Learning Across School

In the construction area the **F1s** had to choose suitably shaped bricks to build an enclosure/cage for the fierce animals, placing them vertically and horizontally. They then wrote signs to place onto the cages. This activity was for a learning sticker.

This week in **F2** we have had our first show and tell sessions. Children get the opportunity to bring in something special from home. During this session there is a great opportunity for us to practice asking questions, showing good listening and learning about our friends. We will be sending a letter home when it's your child's turn. Don't forget to talk to them about what they bring in so they have lots of information to tell us.

In our maths in **Y1** this week we have been telling stories to help us with addition. It has been great fun and enables the children to explain their maths reasoning and develop mathematical language.

We had some important visitors to our Maths lesson last Thursday in Y2...Mrs Read, Mrs Morton and Mrs Bradley all came to see how well we were able to represent our data in pictograms. They were so impressed with our focus, understanding and ability to reason and solve problems...we were very proud of ourselves!

This week Y3 have been on an exciting trip to Creswell Crags. This is a place where real life cavemen lived around 40000 years ago during the ice age. We got the chance to make cave art, go on a tour of an actual cave that people lived in all those years ago and tested our survival skills by demonstrating our den building and spear skills. During our survival skills it even started snowing so we got a good idea of what it would have really been like in the ice age!

There was great excitement across all classes last Thursday as children got the chance to work with Alan MacDonald, author of the Dirty Bertie books. Classes went down to the hall, where he taught children how to draw Bertie, then he set the challenge of creating a new book for the series. We created the front cover and wrote the blurb in the hope that he might use one in his next book! Children in Y5 & Y6 had to invent a new chocolate bar, create a slogan and pitch their idea to Alan. The day was amazing, a big thank you to Mr Smith for organising it.

F1 Workshops

Last Wednesday was our second workshop "It's good to talk". We had our school speech therapist, Sasha Davies talk to the parents about ways to help support language, listening and speech sound skills. Then the children showed their parents what we do in our nursery speech and language groups. Thank you to all our returning parents, and the new parents who joined us. This week's workshop was "We are Family" and we talked about behaviour and good routines at home.

Thornbridge

The Y4 classes are getting very excited about their upcoming residential to Thornbridge. The children will spend three days, 2 nights at the centre having a go at a whole host of exciting and challenging activities. If your child is going please check the kit list to make sure you pack everything they will need. Remember there will be plenty to eat so there is no need to take any sweets or snacks. Children are not allowed to eat in their rooms and we have children going with allergies so this rule is in place to keep everyone safe. It is a fun-filled 3 days and we will write a report to keep you up to date with the activities. If you have any questions please see your child's teacher or a member of the office team.

Year 4 Swimming

Swimming for the Y4s starts on Tuesday 13th February (Y4DT) and Tuesday 27th February (Y4NW). This will be an 18 week block of swimming lessons. It is a fantastic opportunity for the children as all the costs for transport, pool access and swimming instructors have been paid for by school. These swimming sessions are part of the National Curriculum and are statutory for Y4 pupils across the city. Each class will have a 40 minute swimming lesson each week from three qualified swimming instructors. If you have any further questions about swimming, please speak to your child's teacher or Sam Dyson and they will be happy to answer any queries you may have.

World Book Day

This year we will be celebrating World Book Day in school on Thursday 1st March and to help get into the spirit of characters and stories, children (and staff) can come to school dressed up. Please don't think you need to go out and buy an outfit, there are lots of ways you can join in without the expense. Take a look on the official website for ideas: http://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up/

WCM's Got Talent!

Yes, another year, another **Watercliffe's Got Talent** contest! Auditions for the 2018 show will start after the half term holiday! If you think you've got a talent, now might just be the time to start practising! We are looking forward to seeing how previous acts have improved and we are hoping to see some new and fresh talent. The show is looking for talented individuals and groups from Y2 to Y6!! The final will take place on **Thursday 29th March**.

Year 6 children

11-16s can get cheaper bus, tram and train travel with a MegaTravel Pass. If you live in South Yorkshire and are under 16, you are eligible for a MegaTravel Pass. The MegaTravel Pass entitles pass holders to concessionary travel on bus, tram and train in South Yorkshire. No pass means you could pay full fare! To find out how to apply: https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/megatravelpass/

Fire fighters Collection

We will be collecting clothes in school for the fire fighters on **Thursday 15**th **February**. Please call into the office for bags if you need any. Filled bags can be brought into school

from Wednesday 7th February.

Children's Centre

Did you know there is a whole host of different activities that you can access at the Meadow Children's Centre? Many services are there such as Midwives, Health Visitors, Breast Feeding Support and Ante-natal Care. There are also groups you can join such as Baby Massage, Book Start Corner and Little Lambs. For full information call in to the centre, there are some leaflets in school reception or phone 2322203.

Free Sausage Butties

FareShare South Yorkshire have again sent us a food donation for our breakfast club - this time it's sausages. There will be free sausage butties for any children in breakfast club next **Tuesday 6th February**. Just one each please, and children only. Come early (we open at 8am) - when they're gone they're gone!

WCM Holiday Fun Days

The letter went out this week for holiday activities. To book a place please complete and return the booking form along with payment (this is non-refundable) to the office. Here is what we have on offer:

Monday 19th February – Swimming at Hillsborough Leisure Centre for Y3-6. Children must be able to swim. The cost is £6 and a packed lunch is needed.

Tuesday 20th February – Skate Park for Y4-6. Children can take their own scooter and will need a packed lunch. This activity costs £10.00

Wednesday 21st February – A visit to Graves Park, send your child with a packed lunch. Cost for the day is £5.00.

All places will be allocated on a first come first served basis and the day runs from 9.30 – 2.30.

Half Term Holiday

We break up for the February half term holiday on **Friday 16**th **February** and come back to school on **Tuesday 27**th **February**. Monday 26th February is our 4th training day of the year.

Joke of the Week

Q. What do you call a smart group of trees?

A. A brainforest!