



**NOOK LANE JUNIOR SCHOOL**  
**Nook Lane, Stannington, Sheffield S6 6BN**  
Tel. 0114 2341097 Fax 0114 2341098  
e-mail: [enquiries@nooklane.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@nooklane.sheffield.sch.uk)  
[www.nooklanejunior.co.uk](http://www.nooklanejunior.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mr S. Arbon-Davis;

Deputy Headteacher: Mr J. Chadbourne Assistant Headteacher; Ms D Wilkinson

Dear parents, carers and families,

As we break up for the summer holiday, here are a few dispatches from each year group (as well as other whole-school news) to describe the learning that has taken place over the last seven weeks at Nook Lane.

### **YEAR 3**

This half term the children in Year 3 have enjoyed their science-based theme, 'Deadly 60'. The pupils identified different types of animal skeletons before creating their own animal skeletons using twigs foraged from around the school grounds. The Year 3 children certainly know their femur from the phalanges! Using a song, pupils developed their knowledge of the bones within the human skeleton. They also developed their understanding of the important functions of the skeleton. The children designed their own deadly animal toys and developed their design technology skills as they measured, sawed and joined their creations. They have also developed their skills in presenting information digitally by creating PowerPoint presentations about the deadly animal of their choice and comparing Top Trumps that they devised. The children celebrated the end of their theme with a lovely, sunny trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park, where they were an absolute credit to the school.

In their English learning, the children have used the text 'The Wolves in the Walls' to tackle some tricky grammar and punctuation concepts. In maths children have been learning about measures, learning to measure, accurately read scales and solve problems involving measures. Developing their food preparation skills, the children grated, chopped and peeled to make a delicious picnic. Unfortunately, the rainy weather meant the picnic took place

inside the classroom, but they still had a lovely day! The children have been developing their gymnastics skills in PE lessons, jumping, balancing and rolling to produce some wonderful gymnastic sequences. They have also continued to improve their athletics skills, including running over distances and refining their throwing skills. In computing, the Year 3 children have focussed on e-safety through the use of 'BUDD:E', an online game-based programme which focuses on the importance of strong passwords, what information should be shared and how to stay safe online. The RE learning has focussed on Hinduism and the importance of the River Ganges in Hindu culture.

## **YEAR 4**

The Year 4 pupils have been brilliant all year and it has been a joy to teach them. They have finished the summer term as hard-working and enthusiastic as they began way back in September last year.

This term has been packed with a wide range of events. Spanish day, sports day and the Mountain Rescue fund raiser. All provided a range of activities for the children to enjoy.

In classes, the children have really enjoyed studying the Mayan culture and all the activities that have accompanied it. In English, the children have loved our work around Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Chocolate bar making was certainly a favourite. The children loved making the bars but equally made some fantastic packaging to present their master pieces! One of the highlights of the term for the teachers was undoubtedly the drama that they performed as they acted out scenes from the book – who knew that we had so much talent amongst us? As part of their study of the Mayan culture, the children learnt about their Gods, home life and the importance of maize to their way of life.

This term also saw our student teacher, Mr Wood, complete his practice. We thank him for all his hard work and wish him the best for the start of his new career at Lydgate Infants. We wish all the children a fabulous summer break and thank them for all their efforts this year. Well done Year 4s!

## **INTEGRATED RESOURCE**

This half term in the Integrated Resource children have continued to access the very popular sensory-themed workshop with the support of a LINKS sports coach and have challenged themselves with a range of activities focusing on proprioceptive and vestibular senses. The children have all really enjoyed this. This half term the children have been developing their hockey skills and working on hand eye coordination.

Children have been continuing to develop their mastery in maths skills using lots of concrete and pictorial methods and have been embedding their knowledge around the topic of measurement.

