

May 2021

# NEWSLETTER

Lighting the Way Forward in Education



## Lighting the way forward in education

Our theme for this bi-monthly Newsletter is Remarkable - we celebrate the remarkable children, young people, teachers, and associate staff doing remarkable things, to support both each other in their learning and the communities they belong to.

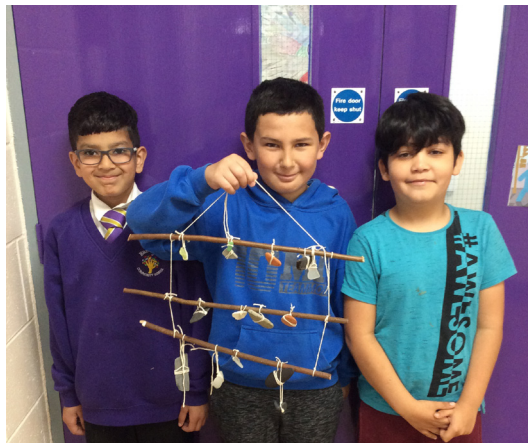
As we grapple with the impact of the pandemic on children, we must give ourselves time to think about how we can educate better – how might we make remarkable and sustainable changes to improve on what we did before March 2020?

I am immensely proud of the resilience and determination of NSAT School leaders. As you will see in this Newsletter from the vast array of activities and experiences from across our schools -they are thriving and undeterred in ensuring that a wide breadth of learning and social experiences is provided. I would like to shine a spotlight on the incredible achievement of Holycroft Primary School, who've just been awarded the prestigious Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) after a year-long piece of work.

Looking ahead to this Summer, Northern Star Academies Trust will be providing Summer Schools across all its Hubs – please keep an eye out for further information that will be sent out from your school after half term.

I wish all our school communities a restful half term break – let's hope the sun makes an appearance!

**Jenn Plews**  
Trust Leader





# Nurture: People make the difference. We are a learning organisation supporting and connecting learning, teaching, leadership and governance.

In 2021, NSAT appointed two new colleagues to the Trust as Directors of Inclusion and Wellbeing. Their role is to provide strategic and operational support for all aspects of SEND, Inclusion and Wellbeing, both for pupils and staff.

Both are highly qualified school leaders and teachers who are passionate advocates for children and young people.

## Aimee Bellwood

NSAT Director of Inclusion and Well-being

Aimee previously worked as Teacher in Charge of Starbeck EMS for SEMH and before NSAT at Greatwood EMS, commissioned by NYCC, however following a restructure coupled with having her first baby, Aimee then re-joined the Trust as one of our Directors of Inclusion and Well-being. Aimee has also worked as an Inclusion Lead in York, within a Primary PRU in London, in Australia in an IB curriculum and in inner-city schools in London where she began her career.



Aimee is a keen runner and yogi, recently a new mum. When not working, you can mostly find Aimee up a big hill, baby in backpack or eating some yummy food somewhere!

## Gary Crompton

NSAT Director of Inclusion and Well-being

Gary worked most recently as Deputy Head and Acting Headteacher at a Pupil Referral Unit for NYCC. Over his career, he has worked in several Special Education Schools and Provisions in Lancashire, Yorkshire and Cumbria, working across all five key stages. A point to note here: Gary doesn't actually like the term 'Special' when it comes to SEND. He much prefers 'Individual' or 'Alternative'.



Now that this is off his chest, Gary is a keen road cyclist (MAMIL) who loves putting the miles in to keep fit, ponder, socialise, enjoy the outdoors, but most of all, the thrill of the downhill. There is always someone faster going up, but he always makes it up on the downs - just don't tell his wife!



# One Britain One Nation - Supported by the DfE



**Today's Britain boasts a wonderful array of cultures, something which is reflected across our diverse Multi-Academy Trust. It is our multicultural identity that makes Britain so unique.**

One Britain One Nation brings us together, not to focus on our differences but to celebrate the values we share: tolerance, kindness, pride, respect, and a tremendous desire to help others.

Our diverse cultures are inextricably linked by the sole fact that we are British. It is this fact that has prompted OBON to reinforce and revive what collectively unites us.

