

SPRING 2 2025 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an incredibly busy term with so much to be proud of and we're looking forward to sharing our Ofsted report with you all after Easter. Lots of fantastic learning has taken place both for pupils and staff. As always, please can I thank the entire school community for your continued support. It was great to welcome you into school for our parent consultation evenings this week, our PTA Easter Fair and to our Fair Trade Coffee morning earlier in the term. It is this partnership between home and school that we wish to continue and strengthen. We have, amongst other things, celebrated World Book day; raised money for Comic Relief and the Buffalo Bag Programme and the Homeless not Hopeless Easter Egg appeal. We have taken part in sporting events and competitions organised by Jonny from the Skipton Sports Partnership; raced our socks off (literally) at several cross country events; and celebrated Easter at church with Rev Marion and Rev Calow.

Clubs will continue after Easter, please see the letters that have been sent out.

Please take the time to look back over our previous newsletters which are full of information about community events taking place over the Easter Period. All newsletters can be found on our website. Likewise, please see the forthcoming dates for next term at the end of this newsletter. It promises to be an action packed term once again!

For everyone celebrating Easter, I hope you can take the time to reflect on the most important event in the Christian Calendar.

**A reminder that we will see you all back in school on Tuesday
22nd April.**

I hope you all have a wonderful break.

Georgina Hodgson

Acting Headteacher

Governing Body Update

We are pleased to welcome Mr Jack Briggs to our Governing Body. A full response from Mr Atherton will be sent out to parents once the Ofsted report has been sent through in May.

LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

Reception

It has been a super half term in Reception. Our topic has been Growing and Changing and it is one of my absolute favourites! As the weather has thankfully warmed up and we have started to see much brighter days, our outdoor classroom has really come alive and the children have loved engaging and exploring our grounds in new and exciting ways!

We started our new half term with stories about seeds and planting. We read Jasper's Beanstalk (Nick Butterworth) and The Tiny Seed (Eric Carle) and learnt about what plants need to grow. We were surprised to find out that our cress grew on cotton wool (instead of soil) and were shocked when our cress grew in the dark! We wrote instructions about how to plant a seed and had fun playing in our garden



we



centre role play area. We discussed farming and farmers and where our food comes from and thought about how thankful are for having enough food to eat.

We then moved to thinking about life cycles and were mesmerized watching time lapse clips of beanstalks and sunflowers growing. Later, the children enjoyed the familiar story The Hungry Caterpillar (Eric Carle) and loved the unfamiliar and surprising tale of Tadpoles Promise (Jeanne Willis). During our work on tadpoles and frogs we read The Bog Baby (Jeanne Willis) which is story about 2 little girls who find a magical creature in a nearby woods. Some children made their own Bog Baby and will bring these home soon to look after!



Our math's work this half term has been the unit Building 9 and 10 and 3D shapes. Building 9 and 10 looks deeply at quantities up to 10. We ask the children many questions such as

How many different ways can you find 9/10?

How many did you count? How do you know?

Which has more? Which has fewer?

What is 1 more than _? How many are there now? What is the number after?



An example of our maths work in the outdoor environment would be to hold up a numeral card from 1 to 10 and ask children to do the corresponding number of actions, such as 9 bunny hops. Then

encourage them to help you order digit cards from 1 to 10 and hide one of the cards and prompt children to work out which number is missing. At home you could encourage your child to represent 9 and 10 in different ways using objects from around the house. For example, they could find 10 legs using two toy cows and one duck from a farm set.



All the children planted cress and broad bean seeds this half term and have looked after them at school. They will be bringing their bean plant home for Easter for you to plant out at home. We have all enjoyed observing the changes in our class pot of caterpillars, they are currently busy making cocoons and should emerge as beautiful butterflies after the Easter holiday! We will continue our life cycle topic next half term, for a short time, because our incubator is booked to arrive on the first day back after the holiday with 6 little chicken eggs, ready to hatch! Exciting!

LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

Year 1

As we wrap up another term, we are delighted to share some of the fantastic activities and learning experiences our class has engaged in! It has been a term filled with creativity and exploration, showcasing the children's talents and enthusiasm.

This term, we have immersed ourselves in the world of non-fiction writing. The children produced impressive fact files about 'The Shard' in London, delving into its fascinating history and architectural features. Following this, they tapped into their imaginative sides to create their own unique fact files based on imaginary buildings inspired by our village of Embsay.



