

Be the best you can be!

Autumn Term 2 Newsletter

19th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and exciting half term of learning in school. There's lots to read and look at in this festive edition of the newsletter so, grab a cuppa and a mince pie and enjoy!

All parents should have received a letter regarding their child's Autumn term attendance. Please contact the school office if you have not received yours.

I would like to thank Mr and Mrs Herdman for their generous support of reading in our school. They have provided gift tokens for six pupils for the Wonderland bookstore in Retford. Teachers have chosen the following pupils to receive this prize:

Year 1: Beatrice F

Year 2: Petar K

Year 3: Alfie G

Year 4: Rosie B

Year 5: Poppy R

Year 6: Elsie H

Thank you so much to those of you who have supported the school by purchasing a book through our Amazon Wish List. It is a fantastic way to support us to provide texts that are engaging and exciting to all our readers. The link to this list can be found on our school's Facebook page.

Finally, I wish you and your family a very merry, fun filled Christmas and a happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming your children back to school on Monday 6th January 2025.

Thank you,
Mrs Cowell-Clark

Contacting us:

Calls can be made to school Monday to Thursday from 8:30am – 4.30pm and Friday 8.30am - 4pm on **01777 708065**. Please note, the office will be closed from Friday 20th December 2024 to Friday 3rd January 2025.

Enquiries about admissions, school dinners and any other query should be directed to office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk

Finance queries should be directed to: finance@clarborough.notts.sch.uk



Booking in Lunches, Breakfast Club and Wraparound Club

Parentmail is now open for you to book your child's lunches, Breakfast club and Wraparound places for the Spring Term 1. Please note, these must be booked one week in advance to allow us to ensure correct staffing and meals etc.

Please also note that Breakfast club starts from 7.45am and children will not be allowed into school before this time. Thank you.

Merit and Courtesy Awards: Autumn Term 2024

Congratulations to this term's recipients:

Y1 Merit: Arlo
Y2 Merit: Delilah
Y3 Merit: Esmay
Y4 Merit: Lorelai
Y5 Merit: Cole
Y6 Merit: Rion

Y1 Courtesy: Elsie
Y2 Courtesy: Chester
Y3 Courtesy: Reuben
Y4 Courtesy: Laila
Y5 Courtesy: Penny
Y6 Courtesy: Zach



Well done everyone!

Always, Always Tea Party

Mrs Cowell-Clark was joined by this half-term's 'Always, Always' pupils for a treat or two and a chat. Congratulations to:

Y1: Charlie B
Y2: Thomas C
Y3: Yazmin L
Y4: Harrison B
Y5: Isabella P
Y6: Oliver M



Christmas at Clarborough 2024!

What a great week we have had this week with our Christmas activities in school! On Monday, we saw the children in Years 3 to 6 perform a medley of Christmas songs, for Carols around the Tree. It was great to see so many of you coming into school to support the children and join in the sing along.

On Tuesday, the children enjoyed their special Christmas dinner. A huge 'thank you' to Mrs Smith and Mrs Bennett in our kitchen for the tasty lunch.

On Wednesday we had our Christmas party day. The children came to school in their party outfits and joined in various party games like pass the parcel and musical statues.

Finally, on Thursday we rounded off our Christmas week with our Christmas jumper day and each class enjoyed a game of dodgeball in PE. Everyone looked very festive, including the staff.

Merry Christmas Team Clarborough!



Children in Need

On Friday 15th November we asked the children to come to school in non-uniform, in aid of Children in Need. We asked for a small donation of £1.00 towards the charity. We are pleased to say that the total amount raised from Clarborough Primary School was an amazing £208.00. Thank you to everyone who sent in a donation!