## A Day of Pride and Unity 25th June 2021 - OBON Day 2021

OBON recognises that every parent, carer in the whole world over only wants the very best for their children and they want to see their children grow up feeling safe and protected. They want to see their children loved feeling happy and valued so that they can feel that they belong in their families, their school and their communities.

OBON wants to inspire our children to be the very best they can be by developing their self-esteem so that every child has this belief that they matter and are able to accomplish and realise their full potential. They want every child to be responsible, active and engaged in developing a sense of civic pride by championing our shared values of British Citizenship so that every child is learning what it is to be fair, decent, respectful, tolerant and compassionate.

OBON wants to see every child develop a strong emotional and meaningful connection with our country and its people by recognising that we are all one people with a role to play in the life of our nation where everyone must feel happy, safe and valued.

OBON wants to create a spirit of inclusion with a collective purpose and a common future where we all seek to eliminate hatred, intolerance and discrimination of any kind so that all our people can feel and develop a strong and shared sense of belonging in order to showcase their pride, passion and love for our great nation.

### Aims for the Day

To reach out to every school in the country and ask that they do the following: At **10am on Friday 25th June 2021**.

- ▶ Encourage every child in your school to clap for a minute to recognise, embrace and pay tribute to all those people who helped during the Covid 19 pandemic crisis.
- ▶ Sing the OBON DAY 2021 anthem written by school children titled "We are Britain and we have one dream to unite all people in one Great Team". Please download the song from our website.

Eastwood Community School have been a proud and long standing supporter of the initiative for the past 4/5 years and Suzanne Carter, head-teacher at Eastwood, recently gave an interview about why they champion the cause so widely.





# Eastwood Community School



## Exploring the Solar System

Year 5 have created a scaled model of our solar system using fruit and tissues paper.

What do you think  
[@ProfBrianCox](#) and  
[@daraobriain](#)?

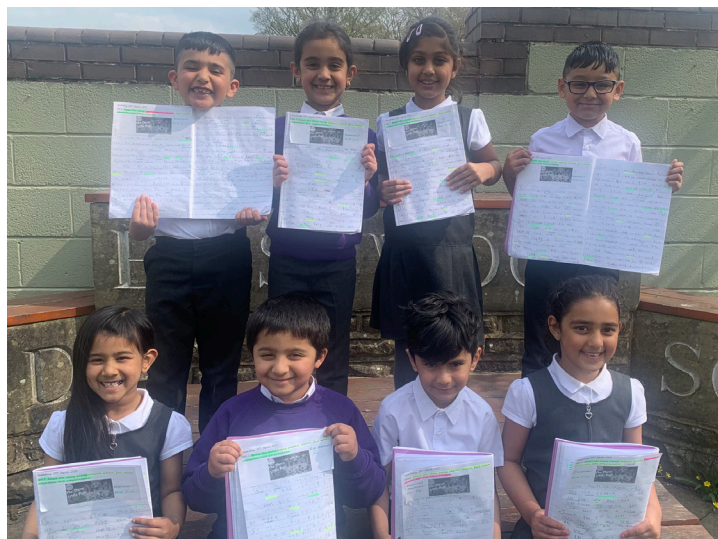
**#Science #EarthandSpace  
#OutdoorLearning  
#ScaleModel**

Click to have  
a look at our  
solar system



## Writing Superstars

Year 1 have been doing some amazing writing and showing fantastic progress! Here are some of the writing superstars proudly showing their work. Well done Year 1! 🌟✍️ **#creativewriting  
#progress #welovewriting #superstars**



## Anansi the Spider

4DH have been busy creating scripts based on the folktales of *Anansi the Spider*. Working in pairs, they produced some splendid drama performances in the middle of a purpose-built 'forum' in the classroom.  
**#Learning #Oracy #Drama**



## Charcoal Sketches

Year 2 have been developing our Art skills. We experimented with using charcoal to sketch houses from 1666.





# Outdoor Artwork



What a fabulous day Year 5 had creating artwork outside! A special thanks to our artist in residence, Mr Perkin's father, Mr Perkin senior.

