet, intercity, interact, interlock** and **international**.

We are also consolidating words we should know such as the correct use of use of **tense** and **pluralisation** in using **were, was, are, is**

Supporting your child at home this week

YEAR 5 THIS WEEK

Reading: Please read with your child at home and ensure that they are reading for **at least 20 minutes a day**.

Maths: Please encourage your children to practise their times tables using **Times Table Rockstars**. Children can also use their **My Maths** log in to complete set tasks.

Themes: We are exploring the themes of **Global responsibility, conservation** and **consequence** this half term through the book, *The Land of Neverbelieve!*

Spelling Pattern: In classes, children will be looking at the key spelling words ending in **'ence'**. These words will include: **patience, violence, difference, silence, obedience, absence, intelligence, innocence, dependence, magnificence**.

YEAR 6 THIS WEEK

Reading: Please read with your child at home and ensure that they are reading for **at least 20 minutes a day**.

Maths: Please encourage your child to practise their times tables using **Times Table Rockstars** – quick recall of times table facts is essential in our understanding of calculating percentages. Complete the **MyMaths** arithmetic task

Themes: Following on from our own **'Christmas Truce'**, discuss with your child what this unique and powerful event meant and what it revealed about those fighting the war

Spelling Pattern: We looked at spelling containing the **'sh'** sound, but spelled **'ti'** or **'ci'**: **inaction, reinfection, misrepresentation, office, official, officially, conscience, calculation, ancient, appreciation, rejuvenation**.

Achievements



Head teachers Award

Tyler E

For showing such enthusiasm in our Christmas singing

Special Mentions

3LH	Kasey S	For perseverance with multiplication and division - keep going!
3LS	Finlay O	For being a super role model every single day
3SG	Joshua L	For his improved focus in lessons. Keep it up Joshua!
4EB	Olivia R	For showing great improvement in her writing (even with two days off!)
4RD	Grace A	For making great effort and progress in your writing - well done!
4RR	Henry FA	For a spectacular piece of writing
5AM	Emily J	For always shining like a star and being AMAZING!
5EZ	Poppy WW	For using inspiration from her school work to produce extra work outside of school (William Morris work)
5GT	Amelie T	For taking great pride in her work
6KD	James M	For always showing the Southdale Sparkle and always having a positive attitude
6MF	Thomas A	For his fab effort in writing this week
6ZR	Roberta LL	For showing true perseverance and enthusiasm, especially when writing your biography

Attendance

3LH	99.17%	THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE WINNERS
3LS	90.32%	
3SG	97.70%	
4EB	98.61%	
4RD	97.99%	
4RR	92.18%	
5AM	92.50%	
5EZ	96.94%	
5GT	93.33%	
6KD	94.63%	
6MF	94.05%	
6ZR	89.88%	

TT ROCKSTARS - Year 6

Most improved

Elizabeth A

Most answered

Evie AR

TT ROCKSTARS - Year 5

Most improved

Louis R

Most answered

Jonathan OS

TT ROCKSTARS - Year 4

Most improved

Olivia L

Most answered

Joanna M

TT ROCKSTARS - Year 3

Most improved

Amelia S

Most answered

Amelia S

After-school Clubs

Day	Year Group	Activity	Provider
Mon	All year groups	Boccia & Curling	Wakefield School Sports Network
Mon	All year groups	Lego Club	Mineblox
Mon	Y4, 5 & 6	Cross Country	Mrs Mohebi/Miss Ryan/Mr Mills
Mon	Y4, 5 & 6	Choir	Mrs Garnett
Mon	All year groups	Cooking	Mrs Smith
Mon	All year groups	Bird watching	Mr Smithson
Tue	All year groups	Gardening	Mr Dundon
Tue	All year groups	Dance & Drama	Wakefield School Sports Network
Tue	All year groups	Cooking	Miss Woolley
Tue	All year groups	Bird watching	Mr Smithson
Wed	All year groups	Reading	Miss Noonan
Wed	All year groups	Cooking	Mrs Burrill
Wed	All year groups	Netball	Wakefield School Sports Network
Wed	All year groups	Bird watching	Mr Smithson
Thur	All year groups	Maths & Reading, Writing Boosters	All Teaching Staff
Thur	All year groups	French Lessons	Kidslingo
Thur	All year groups	Cooking	Mrs Smith
Fri	All year groups	Handball/Dodgeball	Wakefield School Sports Network
Fri	All year groups	Cooking	Miss Woolley
Fri	All year groups	Bird watching	Mr Smithson