Xmas4Schools Artwork

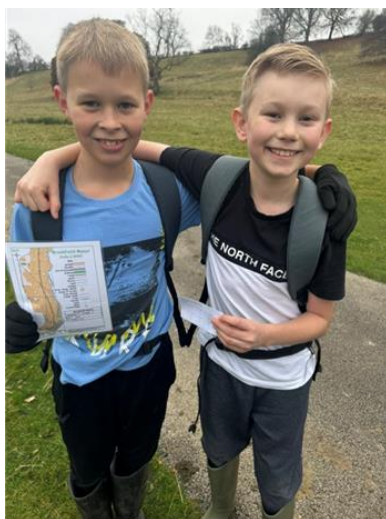
A really big thank you to everyone who ordered from our Xmas4Schools artwork. We have raised an amazing £201! This will go towards books and equipment in our school. Thank you to everyone again



Year 6 Residential Trip to Hathersage.

At the beginning of November, our Year 6 children went on their residential trip to Hathersage. They caught the train from Retford Train Station to Sheffield where they changed trains to Hathersage. The children had an amazing time in Hathersage. They took part in lots of activities including hiking, orienteering, lake dipping, building a camp fire and even a karaoke night! They also had to make their own packed lunches ready for the next day.

On the way home, the children stopped at Chatsworth House to see the animals and had a great time at the play park. They certainly had an action packed few days – well done Year 6!



Year 6 Christingle Service

On Friday 6th December, our Year 6 pupils attended Clarborough Church for a Christingle service hosted by Rev Mark Cantrill. The children made their own Christingles and found out about what each part represents. They also sang the song "Sing Christingle" – it was such a fantastic morning!





At the start of December, a selection of Year 3 and 4 pupils went to Sherwood Pines to take part in a Jingle Jog. They were accompanied by Mrs Cowell-Clark, Mrs Deakin, Miss Mayhew and Mrs Waring. The children and staff dressed up in festive jumpers, accessories and anything that jingled to complete the 3km course around the forest. It was a great afternoon and everyone involved had so much fun.

We have taken part in a few events this term in aid of Bassetlaw School Sports Association. We are hoping to continue to take part in various events over the rest of the school year.



KS1 Nativity

On Thursday 12th December and Friday 13th December our wonderful Key Stage 1 classes (Year 1 and 2) performed their Nativity, 'The Fleece Force'. On Thursday morning, the children all walked to Clarbrough Church for their first performance. The children put on a fantastic show to all their parents and family members, who filled the church to leave standing room only!! There were some very catchy songs and amazing costumes. The children did such a great job and it was clear to see all the hard work and effort that had been put in by all of them.

On Friday, the children performed in the school hall. Once again, we were blown away to see all the people who turned up to support them. We are all so proud of them! We would like to say a huge 'thank you' to Mrs Williams, Mrs Green, Mrs Freeman, Mrs Deakin, Miss Speller and Mrs Myers for putting on a great show for us all, and a huge 'thank you' to each and every one of the children who took part. You were all AMAZING!



Nursery and 30hrs

Well, we have nearly broken the excitement-o-meter in Nursery this term! Our 'Special Days' topic has given us an excuse to celebrate so many wonderful things and our children have been fabulous, starting with the rather sombre Remembrance Day celebrations, through Diwali, Bonfire Night, then welcoming babies, birthdays (everybody enjoying celebrating Bonker's birthday party), and finally advent and Christmas. Phew! The children performed the Christmas play PERFECTLY and we were all so proud to see louder ones learning to be quiet and quieter children learning to be loud. Our Elf Yourself Day was a huge mixture of mayhem, mischief and marvellous fun. Will we ever brave it again? I'm not sure! School is always magical at this time of year!





Reception

This half-term, Canada class has been thinking about Special Days. We began by learning what a special day is and thought about all the days that are special to us, such as Easter, Harvest Festival, weddings and baptisms.