In Maths, we have seen the children embrace a number of topics and work so hard in developing their problem-solving skills using stem sentences and reasoning. It has been fantastic to see the children really mature and begin using their Maths more creatively, challenging themselves with thinking outside of the box and excitedly volunteering to share questions and answers, using key vocabulary as well! Awesome!



In science, we turned our focus to the changing seasons. We compared the chilly temperatures of winter, which reached a brisk -5 degrees, with the delightfully warmer spring temperatures of around 13 degrees. The children enjoyed observing how nature changes, and we also learnt the names of some common spring flowers. They expressed their creativity through beautiful pastel interpretations of these flowers, hoping you appreciated the special cards they made for you, Mums! Furthermore, we all composed lovely poems about spring, capturing the beauty and vibrancy of the season.



Our history lessons led us to discover some intriguing old household items. The highlight was undoubtedly a vintage dial telephone, which sparked the children's curiosity and provided a tangible link to the past. Mrs Hayes shared her experiences of using the telephone many years ago, and this opened up a wonderful discussion about how technology has evolved over time. The children were captivated by the stories and enjoyed imagining life before mobile phones!



In RE, we have been revisiting the topic of Easter and took part in a maze-like narration of the Easter Story, following a pathway of palm leaves to celebrate the arrival of Jesus in Nazareth, waving and cheering on His arrival, to taking a moment of pause when we realised His disciple Judas had betrayed Him. The children explored how the emotions of the Easter Story travel a journey of their own and produced some fantastic artwork to represent this. We then considered 'Heaven' and what this might be like, reading the story 'Heaven' by Nicholas Allan and 'Water bugs & dragonflies' by Doris Stickney.



Finally, in Music, the children have created moving, musical artwork representing the emotive sounds of Benjamin Britten's 'Dawn' from Sea Interludes. It was wonderful to see the children bring the orchestral arrangement to life through their own movements and creativity. It certainly captivated a beautiful end to the Spring term, wrapping up what has certainly been a very busy few weeks!



Wishing you all a wonderful Easter break and sending our thanks for your continued support as always. Happy Easter!

Year 1 Team ☺

LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

Year 2

In English, Year Two have enjoyed reading 'The Baker's Boy and the Great Fire of London' by Tom and Tony Bradman. They used interesting adjectives and similes to describe the fire. Children have written fantastic recounts of the Great Fire of London, in role as Will. Children also enjoyed sharing and discussing their favourite books on World Book Day.



In Maths, children have explored multiplication using repeated addition and arrays. They have also explored division through sharing and grouping. Children have doubled and halved numbers. During our topic on measurement, children compared different lengths and heights.



In Science, children have investigated the properties and uses of everyday materials. They planned and carried out different experiments to find out which material is the most suitable for a purpose. Children have particularly enjoyed exploring which materials are waterproof and absorbent.

In Religious Education, children have retold stories of Holy Week and Easter. They discussed examples of how Christians show their beliefs about Jesus as saviour in church worship.



In History, children have been learning about schools in the past. We set up a museum in the classroom, using artefacts from Craven Museum. Children asked and answered questions, through closely examining the artefacts. They identified similarities and differences between schools now and at different times in the past.



In Art, children looked closely at sketches by Beatrix Potter. They used this for inspiration to create wonderful paintings using watercolours. Children looked at Mr McGregor's Garden and carried out still life observational work on fruit and vegetables. Children have also taken part in an environmental art project. They chose an aspect of nature that makes them feel happy and created colourful collages using recycled materials.



During PE lessons, children have developed their throwing and catching skills. In Gymnastics, children performed sequences with control.

In PSHE, children identified ways to keep safe when using the internet and people who help to keep them safe. Children also discussed ways to respect and look after the school environment.

In Music lessons, children listened to 'Orawa'. They created artwork inspired by the music and worked in groups to create vocal chants with body percussion. Children have also enjoyed listening to music inspired by transport.

In Computing, children collected and recorded data using tally charts. They entered data into a computer to create pictograms and block diagrams. Children used their data to answer questions.

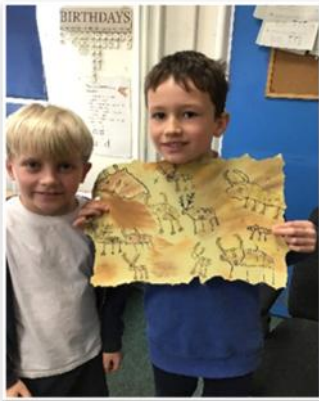


Thank you for all your support.

