



### MERRY CHRISTMAS.. We made it to the end of term!

We have completed our second half term and finished off a fabulous term in style. Reports have been sent out via Arbor in our bid to reduce paper usage and provide more information paperless. Please ensure you have connected to the system and keep it up to date with changes of addresses, phone numbers, medical information, email address etc.

#### Start of School

Following our introduction of the new system for late arrivals, I would like to thank you for your understanding. Having you complete the late forms allows the office staff to continue with their busy schedule and ensuring the pupils get to the correct classroom. I know that lateness can occur, however consistent lateness is not acceptable due to: repeatedly missing the alarm, having a new pet, forgetting something and having to return home; these all impact on your child as they walk into class later than their peers, so please work with us to reduce these times. Pupils must stay with their adult until the inside door is opened and the office staff take them to their classroom, sending them from the carpark, or leaving them in the foyer is not acceptable and becomes a safeguarding concern for the school.

#### PTA

This half term the PTA successfully led 'Breakfast with Santa' on Saturday 9th December. It was lovely to see so many families coming for their bacon or sausage barm, pastries, warm and cold drinks, joining in with the craft table, buying Christmas decorations made, by hand' from our fabulous craft club (who are VERY talented). Thank you for those people who took the time to make, collect, set up, run and support Mrs Wood in creating such a magical event.





### Making a difference

Thank you for all of your support. Years 3 and 4 enjoyed a day full of locomotives following a trip to the National Railway Museum – they were all 'buzzing' about it, able to take their learning from term 1 and see it in real life. Year 6 went to Crucial crew, learning about real life dangers and how to keep safe, also they extended their knowledge when taking part in 'Bikeability', learning how to keep safe on the roads.

As a school, we raised £151.15 for children in need, coming to school in spots (some even spread to their hair didn't they Mr C??)



### And finally....

I would like to thank you all, parents / carers, pupils, staff and governors for supporting me during this term as interim headteacher. After a well rested Christmas break, I will be passing over to Mr Harrison in January and resuming my position as Deputy headteacher (so you'll all still see me around), and I will be returning to the classroom in the afternoons with Year 2 – which I am very much looking forward to.

**Wishing you all a very happy and safe Christmas**

**and see you in the new year!**

**Mrs Kaufman**





It was fabulous seeing so many of the families come to Craft afternoon – seeing many adults becoming more and more confused the higher up school I went. The children really enjoyed this time with you and we were overwhelmed by the positive feedback we received from children and adults alike. This will be something we would like to continue next year – Thank you for taking the time.

What a show Years 1 and 2 put on with 'Whoops a Daily Angel', doing 2 shows. The children worked hard learning their parts and being brave to stand on stage in front of a live audience – something very scary, so thank you for understanding this and encouraging them through smiling faces and caring eyes. Not only did years 1 and 2 put on a show, but so did our Reception class. What another fabulous set of singers we have, learning actions and songs to sing to the adults. Well done reception, you really are getting into the life of our school and settling in well.

### **Competitions**

Year 5 /6 football: Girls and boys created 2 teams for TCP to attend Thirsk High school in November. Working as a team, they played up to 6 matches and represented the school respectfully. They improved with every match and supported each other. The White team were fabulous, cheering each other on, spreading out and passing well; the black team also worked well together, spotting gaps in their opponents defence and bagging themselves a silver medal – and a huge smile on their faces. Well done!!

Y5/6 Girls football FINAL: Onto the Astro turf, following a chilly and wet week prior, both girls teams got back together and warmed up for the final. They were playing the best teams in Hambleton and Richmond area. 14 teams came in total and each team got to play 6 matches. They played admirably and again, improved with each match, remembering to find spaces and get the ball up the pitch. Both teams came off smiling following their competition. The points were added up and 2 final matches were played, Thirsk Black team being in the 3rd and 4th team playoffs. Following a goal for each team, it was getting tight and then it was next goal wins – Thirsk Black team scored and earned them a 3rd place in the Final.