Calendar

Important Dates for your Diary

10 December - 6.00pm start	Year 3 Nativity (evening)
11 December - 1.30pm start	Year 3 Nativity (afternoon)
12 December	School closed for Polling Day
19 December	Christmas Fair
20 December	Rocksteady concert (for those taking part in Rocksteady)
14, 21 & 28 January 2020	Year 3 Coal Mining Museum visits
11-12 March 2020	Year 5 Whitby Residential
16-18 March 2020	Year 4 Robinwood Residential

Term Dates 2019 - 20

Monday 2 September	INSET DAY
Tuesday 3 September	School opens
Thursday 24 October	School closes for half term
Friday 25 October	INSET DAY
Monday 4 November	School opens
Thursday 12 December	INSET DAY - ELECTION
Friday 20 December	School closed for Christmas holidays
Monday 6 January	School opens
Thursday 13 February	School closes for half term
Friday 14 February	INSET DAY
Monday 24 February	School opens
Friday 3 April	School closes for Easter holidays
Monday 20 April	School opens
Thursday 7 May	INSET DAY - LOCAL ELECTIONS
Friday 8 May	BANK HOLIDAY
Friday 22 May	School closes for half term
Monday 1 June	School opens
Friday 17 July	School closes for the summer holiday
Monday 20 July	INSET DAY

Information

Reading at home

At Southdale we strongly believe that reading is paramount to a child's development academically. All the latest research shows that the impact of parental involvement in reading is massive. It has been proven that better readers become better writers but reading has an impact in every area of the curriculum.

About 70%-80% of a child's vocabulary comes from reading – a child who reads for 20 minutes a day reads almost two million words per year. This 20 minutes of reading at home every day will help your child get into the top 10% for vocabulary acquisition.

When reading children also develop their ability to think abstractly, to develop empathy and to acquire an infinite amount of knowledge. These are skills that they need in every area of the curriculum (to solve a maths problem, to understand a science experiment, to use the correct terminology in P.E. etc.).

Reading removes barriers to learning. Research shows that a child's vocabulary size at the age of 5 has a direct link with their GCSE results. Children who read do better in their GCSEs, children who read go on to have more career options and children who read become happier more well-rounded adults. ALL IT TAKES IS 20 minutes a day at home.

Once children have developed the basic skills of reading, there can be a risk that their motivation and enthusiasm begin to lessen. Taking the time to talk to your children about the books they choose and listening to them reading aloud regularly can make all the difference.

Children need to understand why we read. They need to experience the range of feelings that a book can create or the power that can be gained from accessing information. Reading must not only be confined to stories. Many children love reading comics, magazines, newspapers, information books and poetry. All of these reading activities should be encouraged.

Children in Key Stage 2 will all be at very different stages of development, but even for the most fluent readers there is a need for parental support.

Sharing a book individually with one child helps them enormously. This is the time when children can develop a much deeper understanding of the books that they are reading. Rather than reading at home being 'reading practice', it should extend and enrich the reading experiences of school.

One of the most powerful ways in which parents can do this is to show real enthusiasm themselves. Your sense of excitement about books and stories, your anticipation about what will happen next in a story and a discussion about your own likes and dislikes, will greatly influence your child.

Asking questions that go beyond the literal meaning of the book will help your child to think more deeply about what they are reading. Encourage your child to use the school and local libraries.

Books and stories open up new worlds of excitement and imagination for children!

Helping Your Child With Reading

The following points are to support you when reading at home with your child. Regular, daily reading is the key to reading success. Two or three of these sessions could be your child reading silently to him/herself followed by a discussion about the book. The other days could be an opportunity for your child to read aloud or taking it in turns to read aloud. These guidelines may help you develop reading further.

- **Make sure you are relaxed and comfortable during the reading session.**
- **Encourage your child to read with expression.**
- **Your child should be able to read approximately 9 out of every 10 words in the book, less than this and the book may be too difficult.**
- **Discuss the meaning new vocabulary and encourage your child to use these new words in sentences when talking to you.**
- **Ask questions about the characters, the plot, the ending of the book and whether your child enjoyed it. If your child is not enjoying a story, stop reading it and ask them to change the book. Use the question stems.**
- **Encourage talk about favourite authors and illustrators, giving reasons for their choices.**
- **Try to make sure that your child reads a range of different books, not always stories.**
- **Model the reading process yourself by having your own book/ paper to read.**
- **Give lots of praise and encouragement.**
- **Have fun**

Safeguarding



Mrs K Partington

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs R Mohebi

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs R Randall

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Miss R Mallas

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mr V Foster

Safeguarding Governor



Southdale

C of E Junior school

Shining like stars in the universe