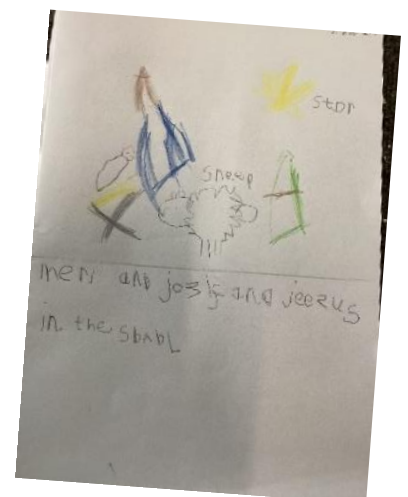
The first special day we looked at was Diwali, the Hindu festival of light, and we found out that Hindus decorate their homes to celebrate Diwali and paint mehndi patterns on their hands and rangoli patterns on the floor. We listened to the story of Rama and Sita and how lamps were lit to help guide them home, which is why Hindus light diwa lamps to celebrate Diwali. We then talked about Bonfire Night and how to keep safe around fire and fireworks.

The next special day we celebrated was Remembrance Day when we made poppies to remember the people who have worked hard to keep us safe. We also talked about why we celebrate our birthdays and had great fun planning and holding a birthday party for our cuddly toys.



Finally, we learnt why Christmas is important to Christians, read the story of The Nativity and acted it out for our families. We talked about the way that Christmas is celebrated in other countries and about our own Christmas traditions. The children also enjoyed exploring the cold weather, leaving tubs of water outside overnight to freeze and then watching what happened when they began to melt in the warm classroom. We have continued to learn new sounds and to practice blending and segmenting them in our reading and writing and have learnt about shapes and numbers up to 5 in Maths.

After the Christmas break our topic is 'What Shall I Wear Today?'





Year 1

In Maths this half term, Year 1 have looked at addition and subtraction and were introduced to the part- whole model and enjoyed finding a part. The children have been looking at the addition (+) and equals (=) symbols and learning to write number sentences with them.

In English, Year 1 have studied a short film clip this half term called 'Caterpillar Shoes' and based their learning around this. We are still working on writing sentences using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. The children have enjoyed a challenge and have been learning to join two clauses together using coordinating conjunctions. We finished the unit by writing a non-chronological report.

This term, our topic was 'The Gunpowder plot'. We have completed our learning by finding out about the early life of Guy Fawkes, how he came to be a part of the Gunpowder plot, and how Bonfire night is celebrated today.

In French, the children have been learning how to say 'hi' and 'hello' with Mrs Gulsever. They have also learnt how to say 'my name is...' and ask somebody in French how they are feeling and give them a reply.



Our Science topic this half term has covered 'Seasonal changes'. The children have enjoyed listening to the four seasons of the year song and can name all the months that fall into each season. The children have learnt to observe changes across the four seasons and describe the weather.



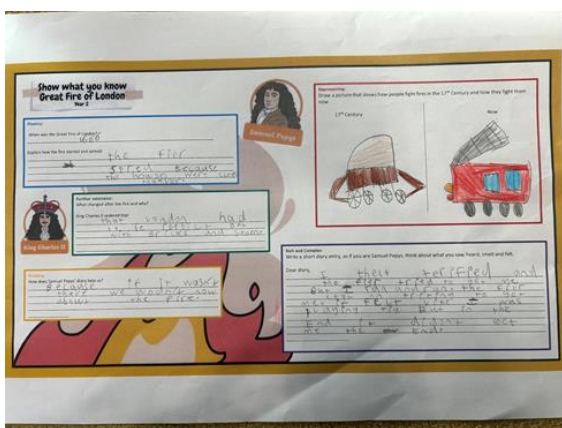
Next Term (Brief overview)

In Clarborough Curriculum, the children will be learning about Florence Nightingale. In Maths, we will continue to work on addition and subtraction and explore place value within 20 and in Science, our topic will be 'plants.'

Year 2

In Maths this half term, Year 2 have used what they have learnt during their place value unit to support them in adding and subtracting single digit numbers and then moving on to 2-digit numbers. We have also been adding 3 single digit numbers by using what we know about our number bonds to 10.