Y5 Swimming: This half term it has been Year 5's turn to go swimming each Friday. Picking up the pace to get to the swimming baths, and changed, for 9.15am – a challenge they took well. It has been wonderful to see water confidence grow, children moving into deeper waters and knowing how to float to be safe. It has also been nice to hear so many children talking about swimming with their families – it is a skill we all need to know as water is everywhere.

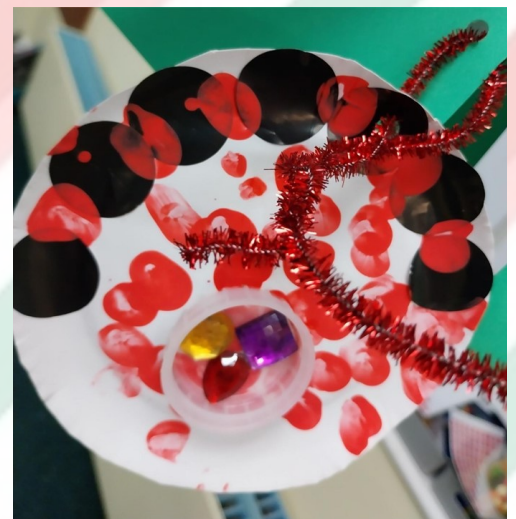
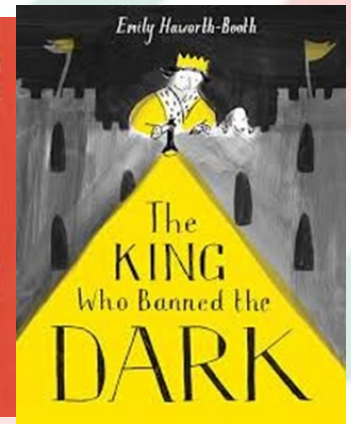
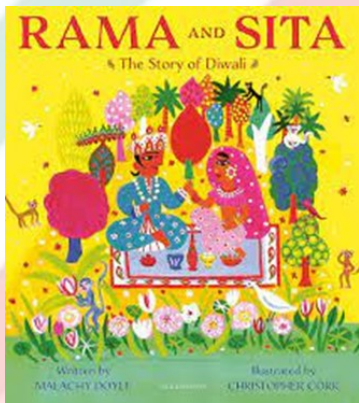
### **Enrichment week**

What a busy week that was! Take a look at all of the pictures to see how the week developed and the activities the pupils took part in. I would like to say a big THANK YOU to Thirsk High school who came to deliver drama lessons to the whole school. The pupils enjoyed it and hope that you will come back in the next enrichment week (last week of Spring 2– get it in your diary Thirsk HS!!)

## EARLY YEARS

### NIRSERY and RECEPTION

The children this half term have learnt all about celebrations with the theme being, 'Boom, boom, boom!'. This started with Bonfire Night, then led to Diwali, and finally Christmas! Focus books have supported the children learning about similarities and differences between families, communities, and faiths. Whilst reading the books the adults have introduced and used the Wow Words; Bright, Fade, Belief/ Believe, Tradition, Celebration and Gift. This vocabulary has been further supported by activities within provision. During art enrichment week the children designed and made their own Christmas bauble. This idea came from a circle time discussion based on the word tradition. The children discovered that the families of the Hive have different traditions at Christmas, but that most families put baubles on their tree! In Maths they also learnt that 16 of our EYFS children have a star at the top of their tree, 5 children have angels, 3 have a bow, and 1 family has a magic fairy!





### KS1

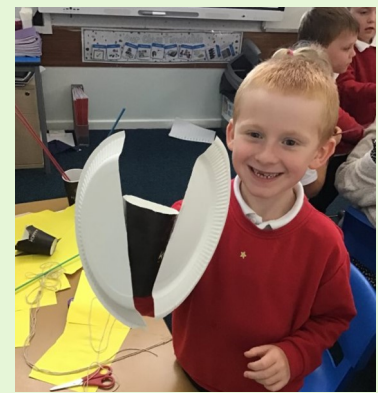
### Year 1 and 2

Over this last term, children have continued with the theme 'Come fly with me'. Where we have been investigating weather, our local area, country and continent, and the history of flight. Year 2 students have written reports on our local area, and a biography for Amelia Earhart. Year 1 have been working extremely hard in maths, learning their number bonds to ten and all about 2D and 3D shapes.