Have a lovely Easter!

LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

Year 3



In English, the children thoroughly enjoyed exploring the book, *Stone Age Boy*. They refined their use of inverted commas for direct speech and used adverbs to express time. Their final piece was a fantastic retelling of the story, showcasing their creativity and writing skills.



In PE, Year 3 began their swimming lessons, where they worked on a variety of swimming exercises to build confidence and develop key water skills.



In History, the children delved into the fascinating world of the Stone Age. They learned about Stone Age diets, lifestyles, and even had the incredible opportunity to examine real Stone Age artefacts!



In Maths, the children completed their unit on fractions with confidence. They impressed us with their ability to apply their Year 2 fraction knowledge, showing great understanding and fluency in their learning.



In Science, Year 3 explored the world of rocks and soils. They investigated how different types of rocks are formed, compared their properties, and carried out a decomposition experiment, observing how various materials break down over time.



In French, the children enjoyed learning the names of different fruits. They even wrote about what was in their fruit kebabs using their new vocabulary—*très bien!*



Thank you for all of your support!

Have a lovely Easter!

From the Year 3 team



LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

Year 4

What a busy half term! Year 4 have been non-stop this half term, with assessments, trip to Sandylands, Science experiments! It's been a busy one, but Year 4 have continued to show determination, positives attitudes towards their learning and dedication to always make progress. Once again, it has been a pleasure to watch them grow and succeed – getting ready for Year 5! A massive thank you to all the Year 4 parents for your continued support with home learning in reading, spelling, grammar, times tables and mental maths facts – it is very much appreciated as it really does make a difference to your child's progress over the year.

In English, the children have been learning about the book called 'The Journal of Iliona'. At first, the children had mixed feelings on this book, however as we read more, the children became more engrossed and have enjoyed this book. Alongside practicing our grammar and spellings, the children have written three fabulous pieces of writing – a diary/recount, an informal letter and a descriptive paragraph about a Roman banquet. I have been very impressed!



In Maths, the children have worked extremely hard! First, we learnt about multiplication and division, focusing on written methods. We practiced and practiced and practiced these methods until our brains were ready to explode! I must say, the children impressed me with this! Then, we moved onto decimals! We started by looking at fractions and tenths. Then, we used this knowledge to help us learn about decimals!

In Science, the children have been learning all about States of Matter. This has been a very exciting topic as there has been lots of opportunities to carry out science experiments! We have been learning all about solids, liquids and gases and how the particles look and move! We then moved onto learning about different process – evaporating, condensation, melting, freezing. I think our favourite experiment was melting chocolate for Mr. Wonka, but then he wanted us to freeze it again to make a chocolate bridge! To finish our learning, we learnt about how to measure temperatures where we did another exciting experiment of using thermometers!

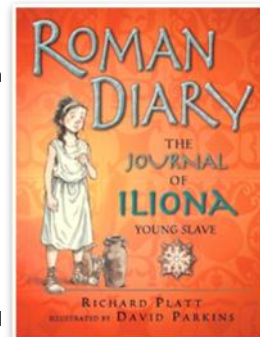


In Geography, we have been learning all about what there is to see in Rome! In our first lesson, we look at Rome on Google Earth and identified all the things to see – the colosseum, Trevi fountain, Vatican City and many more! We then learnt about tectonic plates and why these cause volcanoes and earthquakes! We knew about the famous volcano from our last English book – Mount Vesuvius! After, we started to learn about the culture/tourism of Rome and how people make money. For this, we got into groups and made presentations about Rome. To end our learning, we learnt how to use compass directions!



In PE, the children have been practicing their tennis skills with Kanga where they have learnt to explore some forehand and backhand shots, returning the serve and looking at different positions. The children have also been practicing their fitness skills where they have done multiple different workouts! The children did extremely well with this as their main goal was to finish the session with red faces!

In RE, the children have learnt all about why Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'. Within this, the children have learnt about how Christians show their beliefs in their everyday lives and what Jesus taught them - love, forgiveness, kindness. We then learnt about the stories of The Last Supper, Judas' Betrayal and Peter's Denial. Then, we used laptops to log onto an online bible. We researched different gospels, and we looked at what each gospel might mean and what these texts mean to Christians. To finish our learning, we look at the themes around Good Friday – serving and celebrating, remembering and betrayal and trust and standing up to our beliefs. In this lesson, Miss Baker asked us to work in groups to create a presentation of how we show these beliefs in our lives.



