



CE Primary School 'Growing together in love and learning'

Sessay CE Primary School Monthly Newsletter

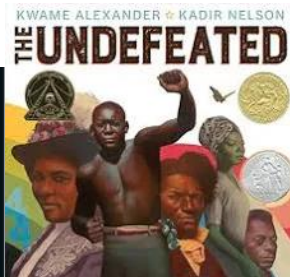
October 2025...

What a busy first half term of the academic year and month of October.

All our children in Fountains and Byland had a wonderful afternoon at Husthwaite Primary School, competing in the Easingwold Cluster Fun Run. There were a number of local schools taking part and it was great to see such perseverance and sportsmanship. We were extremely proud of all the children. Well done everyone!



During October - Black History Month. We have been celebrating the achievements and contributions of Black people, whose history sometimes has been overlooked. Rievaulx have been exploring the powerful themes within the text *The Undefeated* by Kwame Alexander. Through thoughtful discussion and creative activities, pupils have reflected on the resilience, achievements and contributions of Black individuals throughout history. The book has inspired them to celebrate identity, courage and hope, while deepening their understanding of the past and its impact on the present.



Fountains and Byland listened to the story of Floella Benjamin who came to England in 1960 from Trinidad. They talked about how Floella would have felt arriving in London in one room with her family, and initially not being accepted by her peers at school. The children were pleased to hear that Floella eventually settled and made lots of friends. We then talked about how she went on to receive an OBE from the Queen in recognition of her work.



Fountains went on an educational visit to Preston Park Museum earlier this month linked to their History topic. They thoroughly enjoyed playing with all the traditional toys and making their own optical illusion toy in their workshop.

They visited the shops in the Victorian Street - toy shop, chemist, print shop and the 'posh' clothes shop, to name

but a few. They then had a look round the museum which had lots of interesting artefacts from the past - the children loved seeing the old toys, but were also interested in the old telephones, washing machines, irons, bikes etc. As always Mrs Bennison reported that the children were impeccably well behaved and it was an absolute pleasure taking them out. She received a lovely compliment from a member of the public saying how well-mannered our children were.

Following on from September's NSPCC special assembly, our Year 2, 5 and 6 children have had a special 'Speak Out Stay Safe' workshop and enjoyed some time with Buddy. Everyone was really good at remembering the Childline number and who we could talk to if we didn't feel safe. Rievaulx gained lots of knowledge and confidence in what to do in various challenging situations and they impressed the trainers with their sensible attitudes and fabulous recall of information. Year 2 enjoyed meeting 'Buddy' and talked about the safe adults they would talk to if they felt upset or worried about anything. Throughout school all the children learnt about 'Safe adults' and who they can talk to if they are worried.

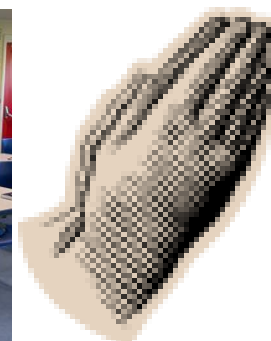


The whole school enjoyed celebrating Hello Yellow Mental Health Awareness Day. Byland had a lovely educational visit to Harlow Carr Gardens on this day, a perfect, peaceful way to increase their wellbeing. The children spent a wonderful day out in the fresh air, embracing nature and the joys of the changing seasons.

The children planted seeds into pots, which are now in Byland outdoor area. They went into the woods to find signs of autumn and in the afternoon they made woodland homes for the little bears that had sneaked into Mrs Fielding's rucksack! It was a wonderful day, and Mrs Fielding was so proud of all the children.



Bolton and Rievaulx joined in with 'The Lords Prayer Collective Moment' they joined forces to learn 'The Lord's Prayer Song' in Makaton.



Thank you to everyone for supporting our Harvest festival and for your Harvest generosity. The children loved bringing in their food donations which Thirsk Community Works will make very good use of in the coming weeks and months.



This month we have taken part in many Cluster Sports Competitions. Years 3 and 4 represented Sessay in the Quicksticks Hockey, showing great team work and determination. Rievaulx girls were amazing in the Year 5 and 6 girls' football cluster tournament. Lots of fun was had by all and great skill development to boot. Well done girls! Congratulations to our Year 5 and 6 mixed footballers who competed at Thirsk school. It is always a special moment to come back with medals and Mrs Harper noted how enthusiastic all the players were, wanting to be on the pitch and represent Sessay CE Primary School. Well done to all.