Year 2 have been looking at another short video clip, this time called 'snack attack'. The clip was about two characters, a lady and a man. It showed the lady trying to buy biscuits from a vending machine, she then went and sat on the platform of the train station and proceeded to eat the cookies. The man, who was sat next to her, took one of her cookies and she got mad. Eventually the lady, who was very angry at the man for stealing her cookies, got on the train. As she went to get her ticket out of her bag she realised that her cookies were actually in the bag all along. The video rewound and we realised the lady had put her cookies in her bag and the cookies she ate were actually the mans. Following on from the video we have completed lots of activities linked to the story and learnt about expanded noun phrases, conjunctions, past and present tense. We have discussed the story from the different character's perspectives and used this to write short paragraphs.



This half term we have completed the topic of The Great Fire of London. We have discussed the sources where we can find out about the Great Fire and their reliability. The children have also thought about life after the fire and how London was rebuilt and what changes came into place as a result of the fire and how it was dealt with.

In Computing, the children have been learning about digital art and how to complete art work on a screen. We discussed how sometimes this works better as it can be less messy and you don't need to have all the equipment and tools you would need to paint a picture on paper. Also, if you make a mistake you can rub it out and start again which you can't do when using paintbrushes. The children have enjoyed creating pictures in the style of Mondrian, using a grid and then the fill tool to add bits of colour to their picture. We have also learnt how to create shapes and use these to make pictures.

This half term in Geography we have completed our work on hot and cold places. The children have learnt how animals adapt to living in hot and cold countries and considered what they would pack if they visited one of these countries. The children also wrote a fact file about Antarctica and included some really interesting facts!

Our Science topic has covered the topic of materials. The children have identified and compared the suitability of a variety of everyday materials. They have also learnt that the shape of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching. We completed our topic with an investigation to see if certain materials were waterproof.

In French, the children have learnt to count to 10. They have also learnt 10 common colour names. We always enjoy our French lessons and the children now have language angel passwords in their planners. If they would like to sing any of the songs we have learnt at home or have a go at some games to practise their French, have go at logging on together.

Next Term (Brief overview):

In Clarborough Curriculum, Year 2 will be finding out about different explorers from the past as well as more recent explorers including Neil Armstrong.

In Maths, they will be deepening their understanding of addition and subtraction. We will also be moving on to multiplication and division and how to complete these number sentences. In English we will be looking at another film unit called 'The Bridge' and learning about fables, writing our own fable and another unit around amazing animals.

Our Science topic will be 'animals including humans.' The children will learn to notice that animals, including humans, have offspring which grow into adults. In Geography the children will learn about continents and oceans. They will locate them on a map and identify physical and human features in each continent and then finally, the children will be learning the names of seven sea creatures in French.



Year 3

In Maths, the children learnt how to add and subtract numbers within 100 including the column method. They also learnt ways to add and subtract a 2-digit number to a 3-digit number as well as inverse operations. The children have begun learning about multiplication and division. They focused on using their knowledge of the 2-, 5-, 10-, 3- and 4-times tables to answer a range of questions. They began by recapping what different symbols meant, making equal groups by sharing and grouping and then used this knowledge to answer questions.

In English, the children have enjoyed using an animated clip called 'Ride of passage' as part of their learning. They created storyboards, developed sentences into paragraphs and wrote setting descriptions. They also identified various clauses/ sentence types and wrote a conversation between two characters. Towards the end of the term, children enjoyed reading a range of limericks and had great fun when creating their own. They planned their limerick by thinking of a subject and found words that rhyme before putting this together with a specific structure.



Our Clarbrough Curriculum focus for this half term was 'Food and Farming'. Children were amazed to see where our food comes from before it arrives at the supermarket. They had fun finding out that the UK buys and sells food from around the world and looked carefully at a range of packaging labels to see what other information they could find out. The children learnt about Fairtrade and what this means before designing their own poster including ways that we can support this. Using a world map, they located a range of countries when finding out where certain food comes from.