KS1 have been working hard over the last few weeks on our nativity Whoops-A-Daisy Angel and have completed three outstanding shows to the school, parents and carers!

During arts week, children had the opportunity to partake in a drama workshop and watch a show presented by Thirsk High students, they thoroughly enjoyed the workshop and got really stuck in! A lot of KS1 are destined for the stage!!!

In DT children designed, created and evaluated their own junk model planes, they had lots of fun and discussed and shared some wonderful ideas.



### Year 3 and 4

What a jam packed half term Yr 3 and 4 have had!! They started the term off with a terrific trip to the National Railway Museum in York to delve deeper into the world of locomotives - enjoying the chance to see some of the most famous ones up close. Using their experiences, they then went on to produce some wonderful recounts of the visit as well as writing persuasively to encourage new tourists to visit in the future. Within their history, geography and PSHE, the children looked to the future of locomotives - focusing upon how locomotives of the future will impact their environment and community. There was a real focus upon safety around railways and the children considered ways to keep themselves and others safe around tracks and stations.

As part of their arts enrichment week, Year 3 and 4 kicked off their art activities with a Christmas "crafternoon" and spent time with family members getting all Christmassy making all manner of crafts from sock snowmen to paper wreaths and snowflakes. It certainly got them in the mood for all the festivities! They then took another trip out, this time to Thirsk Hall, to see the sculptures within the gardens and focused upon the materials and themes of each sculpture - it was a wonderful winter's walk around Thirsk Hall's grounds. Their biggest project across arts week was the designing and making of their Christmas lightboxes, which required the children to use the design process of plan, make and review. They worked incredibly hard all week from sawing and gluing the wood to designing their Christmas picture for the front. Everyone was super proud and delighted with their end product. Hopefully they have pride of place in their homes!

The last couple of weeks have been spent practising the Christmas songs ready for the church carol service and writing instructions for other budding DT enthusiasts, who might like to make a lightbox of their own. After all their hard work they will be ready for a well earned rest over the school holidays - ready to start again in the new year!

### Year 5 and 6

What a busy half term Year 5 and 6 have had! We started the half term with an art project, which looked at retro-futuristic artwork. All of the children produced some brilliant pieces throughout the week. Year 5 also used this to write a set of instructions about how to produce this art in English. We have also completed a DT project, where we made motorised Mars Rovers. The children looked at the existing Mars rover's features along with the conditions on Mars to design their own. We then built these and tested them!

In maths, Year 6 have been focussing on securing written methods for the four operations, including long multiplication and long division. In English, we have loved discussing our new non-fiction text - "In a galaxy of her own" - which contains a series of biographies about incredible female astronauts, engineer and scientists. From this, we have written our own podcasts, and debated the future of space exploration.

Year 5 have been reading 'The Cosmic Diary of our Incredible Universe', which was written by the astronaut, Tim Peake. We have used this to think about the positives and negatives of space exploration and wrote fantastic balanced arguments. In Maths, Year 5 have been focusing on Fractions, where we have learnt to add and subtract fractions with different denominators.

# Competitions

## Football Year 5 and 6

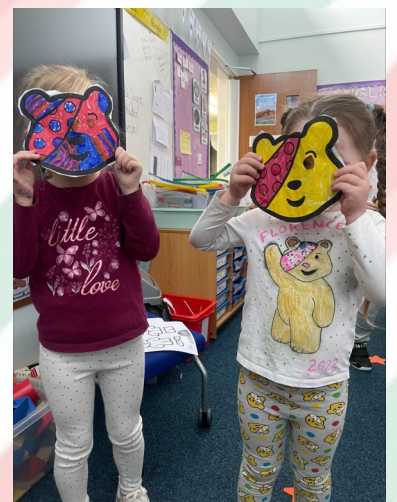
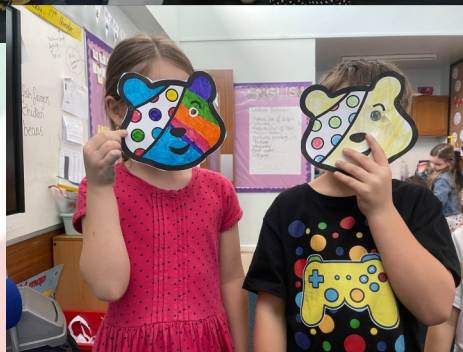