Take a look at our great, Andy Goldsworthy inspired art.

**#LearningOutsideTheClassroom**  
**#OutdoorLearning #Creativity**



## Shiver Me Timbers!



After the children went home for the holidays a crew of fearsome pirates came and moved into the reception classroom! Shiver me timbers...we were ready for the children to return after half term.  
**#yohoho #allaboard**

A fantastic first day back after half term. Pirate training commenced with enthusiasm in Reception! **#funinthesun #stylishhammocks #lookoutforpirates**



## Eastwood Rocks!

We have been raising money for the NSPCC Number Day by dressing up as rock stars in preparation for our TTRockStars challenge  
[@TTRockStars](https://www.ttrockstars.com/)

**Great effort Year 5/6 - rock on!**



**Year 1 rock stars**





# Starbeck Primary Academy



## Year of Waste 'Secret Mission'

As part of our NSAT 'Year of Waste' Challenge, the Year 6 class were set a 'secret mission' to tell the world (or at least our school) about the life story of a simple t-shirt.

From where it began in the cotton fields of India; to the machine factories in Bangladesh; its journey across the sea to the UK and how it found its way into our local Morrison's store.

On its journey, they learned about the human and environmental cost of one simple t-shirt. We learned about the pollution caused by the pesticides used when growing the cotton; and from the dyes used to colour the t-shirts. We learned about the huge amount of water needed throughout the growing, harvesting, spinning and weaving processes and the human cost from working conditions in Bangladesh factories. Fantastic learning 🍌



## Aboriginal Designs

Mrs Kitwood's Year 1 class have been inspired by their Australia 🇦🇺 topic and created some wonderful Aboriginal designs. Here are a few fabulous examples of boomerangs 🪃 and kangaroos 🦘 🍌





## Bake Off

A tasty end to some excellent learning for Year 4 who, as part of their DT Food unit, have planned & designed, made, tasted and reviewed their own bread. The children all designed the shape and the flavour of their rolls after tasting and selection of shop bought ones. There were sweet ones with cinnamon, ginger, apple, chocolate chips and savoury with cheese, olives, herbs and garlic. The smell of fresh bread (kindly baked for us by our catering team) was amazing.



## Wild Artwork and Outdoor Education in Knaresborough

Such a great feeling to be back out on educational visits. Outdoor Education is now integral to our curriculum offer and what better example than Year 3's walking trip to Knaresborough. History, Geography and Art activities, carefully planned and combined by Mrs Anderson - The children created wonderful wild artwork in the woods, then explored the riverside and drew maps of the area. After a lot of walking, they had earned their ice lollies in the sun! The children certainly followed our school expectations as they behaved well and demonstrated great manners when dealing with members of the public. A wonderful day 😊





# Greatwood Community Primary & Nursery School



## Year 4 Walkers

It was the wettest day EVER! But this did not stop us from reaching the summit of Pendle Hill! Well done to our Year 4 superstars. Their faces say it all 😊

#outdoored #wellbeing #goodweather-forducks #happiness



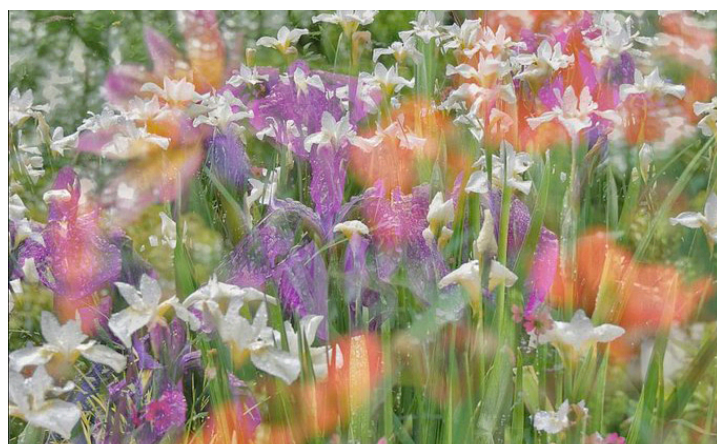
## Bring a Tractor to Work Day

A standard Friday morning at Greatwood! Chris, our Caretaker brought in his tractor to show our Year 1 children as part of their transport project! #culturalcapital #curriculum #tractor