In Science, the children began by learning about the formation and properties of igneous rocks. They then explored the formation and properties of sedimentary and metamorphic rocks. The children also looked into weathering and sustainability of rocks for different purposes when designing their own plaque for school. The children particularly enjoyed learning about how fossils are formed and Oliver from Year 6 brought his own fossils in and delivered an educational session to the class! It was great to see so many children interested in this topic and the children enjoyed sharing their own fossils with the class. They concluded their learning with exploring different types of soils.



During our Art lessons, the children completed some observational drawings and used sketching techniques to add depth to their drawings. There was also plenty of Christmas crafts towards the end of term!

In Computing, the children used a music creation programme to create ascending and descending scales, added their own chords evenly across the scales, added their own arpeggios and melodies, a steady and even rhythm as well as using sample sounds to create an effective mix.



The Year 3 children enjoyed a Forest School afternoon with Mrs Freeman where they played an animal twist hide and seek game before having the opportunity to use the mud kitchen, slack lines and hammocks. The children loved joining in with the songs, especially the 'bungalow song'!



Their favourite playtime this half term was when it snowed, they had so much fun!



Next Term (Brief overview):

Maths: Multiplication and Division/Fractions

English: An animation - Tadeo Jones (linked to Egyptians) and non-fiction unit based on the life cycle of a flowering plant

Clarbrough Curriculum: During the first half term, children will learn about Ancient Egyptians

Science: Plants

Art/DT: Digital world: wearable technology

PSHE: Diverse Britain (living in the wider world)

Religion and Worldviews: Is scripture central to religion?

Year 4

In Maths, this half-term, Year 4 have been learning their times tables as well as how to multiply and divide numbers. At the end of Year 4, there is an expectation that all pupils know and recall their multiplication facts for all of the times tables. They are assessed at the end of Year 4 so learning their times tables is crucial. Playing TT Rockstars (which can be accessed via Seesaw) is the best way to build up their recall – and the children enjoy it!



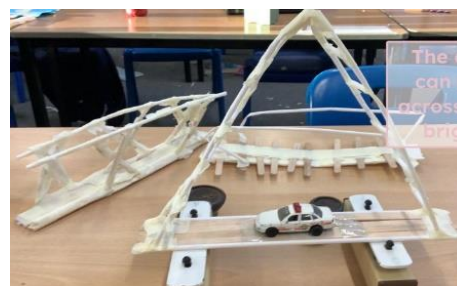
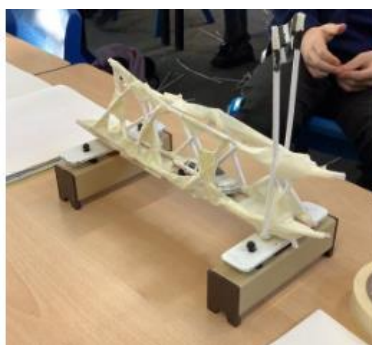
English for this half-term was linked to our Romans topic and pupils read 'Marcus's Misfortune' before planning their own narrative. They have also read a set of instructions for building a Roman road, learning lots of new vocabulary along the way such as 'groma', 'rudus' and 'nucleus'. After learning about the features of instruction texts, they had a go at writing their own.

Year 4 have loved learning about the Romans and the Roman Empire. They have learned about where and how the Roman Empire began and how it expanded over time, using atlases and maps to locate Rome, Italy, Europe and the wider world. They learned what Britain was like before the Roman Empire and found out about shields and battle formations.

In Science, Year 4 have been learning about states of matter (solids, liquids and gases) and their learning has involved lots of fun and practical investigations. Pupils have learned what each state of matter is and how the particles are formed. They have been able to compare and group materials, according to their state and noticed that some materials can change state when heated or cooled. They investigated the temperature at which different foods melt and identified the parts played by evaporation, condensation and precipitation in the water cycle.



In DT, building bridges was definitely a hit in terms of our Design & Technology learning. Pupils learned about beam, truss, arch and suspension bridges and had a go at designing and making their own versions!