**Girls Football FINAL !! Both teams were amazing and our black team came 3rd overall in the cluster schools final!!**



# CHILDREN IN NEED WEAR SOMETHING SPOTTY DAY

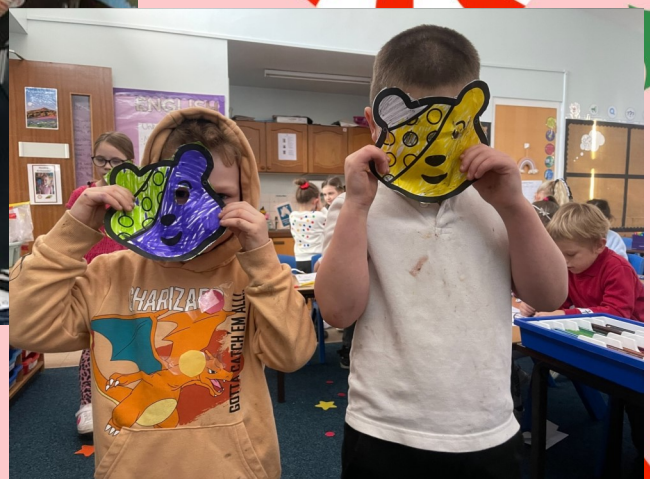
Thank you for all the donation- we raised £151.15







Respectful Safe!



SEEING SPOTS!!!



## Attendance Matters W.C 11th December

### Our School attendance target is 96%

11.12.23		
Reception/ Hive	83.0%	Below
Roseberry	85.4%	Below
Helvellyn	80.4%	Below
Scafell	83.5%	Below
Snowdon	84.0%	Below
Ben Nevis	78.9%	Below
Whole school	82.5%	Below

#### Attendance Matters:

School gates open at 8.40am ready to start learning at 8.50am

**Good attendance at school improves your child's learning at school**

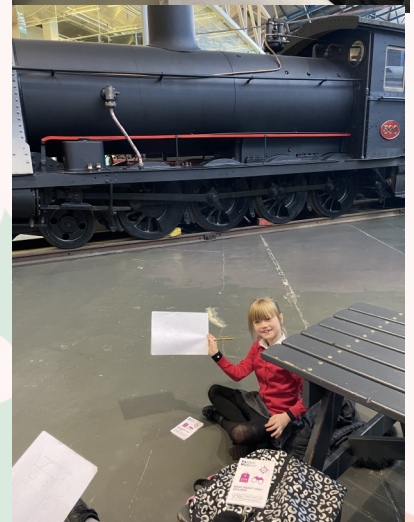
Good attendance and punctuality at Primary school help form good attendance habits – for high school and eventually for the world of work!

**If your child is ill or not able to attend school, please always contact as soon as possible. Telephone: 01845 524349**

**If your child's attendance is below 90%, it is classed as Persistent Absence**  
**Persistent Absence from school affects your child's learning and achievement.**  
**If you need support with improving your child's attendance, please speak to the schools attendance leader Mrs Kaufman.**