## Photography Competition Winner

Many congratulations to Jack (Year 5) who won this year's U11s and the Overall Young Winner categories at this year's RHS photography competition. He captured this vibrant image, named 'Fantasy Flowers', at RHS Garden Harlow Carr in Harrogate. #proud





# Superstar Swimmers

We are absolutely thrilled with the progress that our Year 6 children have made in their swimming. Many congratulations to the five super stars below who have all gone from being complete non-swimmers to achieving their 25m badges!

#weloveswimming



# Busy Planting

It's been a really busy week at Greatwood! After receiving 150 saplings from The Woodland Trust, we have been busy planting them all around our school grounds.

@WoodlandTrust @EcoSchools

#sustainability #greenschool #hazel #birch #willow #hawthorn



# Gone Fishing

There's no more to add other than these photographs say it all!

#happychildren #wellbeing





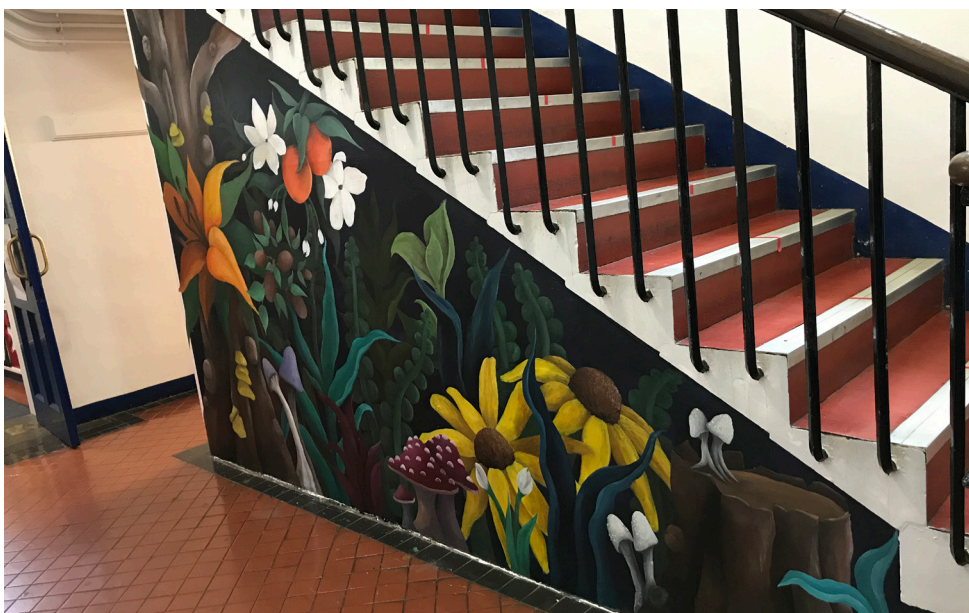
# Skipton Girls' High School

skipton girls' high school  
an engineering academy

## Art Trail 2021

Over the next few weeks you will slowly see some amazing Art and Photography work go up on the walls, and elsewhere! This year we will be doing something different and creating an Art Trail around the school, this will showcase the superb Art and Photography from every year group. You will all get an opportunity to see this, and with the help of Mrs Lofthouse there will be some exciting new ways to view this!

We are hoping that the trail will also lead you to see the new refurbishment of our Art Sixth Form room, this is very exciting for us!