In case you hadn't heard, pupils have been using Minecraft Education this half-term as part of their computing curriculum: creating different worlds, joining each other's worlds and learning about coding.

Next Term (Brief overview):

English: Narrative based on the film, *Home Sweet Home* and an explanation text about mountains

Maths: multiplication & division (continued), length and perimeter, fractions and decimals

History: Anglo-Saxons and Scots

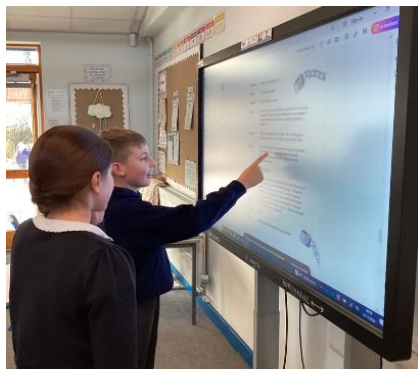
Geography: Topography

Science: Sound & Electricity

Art/DT: Painting and making a slingshot car

Year 5

In Maths this half-term we have been learning about multiplication and division. We learned about multiples, factors, squared numbers and cubed numbers. More recently, we have been learning about equivalent fractions, improper fractions, converting between improper and mixed number fractions and adding and subtracting fractions.

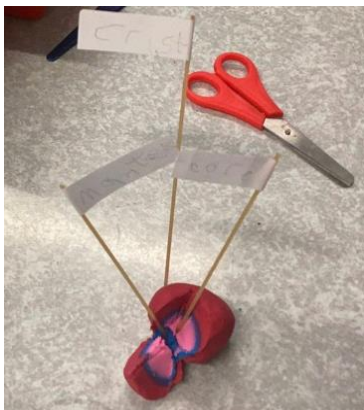


At the start of the half-term, we used the short film 'Little Freak' in order to develop our persuasive writing techniques. We investigated symbolism, emotive and figurative language and used them when writing a diary entry and letter about the boy in the film. Since then, we have created sentences containing personification and internal rhyme. Using the 'Zombierella' story, the children focused on their tone, volume and pauses when performing poetry.

In Geography, we have been learning about volcanoes and earthquakes this half term. Pupils learned about the movement of tectonic plates in the Earth's crust and what it is like inside a volcano. Using famous earthquakes, the children made decisions as to what they would include in their own earthquake survival kits and created instructions on what to do in the event of an earthquake.

In Science the pupils have been learning about the changes that occur in animals and humans throughout life. They enjoyed looking at the handspans of pupils across different year groups and created gestation period top trumps.

During Art this half-term, Year 5 have been learning about art installations. We looked at installations from the artist Cai Guo-Qiang and tested different materials in our own explosion art.

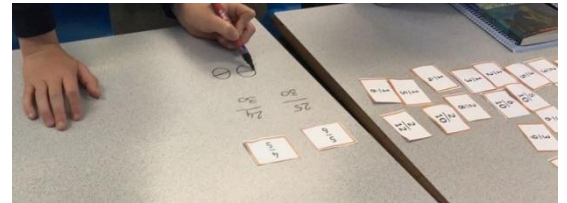


Next Term (Brief overview):