In our English lessons this half term we have enjoyed taking part in the Sheffield Children's Book Award. In their role as judges pupils have read and discussed eight picture books and voted for their favourites. We cannot wait to find out which book has won at the award ceremony in November. We have also studied a poem by Michael Rosen called "Don't". Each child has learnt the words and helped to make up some actions to contribute towards a group performance of the poem. We were all very impressed by the enthusiasm and expression everyone put into their recital!

Children have thoroughly enjoyed their weekly Cognitive Behavioural Therapy interventions which have involved learning about thoughts, feelings and behaviours. They have accessed the sensory room for sessions based around Theraplay and relaxation.

Weekly enrichment cooking activities have involved lots of multi-sensory based cross-curricular opportunities, involving schedules, measurement, tasting, touching and sharing. Turn-taking and waiting skills have certainly improved this year.

Transitional work has been a significant part of our learning this half term and teachers have been involved in meeting new children and developing profiles and transitional plans with them ahead of the new academic year.

Children in Y6 have visited their secondary placements and have been involved in lots of visits and inductions to support their transition in September. We wish them all the very best for their next phase of education.

## **YEAR 5**

The Y5s have had a packed Summer 2 with loads of events, competitions and extra-curricular activities. The children have been getting hot under the collar over our most explosive theme of the year, 'Earthquakes and Volcanoes'. They have created some incredible model volcanoes and then learned how to create a chemical reaction to erupt them, with some amazing results.

In the other theme sessions the children have been honing their geography skills by discovering lots of facts about North America and the countries within it.

Literacy sessions have been full of drama as the Y5s have been playing lots of drama games to warm up for learning and performing poetry and creating their own musical score to the opening chapter of 'A Monster Calls'. Who knew that there was such talent lurking in Y5?

Alongside all of this learning, the Y5 pupils have been on quite a few adventures this half term. The Bradfield Cricket Competition was a huge success for the three teams from Nook Lane, our girls' team really excelling by winning the competition. The girls then attended the Sheffield City Finals and did their school (and Mr C!) proud by coming 3<sup>rd</sup>! An amazing achievement!

The Y5s also had the task of organising and running the Y2/3 transition sports day. The children were a credit to themselves and their teachers. As was said at the time, the teachers know that the children are doing a fantastic job when they can simply stand and watch what is happening.

The 'master builders' of the year group went to the 'Build It' event at Kelham Island where they competed against other schools to make a model fairground with transport using a motor. The children really enjoyed the day and their end product was brilliant!

The crowning achievement of the half term for the Y5s was the Mountain Rescue event. We have been raising money for this important cause for 5 years now and each year the event gets bigger and better (and more ambitious!) The children planned, resourced and ran the whole event from start to finish and created an event to remember for the whole school. Between gunge buckets and water balloons, nail painting and craft stalls, cake stands and target throws; the children raised an incredible £421! A big thank you to the parents and children who came and supported the event and to the children and parents of Y5 who helped to make this event such a great success.

So after a breathless half term the Y5s are all more than ready for, and deserving of, a rest. A huge well done and a big thank you for all their hard work and dedication this year. They have made this year a very special one indeed and made the Y5 teachers incredibly proud; they will miss them very much indeed.

## **YEAR 6**

### **THE AMAZING ADVENTURES OF SUPERSTAN**

The Year 6 children have done the school proud this year. Following on the rich tradition of impressive performances over the years, the production of Superstan was stunning. The children delivered the lines of a witty script with excellent comic timing, they sang their hearts out and showcased their impressive dance moves performing to such a high standard. There were so many incredible individual performances within a tremendous team effort. The reaction from audiences over the four shows has been glowing (many thanks to generous contributions by families after the shows to the Friends of Nook Lane funds.) Congratulations to the Y6 children and the Y6 teaching team. What an astonishing achievement!

We would like to thank the children in Year 6 for their commitment and hard work this Year and wish them all the very best in the future.