## King Henry VIII School Virtual Cross Country Relay Race

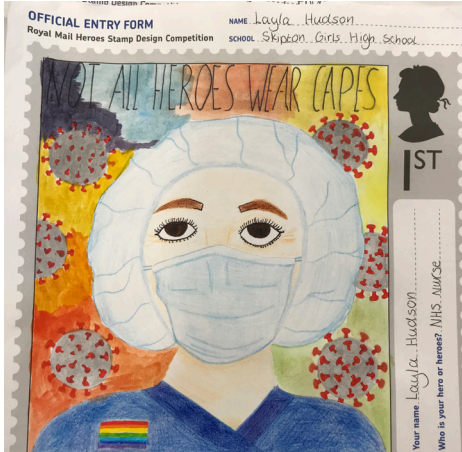
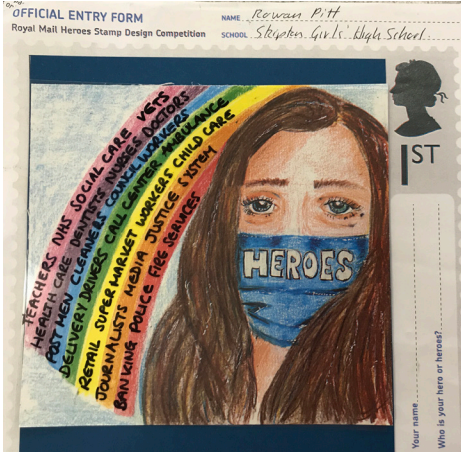
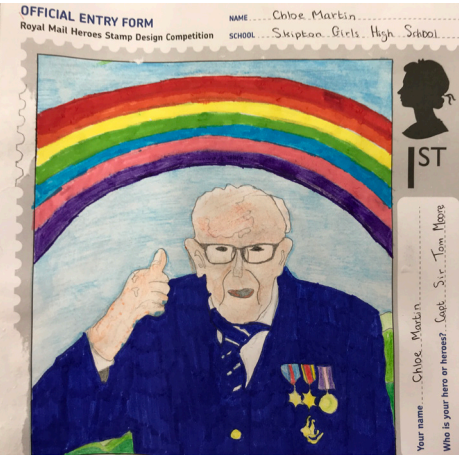
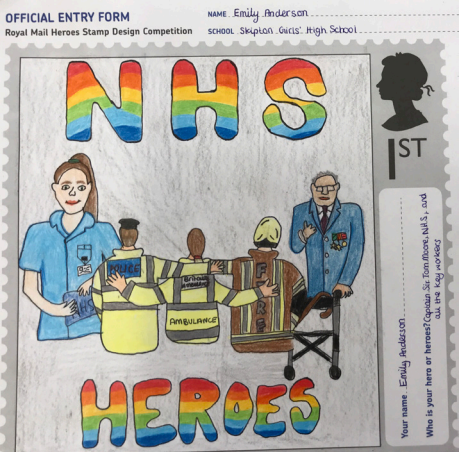
Our wonderful cross country runners took part in a 5km Cross Country virtual relay race against schools from all over the country. We submitted three teams of amazing runners, and our A Team came 3rd overall and received a trophy for their fantastic efforts. A special mention to Ruby Firth, who was the 6th fastest female runner from all of the school's who took part. Well done to all our wonderful runners.





# National Post Office Stamp Competition

Thank you to all the students who have sent in some fantastic designs for the national post office stamp competition. Fingers crossed for a winning entry from SGHS! Well done and thank you for entering!



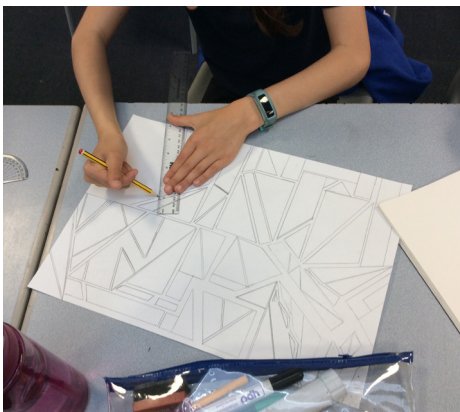
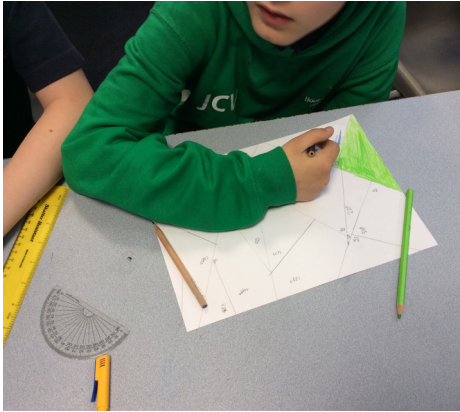


# Hookstone Chase Primary School



## Geometric Shapes

During their work on angles, UKS2 pupils enjoyed being creative exploring the use of geometric shapes in art.