## YEAR 3 and 4 trip to York Railway Musuem





# Thirsk Community Primary School

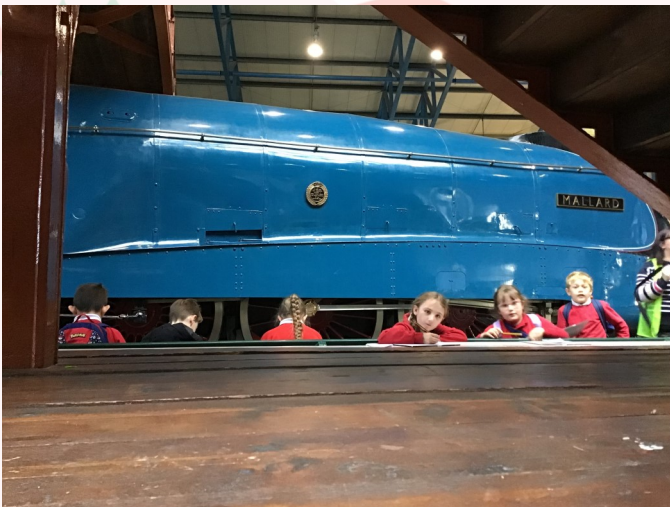


**CHOO  
CHOO !!!**



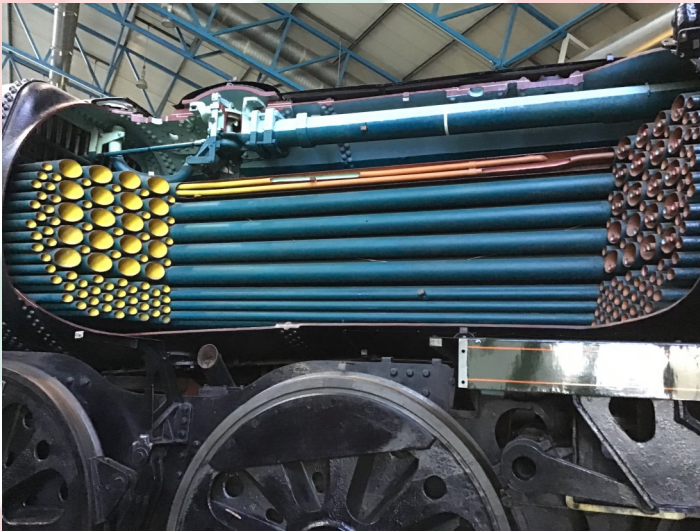


# Thirsk Community Primary School





# Thirsk Community Primary School

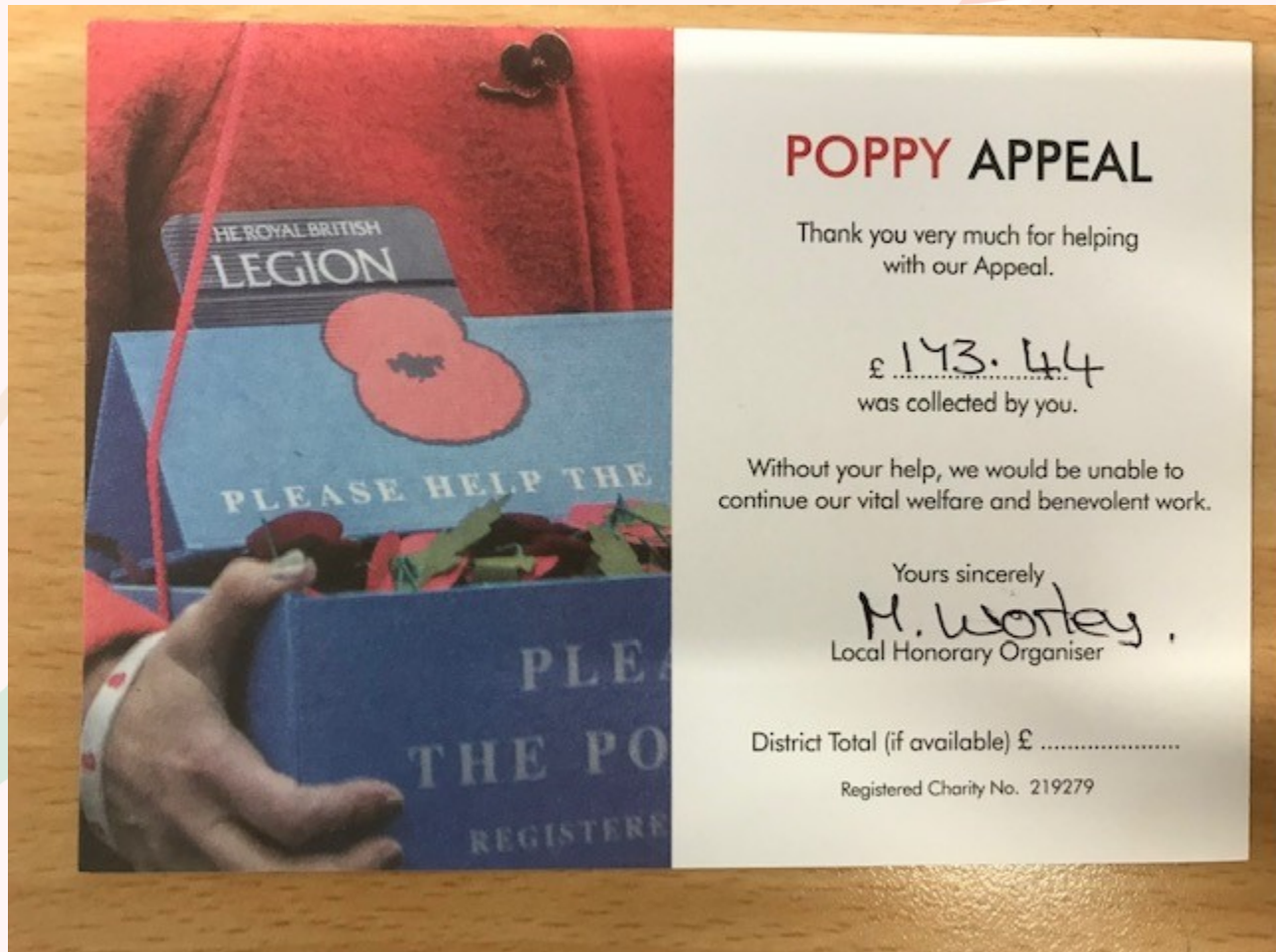




# Thirsk Community Primary School

Thank you for all the donations towards the British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Your kind donations came to a total of £173.44



What a lovely card we received from the team at Thirsk Community Works. Another thank you for all the amazing food donations that were brought into school for Harvest festival!



Dear Thirsk Primary School,