### **MATHEMATICS TEACHING NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR**

In the last few years at Nook Lane, mathematics has tended to be taught in ability sets. This academic year we have trialled a non-setting approach in Year 3 and from September we will be adopting this throughout all year groups (so basically the children will be taught maths in their own class by

their own teacher or teachers throughout the week.) We feel that this mixed-ability approach fits best with the Mastery in Maths programme we have been following in the last couple of years with almost all children being taught at age-appropriate objectives with a very small number of children with additional needs accessing an earlier part of the curriculum where necessary.

## **SPANISH DAY**

On Thursday 29<sup>h</sup> June, Nook Lane was once again transported to Spain and Latin America as staff and children came to school dressed in red and yellow and other fantastic outfits to celebrate our whole school Spanish Day.

In preparation for the day we had been learning about Spanish speaking countries and Mrs. Lawson had run a competition to produce something from a Spanish speaking country. She was thrilled with the brilliant response and so impressed with the effort, creativity and imagination that had clearly gone into every entry.

Children who stayed school dinners were treated to a delicious Spanish inspired lunch of Spanish chicken, Tortilla Española (potato omelette) and paella rice. There were also some very authentic packed lunches!

During the day the children "travelled" around the Spanish-speaking world. They made and ate salsa, guacamole and quesadillas from Mexico washed down with non-alcoholic sangría, enjoyed creating Mexican and Spanish art and learned the art of flamenco dancing. Children in Y5 and 6 even used their DT skills to build the Sagrada Familia out of midget gems and cocktail sticks. We finished the day off by learning about the history of the piñata and everyone had a go at making one of their own.

Children, parents and staff worked really hard to make this a fantastic, memorable day. A huge ¡¡GRACIAS!! to Mrs. Lawson and Mrs. Robbins for organising the day and to everyone who took part and supported this exciting event.

## **SAINSBURY'S SCHOOL GAMES SPORTS DAY**

Another spectacular sports day took place here at Nook Lane and we could not be prouder of our wonderful children. Despite us all checking our weather apps constantly in the days leading up to this event, thankfully, the heavy rain and thunder storms did not materialise. Instead, temperatures soared and the sun cream came out. We were blown away with how brilliantly all the children did in such hot weather conditions. Each and every child, worked hard to score points for their team and stuck to our sports day motto "win with modesty and lose with dignity". This year's deserving winners were the house "Sheaf" with a huge 5253 points. On such a hot day, this is an impressive achievement. Also, we would like to congratulate all of our race finalists, who

saved some of their energy, to compete in the nail biting races. Finally, we would like to say a big thank you to all the spectators who came to support and motivate the children. It was a great turn out. Thanks to Claire Lindley and Drew Cornelius for organising and leading the day.

## **LEGO LOGO**

One of our parent governors Mr Naldrett has worked with 15 Nook Lane pupils from across school to produce a fabulous lego version of the school logo. We will be displaying this in the hall in the autumn term. Many thanks to Mr Naldrett and those children that were involved. Special thanks to Friends of Nook Lane who paid for the lego.

## **SCHOOL LUNCHES**

The cost of school lunches for the next half term is £76.00, if paying by cheque please make payable to Sheffield City Council.

## **FAREWELL**

I hope you have seen my letter, sent out separately earlier this week, about Mrs Davies, Mrs Linacre and Mr Ashmore and their impending retirements. We wish them all the very best in the future. We are also saying goodbye to Mrs Cockerill (in the Integrated Resource) and Mrs Booth (who has provided cover in some classes) as their contracts have come to an end. We would like to thank both Mrs Cockerill and Mrs Booth for their hard work and wish them well in the future too.

## **TRAINING DAYS FOR 2017-2018**

I would just like to alert parents and carers to the fact that school will be **closed for children on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September**. We look forward to greeting the children back to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September. Here is the full list of dates for whole-school training days next academic year.

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Friday 16th January 2018

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018

From everyone at Nook Lane, I hope you all enjoy a lovely summer holiday. Hopefully, there will be lots of sunshine to enjoy!

Yours sincerely,

*S. Arbon-Davis*

Steven Arbon-Davis