## Impress Me

Year 4/5 'Task Master' activity to "impress me". Pupils enjoyed developing their team building, confidence and creative skills.



## What Does Ramadan Mean to You?

One of our brilliant Year 5 pupils (with her prayer mat) explaining to the class what Ramadan and Islam means to her. All participants in the session modelled and implemented British Values exemplary.





# New Park Primary Academy

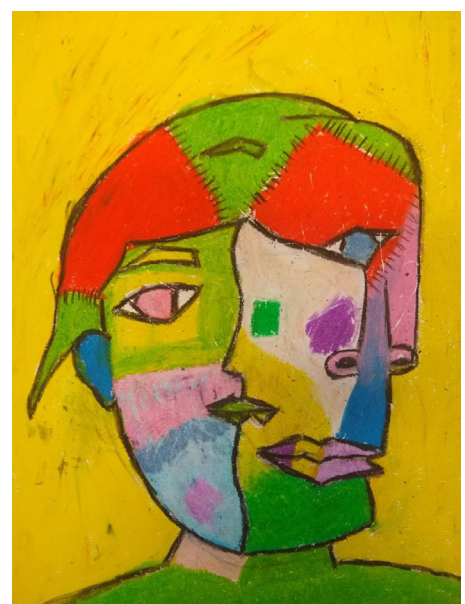
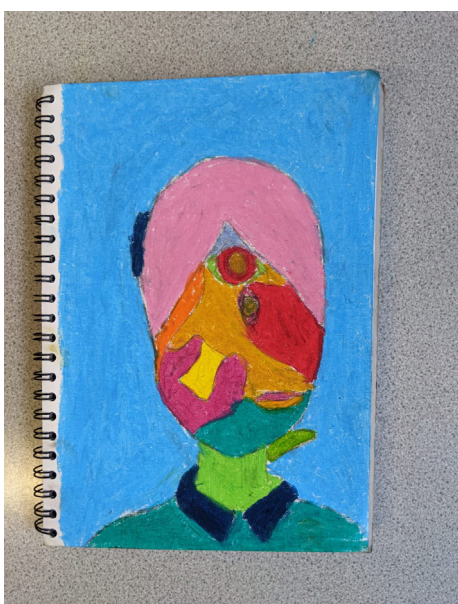
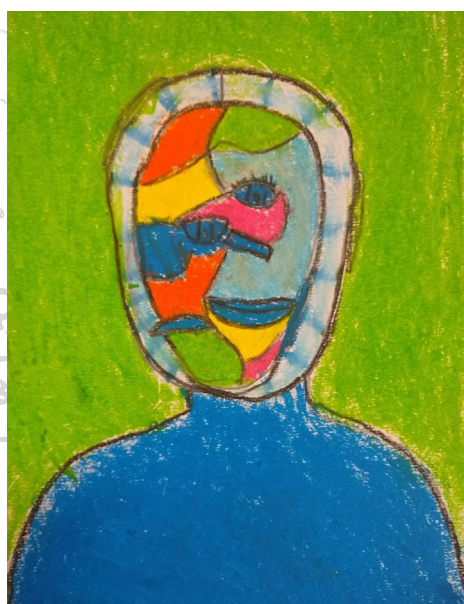
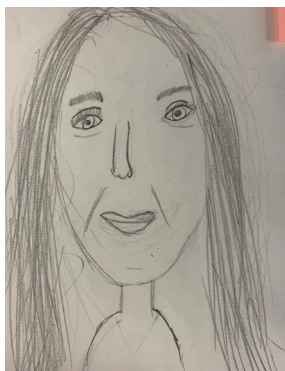
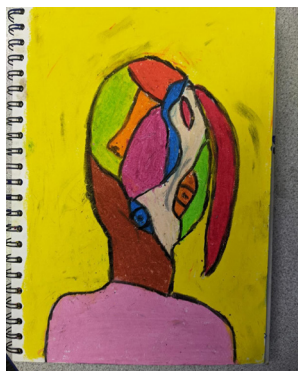
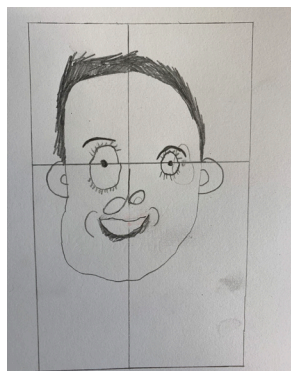