Pumpkin Harvesting, Pumpkin Creative Carving and last night a Pumpkin Party Disco! We love celebrating the fruits of our rural surroundings and are so grateful to our nextdoor neighbours Spilman's Farm for having all of our children visit and pick a pumpkin! Byland and Fountains were amazed at all the different shapes and sizes growing in the fields. Many thanks to all at Spilman's for accommodating us.



Many thanks to FOSS for organising a Pumpkin Party Disco and Creative Carving Pumpkin Competition.



A special congratulations to our winners Ollie, Fearne, Finlay, Wilf, Elkie, Connie, Cora and Mrs Pegley!

Friday 3rd October Awards

Byland, Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Fielding.

Sessay Acorn Award – Ollie is a pleasure to have in Byland class. We all love the enthusiasm and enjoyment he brings each day to school. Keep it up Ollie!

Headteacher's sticker - Ivy and Lara have been working hard in phonics. They are recognising lots of phonemes and beginning to blend them together to make words. Well done to you both!

Mathlete- Lila has enjoyed maths this week. We have been exploring number and finding different ways to represent it, such as claps, jumps and one to one counting. Super work Lila!

Writer of the week – Struan has been a superstar writer this week. After completing our phonics sessions, he often chooses to go and write words on a white board independently. Well done Struan, it is great to see your enthusiasm!

Bolton, Mrs Sowray and Mr Houghton.

Sessay Acorn Award – Emily for her excellent attitude and for working so hard on her poem this week.

Headteacher's sticker – Ebony for excellent concentration whilst doing her Roman mosaic work.

Mathlete – Fynnley for some super speedy work on his doubles and times tables this week, well done!

Writer of the week – Esme for being really focused on her work this week and for getting full marks in her spellings for the last month – keep up the good work!

Fountains, Mrs Bennison.

Sessay Acorn Award – Frankie always works hard in class, and we have been particularly impressed with his handwriting this week. Well done Frankie

Headteacher's sticker – Fearne has worked hard in our English lessons this week with her rhyming couplets. She also designed and created an amazing 'Handwashing Superhero' in science. Well done Fearne.

Mathlete – Genevieve has impressed us with her accurate work counting in 2s, 5s and 10s, and applying her knowledge to solve word problems. Well done Genevieve.

Writer of the week – Jasper has produced some lovely writing this week. He has taken his time and really thought about his letter formation, capital letters and full stops. Well done Jasper.

Rievaulx, Ms Gauder and Mr Chapman.

Sessay Acorn Award – Denver for his musical development and skills acquisition in the school band, DEVOLUTION

Headteacher's sticker - William A. and Jacob for their community spirit keeping the play equipment shed tidy.

Mathlete - Jack J for working hard on his presentation of ideas.

Writer of the week – Ellie for her fantastically descriptive language linked to our class text, The Proudest Blue.

Friday 10th October Awards

Byland, Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Fielding. Sessay Acorn Award – Headteacher’s sticker – Mathlete- Writer of the week – We all have a wonderful time at Harlow Carr Gardens in Harrogate! The children were all stars!	Fountains, Mrs Bennison. Sessay Acorn Award – Daisy is a pleasure to teach, and she has particularly impressed us with her work in English writing her harvest poem this week. Well done Daisy. Headteacher’s sticker – Etta for her work designing and creating her ‘Mermaid’ peg doll this week. She was so focused and the details which she has included are fantastic. Well done Etta! Mathlete – Henry has worked hard with using his knowledge of number bonds to 10 to find related facts to 100. He worked systematically and accurately. Well done Henry. Writer of the week – Hailey has worked so hard with putting the finishing touches to her story about ‘Bunbun’ this week. She has worked independently, and her ideas have been amazing. Well done Hailey.
Bolton, Mrs Sowray and Mr Houghton. Sessay Acorn Award – Pippa for consistently rising to the challenge, quietly ‘beavering’ away and putting in a fantastic amount of effort with her writing this week, keep up the good work! Headteacher’s sticker – Obi for his super leadership skills in Forest Schools. Mathlete – Charlie for working hard on his addition and subtraction this week as well as his excellent recall of doubles. Writer of the week – Fran for some great work this week, she has been busy writing poems and using rhyming couplets effectively – well done!	Rievaulx, Ms Gauder and Mr Chapman. Sessay Acorn Award – Billy is an excellent role model and always demonstrates commendable behaviour for learning. He is a pleasure to have in class. Headteacher’s sticker- Cora has shown great sportsmanship this week, particularly in our PE lesson on Tuesday when she made sure that all players were included and supported. Mathlete – Stuart has persevered with long division this week and has shown mastery of the written method! Well done. Writer of the week – Connie has written a thoughtful and neatly presented prayer to share for Harvest celebration.