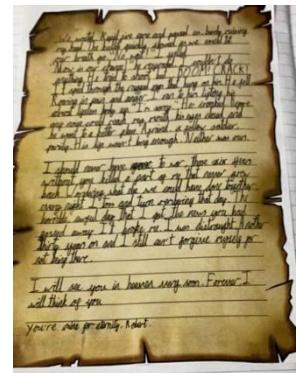
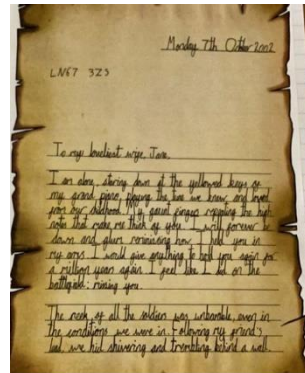
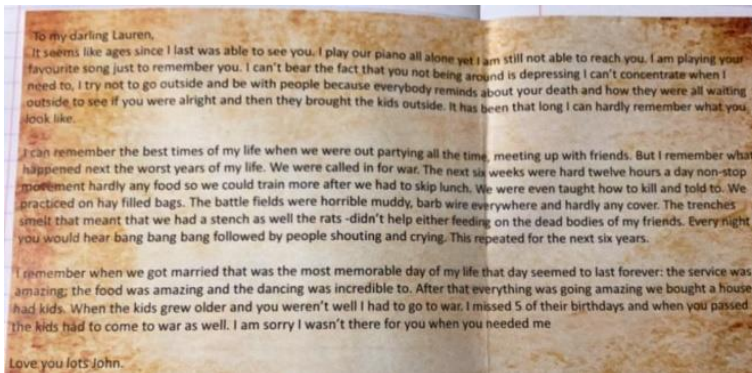
Maths - Multiplication, division and fractions and in English- Writing a non-fiction information text.

Year 6

In Maths, we have had lots of fun finding out about equivalent fractions. The children have played numerous games, including Snap, Battleships and making spinners, all exploring how fractions can be equivalent or simplified. They have also learnt how to add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions with the same and different denominators, as well as turning mixed number fractions into improper fractions.



Year 6 have worked incredibly hard with writing emotive letters which have included a flashback from a world war soldier to his beloved late wife. The emotive and figurative language used as well as atmospheric descriptions were truly fantastic! A huge well-done Year 6. (These have all been uploaded to Seesaw.)



In Geography, the children have completed their comparative study of the United Kingdom and Greece. The children have also experienced what life was like for a WWII evacuee child with our dress up day. They experienced the loud noise from the air raid siren, the taste of Spam sandwiches as well as what life was like in the classroom.





In Science, the children carried out numerous experiments to investigate how light travels in straight lines and how it is reflected in to our eyes. They also made periscopes.

In Design Technology Year 6 made waistcoats. They initially created their designs and then began using a template to cut out their chosen material. Then they began sewing each part together before finally adding buttons or their decorations.



In Computing, the children completed their module on graphic design where they designed apps using PowerPoint. Then they completed their image editing module where they will be editing images and using AI to remove objects from an image.

We also went up to Clarborough church for Christingle with Reverend Mark leading a fantastic service.

Next Term (Brief overview):

Next term in English, Year 6 will be writing a rap poem and a suspense narrative. In Maths, they will be learning about ratio, algebra and decimals and in History, they will be finding out about the Pilgrim Fathers

with a trip to Bassetlaw museum. In Geography, the children will be researching climate zones, vegetation belts and biomes and in Science, they will be learning about animals including humans.



Dates for your Diary....

Monday 6th January 2025 – Children Return to School – Spring Term 1

TUESDAY 7th JANUARY – NO WRAP AROUND AVAILABLE – SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR ALL SCHOOL STAFF.

Breakfast club session is still available.

Friday 10th January – Young Voices Concert

Friday 10th January – Pop up Uniform Table

Tuesday 14th January – DART sessions start for Year 6
Reception Class Maths games session – 9am (Details to follow)

Thursday 16th January – Census Lunch (Details to Follow)

Monday 20th January – CPR Training for Year 6 (Details to Follow)

Thursday 23rd January – Year 1 and 2 Phonics Session (Details to Follow)

Tuesday 4th February – ELS Mobile Library

Friday 7th February – Pop up Uniform Table

Friday 14th February – Last Day of Term

Monday 17^h February to Friday 21st February - Half Term

Monday 24th February – Children return to school – First Day of Spring Term 2



Breakfast club, wraparound care, 30hours and lunches need to be booked in and paid for at least one week in advance on Parentmail. Breakfast is served daily until 8:20 am. If you have any questions or queries relating to Breakfast club, Wraparound and lunches please email Mrs Hardie on office@clarborough.notts.sch.uk