I'm writing to thank you for the amazing donation you have provided us with this harvest festival season.

Each year we feed nearly 750 families and children and every week we look after at least 15 families.

Thank you so much for looking out for us and for those in need in Thirsk and the surrounding area.

This Christmas we expect to have to find about 600 bags of food for people who need Christmas food parcels and we couldn't do it without your help!

Thanks you so much for your kindness,

Best Wishes,

The team at Community Works

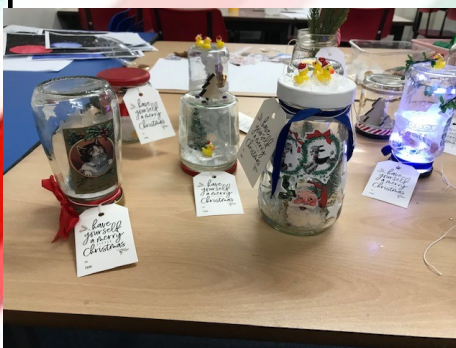
Thank you for helping others in our community!





**SNOW FUN!**

# CRAFT CLUB CREATIONS



Christmas  
Jars  
Of  
joy!



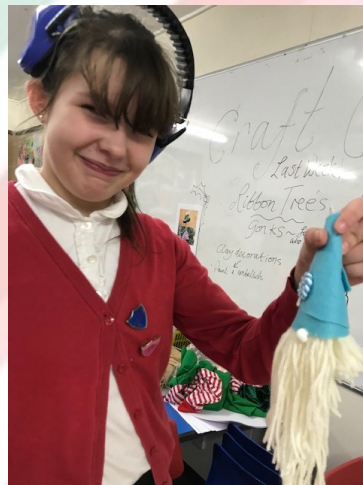
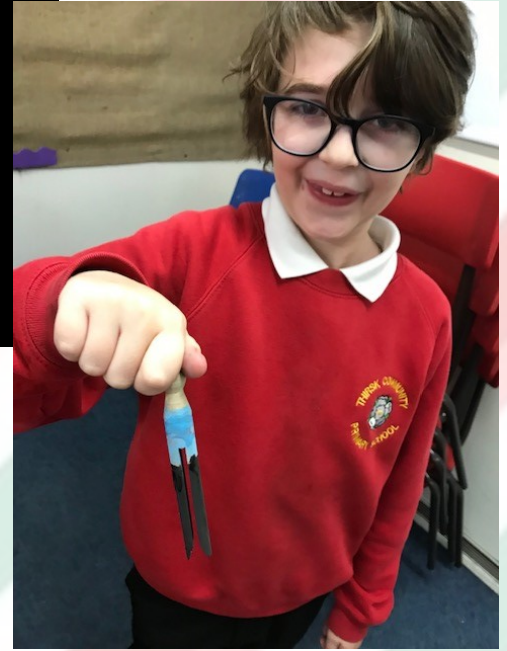
# CRAFT CLUB CREATIONS