## A Lesson in Digestion

Year 3/4 LOVED their recent lesson with Georgi from Chartwells! Fascinating to learn all about the human digestive system (and just a little bit gross too!)

## Self Portraits

Year 5 and 6 have been doing self portraits this half term in various styles, including Amy Sherald, where they were only given four colours and had to create the shades they needed, and Pablo Picasso. Take a look at their fantastic efforts below.





## Nidd Gorge Viaduct

Year 1/2 have begun to construct their models of the Nidd Gorge viaduct - the children had to work as a team to test, evaluate and discuss the best materials to use to make their bridges strong and sturdy!



## Superhero Masks

KS1 made these fabulous superhero masks to help them write stories about superheroes they had created!



## Poetry Performance

Key stage 1 would love to show you their poetry performance! This is "Naming Me" by Eloise Greenfield. Click the link below to view!



Click for our poetry performance [➔](#)

## Fab Photos from the Recent KS1 Visit to See Our Goats





# Holycroft Primary School and Nursery



## Comic Relief

Our children thoroughly enjoyed raising money for Red Nose Day this year by wearing red and dressing up as superheroes. We all had a tasty 'Red Nose' biscuit with our lunch too!

**A big thank you to our kitchen staff for making these.**

**#RedNoseDay**



## Microbiomes

We had a wonderful British Science Week, learning together about Micro-biomes and what plants really need to grow well.

**#HolycroftFamily #BSW21**



## World Book Day

We hope everyone enjoyed **World Book Day** this year. We asked our children working at home to make a 'comfy reading den'. Here's one of our children enjoying stories in her fantastic den.

**Well done to everyone who took part!**





# Harrogate High School



## Local Author Donation

Local Harrogate author Lorna Snowden kindly donated a copy of her new novel 'Murder After the Matinee' to our school library.

Thank you Lorna!



## Mental Health Awareness Week

During Mental Health Awareness Week, we are being encouraged to experience nature. Take a moment to notice and celebrate nature in your daily life!

Here is a picture of the school playground this week.

**#MentalHealthAwarenessWeek2021**



## Year 11 Leavers

On 21 May we wished our Year 11s a fond farewell.

Good luck for the future everyone!

We will miss you.

**#HHSchoolFamily**



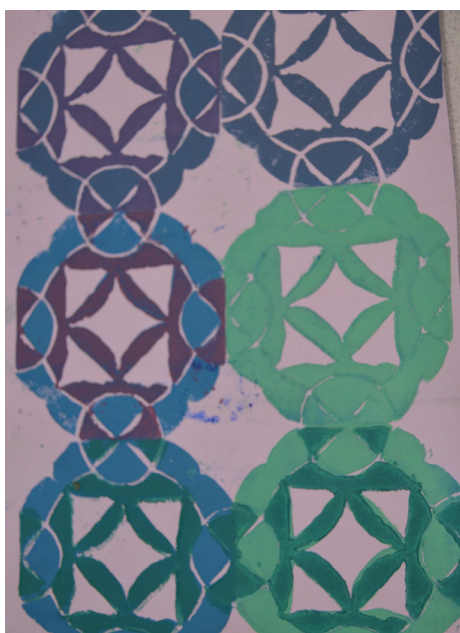


# A Selection of Fantastic Art from HHS this Half Term

Our Year 10s have been developing and refining their lino prints, here are some excellent examples.



Some more nicely developed multi-coloured lino prints.



Year 10 again - sketchbook work which will be developed into final pieces.