Friday 17th October Awards

Byland, Mrs Tyrka and Mrs Fielding. Sessay Acorn Award – Ivy is a joy to teach and have in class. It is great to see her engaged in learning activities, where she always tries her best! Keep up the hard work Ivy! Headteacher’s sticker - William is so enthusiastic in all he does at school. He loves to learn and asks lots of questions and shares his ideas. He does it all with a happy smile. Well done William! Mathlete- Sienna has shown how well she can subitise! She can see an amount and tell you straight away how many there are without counting, up to 5 objects. Super maths work Sienna! Writer of the week – Lucy and Ollie have been superstar writers in our phonics challenge area this week. They have been writing words using the phonemes they know. Brilliant work, keep it up!	Fountains, Mrs Bennison. Sessay Acorn Award – Olivia is such an enthusiastic learner and always puts in 100% into everything we ask of her. Keep up the great work Olivia. Headteacher’s sticker – James has worked hard in all areas of the curriculum over the past couple of weeks. He has remained focused and has produced some lovely pieces of written work. Keep it going James. Mathlete –Marnie has persevered with her maths work with finding the next multiple of 10 after a given number. She did find this tricky at first, but she kept on trying and working hard. Well done Marnie. Writers of the week – Jessica and Ralph impressed Mrs Fielding earlier in the week when writing sentences correctly using their and there. Super work!
Bolton, Mrs Sowray and Mr Houghton. Sessay Acorn Award – Josephine for some super instructions on making a pancake and working hard in maths too – keep up the good work!	Rievaulx, Ms Gauder and Mr Chapman. Sessay Acorn Award – Alice for her courage in playing the guitar to an audience after only recently starting lessons

Headteacher's sticker – Freddie for his fantastic footballing skills with Mr Shimwell this week and for his ball control in hockey today, well done! Mathlete – Leila for persevering with her 4-digit column subtraction, she has stuck at it and all her hard work has really paid off – fantastic effort! Writer of the week – Elkie has worked extremely hard on writing instructions this week, including time adverbials, adverbs and safety tips! Well done Elkie.	Headteacher's sticker – Farrah for acquiring and developing her singing skills, particularly with harmonising. Mathlete – Jack M. for his methodical and systematic approach when reasoning using known facts. Writer of the week – Harriet for spotting links and patterns in spelling for ible/able words.
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Please remember tomorrow and Monday 3rd November are training days and school is closed. We look forward to welcoming the children back into school after half term on Tuesday 4th November.

Have a lovely half term.

NOTICES:

- As part of our **safeguarding** duties, we would like to remind parents that supervision of non-school children and toddlers are the responsibility of parents and not school whilst on school site and at the school gates outside of school hours.
- Remembrance Day Poppies and Royal British Legion items are available in school for a donation.



AUTUMN TERM DIARY DATES:

23 October	School breaks up for half term.
24 October	Training Day
3 November	Training Day
4 November	School open for Autumn term 2.
10-14 November	Anti-Bullying week 'Power For Good'
11 November	Remembrance Day.
13 November	Curriculum Enrichment Day – PSHE. Whole school open afternoon 1.15-2.30pm.
14 November	MoneyMakers – Children In Need.
17-21 November	Road Safety week
17 November	Years 5 and 6 Crucial Crew.
21 November	Non uniform day.
24 November (Amended date)	Individual School Photographs Year 6 SATs meeting for parents, 5pm on Teams.
1 December	FOSS Carol Concert
4 December	Sessay Christmas Jumper Day. Christmas Fair 3-4pm.
12 December	Autumn term Mini Report Cards.
15 December	Byland and Fountains Nativity
19 December	Christingle Service at St Cuthbert's Church 1.30pm 2.30pm School breaks up for Christmas holiday.

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