Christmas  
GONKS!



# CRAFT CLUB CREATIONS



Christmas Decorations





# Thirsk Community Primary School



## St Mary's Church Carol Service





# Thirsk Community Primary School



## Breakfast with Santa





# Thirsk Community Primary School

## Breakfast with Santa



## Dates for your Diary

<b>Mon 8th January</b>	Staff Training Day
<b>Tuesday 9th January</b>	School reopens for Spring term 1
<b>Monday 15th January</b>	Last chance to book primary school place
<b>Wk beg 15th January</b>	After School clubs recommence (see below)
<b>Friday 9th February</b>	YOUNG VOICES TRIP and SCHOOL CLOSES for half term at normal time
<b>Monday 19th February</b>	School Reopens for Spring term 2
<b>Wk beg 18th March</b>	Geography Enrichment week
<b>Tuesday 19th March</b>	Yr 5 Rivers Workshop
<b>Friday 22nd March</b>	break up for EASTER at 2.30pm

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Within School		Keysteps Gym year 1 & 2 within PE lesson with Mrs Reeves		Guitar and keyboard lessons	
	<p><b>GLEE CLUB</b> 3.20 4.20 For Young Voices Pupils 15<sup>th</sup> Jan- 5<sup>th</sup> Feb</p>	<p><b>Key Steps Gym Team</b> (selected pupils) <b>Y3, 4, 5, 6</b> 16.1.24 - 6.2.24 Then 20.2.24 - 5.3.24 COMP is 7<sup>th</sup> March Mrs Reeves and Mr Steel</p>	<p><b>Mr Steel's Multi Sports</b> <b>Year 3 &amp; 4</b> 17.1.24 - 20.3.24 9 weeks Collect office door</p>	<p><b>Mr Steel's Multi Sports</b> <b>year 1 &amp; 2</b> 18.1.24 - 21.3.24 9 weeks Collect side gate</p>	
			<p><b>Miss Dalby's Netball</b> <b>Year 5/6</b> 17.1.24 - 7.2.24 Then 21.2.24 - 13.3.24 8 weeks Collect side gate Comp is 14<sup>th</sup> March</p>		



## **ART ENRICHMENT**

This term we had Art enrichment week. We really enjoyed welcoming parents and carers to join us for the craft afternoon. We were so impressed with all the festive creations.

We also had visits from the lovely staff and pupils at the high school who came especially to do drama workshops with us!

We had lots of drama llama's within school!

Year 3 and 4 had a trip to Thirsk Hall to see the sculpture park and some of our other classes will get a chance to go later in the year as unfortunately, the torrential rain put a stop to their trip!

We have seen some wonderful light boxes Carefully and individually constructed as well as motorised buggy's from year 6!

The variety of art enrichment activities are designed to enhance art appreciation and understanding, and allow children to explore the arts in a different environment to the curriculum. It was a great week of imagination and creativity!!







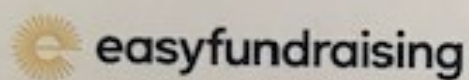
**EYFS NATIVITY  
and Year 1/2  
Whoopsie  
Daisy Angel**

# CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY Raised £107 for Martin House Children's Hospice



Thank you for your donations!





# Sign up, shop, and earn us a **FREE** donation everytime

Scan, join, shop: To unlock the Bonus for Friends of Thirsk Community Primary School



Download the  
easyfundraising App

