

# Westbrook Lane Newsletter

**Reception class** came up with a list of 10 experiences they wanted to have before they finished for the summer. The list included visiting the pond, making milkshakes, having a disco and a very special picnic with their buddies. Parents and carers have kindly donated many of the items to support these experiences.



In the last week, we arranged for Helen from Shine Drama to come in to provide an extra drama session for all of the reception children. This was a reward for Reception Class, raising the most money for the PTA's smarties challenge. Well done!



**Class 1** researched what an aquarium was. Then we designed our own with moving mechanisms. After we had made our aquariums, we evaluated them. We also enjoyed our pirate activity day which included a pirate treasure hunt and party. It was a great way to raise funds for the Leeds Hospitals Charity, too!



**Class 2.** In art this half term, class 2 have studied the Kenyan artist, Martin Bulinya. The children used their learning about the Maasai tribe to paint a picture in the style of Martin Bulinya. They used oil pastels and water colours. Lots of children used the skills they learnt when studying David Hockney to add detail to their work.





This half term, **Class 3** have been learning all about castles in design technology. Children have designed their own castle and built it using nets to make the 3D shapes.

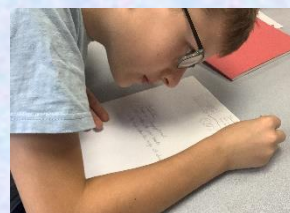


They looked at different features like curtain walls, crenels and merlons, towers, turrets and drawbridges and learnt why they were important.

**The Class 4 Bake Off** Year 4 have been designing and making their own biscuits. The children completed some taste testing before deciding on which ingredients they would like to add to their design. Having chosen a recipe, the children worked in groups to develop a brand name for their biscuit, complete with a package design and a catchy slogan. Then, it was baking day! In groups, the children weighed their ingredients, followed their recipe and baked them in the oven. After all this hard work came the best bit - the final taste test. The verdict was a class full of star bakers!



**Class 5** have also been busy with food in DT, planning and designing a stir fry recipe. They learnt about using equipment safely, prepared all the ingredients for their stir fry, cooked it, and, of course, ate it!



Chef de cuisine, Mrs Lockwood, and sous chef, Mrs Burns, took their roles seriously, but all the hard work was done by the children. Well done, year 5!





**Year 6.** In design technology, we designed and made waistcoats which we will wear in the leaver's concert. We started with a design brief, which was to make a waistcoat that represents us, with accurate measurements and careful stitching. We then used a pattern to help cut the material and used the sewing machine to attach the pieces together.



We added detail such as photographs, felt, buttons and gems. Finally, we used a special machine, an overlocker, to neaten up the edges. We're so proud of our finished products.

**Leeds is Going on a Bear Hunt.** We were very fortunate to take part in the Leeds Hospitals Charity Bear Hunt trail this year. Mrs Lockwood and I worked with the art ambassadors, a group of children from year 6. Our final design was inspired by The Tin Forest by Helen Ward which is a tale of hope and dreams in a time of darkness. Every child in school contributed to the bear design by making an animal, bird, minibeast, or plant to add to the forest background. Our bear is displayed in John Lewis, so I hope you will all get chance to visit her, and the other bears and bear cubs, over the summer.

<https://leedsbearhunt.co.uk/>



**Class fundraising for the Bear Hunt.** The school council asked every class to think of a fundraising event that they could put on to raise money for the Leeds Hospitals Charity. Reception's sweet cones were extremely popular; year 1 enjoyed their pirate day; year 2 got to play lots of traditional games such as battleships, twister, frustration and some newer games such as Genius Square; and year 3 and 4 got active, taking part in a range of physical challenges involving throwing and catching skills, as well as practising their skipping and football skills. The year 5 and 6 children worked together on a bun sale – there were so many donations, they had enough for a second sale! Year 5 also had a movie morning with some tasty snacks - for a donation towards the charity. The year 6 also sold some of their amazing crochet work.





**PTA** Thank you to the PTA who have funded lots of wonderful experiences for all the children in school and purchased a range of resources. Examples include various class workshops, selection boxes, KS1 Christmas books, subscriptions to Times Table Rockstars and NumBots, paying for the Year 6 DT project, and paying for the bear sculpture. They also funded the return of the extremely popular chicks. We had two incubators, one in each corridor, and the children and staff were delighted to watch them hatch and grow. The chicks are now living their best lives on Mrs Hopkins' farm!



**The Wildlife Area Group** has continued to work on the Millennium Garden and wildlife area. We are so grateful that they are prepared to give up their own time to maintain the area so that all the children can access it throughout the year. Year 4 spent some time planting bulbs in the spring and, more recently, reception class visited for some pond dipping activities.



### Dates for your diary.

Tuesday 5th September	Children return to school
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> September	PTA sponsored cycle event at the Brownlee Centre
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Autumn fair 11 – 2pm (in lieu of the postponed summer fair)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	Break up for half-term
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Teacher training day
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	School opens for children

**Goodbye Year 6!** We are so proud of you all and the progress you have made. They wowed us with the panto at Christmas; they were the most wonderful, supportive buddies; they worked so hard all year and in preparation for the SATs; and they now are ending their school journey with a bang at the leavers' concert. We wish them all the very best as they start the exciting next stage in their journey.

Thank you to everyone for all your support throughout the year, and the wonderful gifts you have sent in. I hope you all have a wonderful summer, and we look forward to welcoming you back in September.