In French, the children have been learning all about the market and vegetables. In the first lesson, the children looked at English vs French markets! It was quite surprising to see the differences! Then, we started to learn how to pronounce some vegetables in French. In our next lesson, we looked at how to buy vegetables at the market. We ended our learning with a very exciting read of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'! First, we read the story in English and then in French! Miss Baker asked us to spot the healthy and unhealthy foods, and we had to categorize them!



In PSHE, we have been looking at 'Rights and Respect'. We looked at who keeps us healthy and safe. We discussed that these people have roles and responsibilities. Then, we looked at how we can make a difference. We learnt about what rules are and whether they can make them or change them. After, we looked at the word 'influence'. In this lesson, we looked at two news articles and were asked whether we were influenced or not. Finally, we looked at the role of a bystander and how this can influence behaviour.

As well as all the fantastic learning we have done, we have completed our assessments! It was a very long two weeks, but Year 4 made it, and it has been a delight to see the progress made! We also enjoyed some other activities – judo session, rocksteady concert, Skipton music concert, Ash Wednesday service in church, Easter service in church, Sandylands Trilogy festival, World Book Day, Red Nose Day! It has been a very busy one!

Year 4, enjoy your break because you truly deserve it! I can't wait to hear what you have been up to! Remember to keep reading and learning those times tables! Make sure you rest and ready to come back for Summer 1! I can't believe how quick it is going!

Miss Baker and The Year 4 Team! (-:

LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

Year 5



Hasn't it been lovely to have some sunny weather this term? We have been working hard and have been able to take our learning outside in Science, PE, History and English, which we always enjoy.

Our class story book in English was the Golden Horsemen of Baghdad. We got to know the characters of Jabir and Yusuf well, finding evidence in the text to show their emotions and thoughts. We tried to show these feelings, through outdoor drama and by writing letters in role as Jabir.

We also found out what a biography was. After identifying its main features, we planned and wrote our own biography about Jabir. Linking to our Science work, we also studied a range of moon poems to identify metaphors, personification, alliteration, onomatopoeia, rhyme and rhythm, before writing our own, which included all these poetic features. We also celebrated World Book day by sharing our favourite places to read.



Maths has seen us working on yet more fractions. We never knew there were so many fractions in Year 5! This time, we have been linking them to decimals and percentages. We have also found the perimeter of shapes and have been busy problem solving.

In our History topic, Vikings has been our focus. We have learnt where these invaders came from and why they came, how they co-existed with the Anglo-Saxons and what Danelaw was. We found out which Gods they believed in and how they became Christians. This week, we have been finding out about the battle of Hastings and the Bayeux Tapestry, which was a great source for finding out about the different stages of the battle. We enjoyed creating our own version of it – although it wasn't as long as the original which was an astonishing 70 metres long!



We have loved finding out about Space, making our own mnemonics to help us remember the order of the planets and then researching the different planets to make our own information booklet. We discovered that the Sun is in the centre of our solar system and that planet Earth rotates anti-clockwise around the Sun. It was fun making our own solar system mobiles. On a very sunny day, we went outside every hour from 9am until 3pm to observe and monitor playground shadows and our shadow sticks. We saw that shadows were at their shortest at midday when the sun was overhead. Using a lamp, a Lego person and a globe, we also discovered how night and day occur, that the moon orbits our Earth and what the phases of the moon were.



In computing, we have been using a range of databases and trying out different search techniques, before creating our own graphs to best show given information. In RE, we have also created pie charts, with a key to show who we believed was most responsible for Jesus's death. We also sorted the Stations of the Cross. The theme of rights, duties and responsibilities was continued through our PSHE topic where we had to decide what a right and a responsibility was and give advice to characters in a range of scenarios.



Our racket skills have definitely improved through our tennis work and we are certainly fitter after completing 6 weeks of a fitness unit and running the daily mile. Hopefully, you can all continue this by getting out and keeping active over the holidays.

Happy Easter everyone. Have a well-deserved break !

LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

Year 6



Well, I can't believe we are now two-thirds of the way through this classes final year at Embsay. The children are working so incredibly hard as there's so much to get done in year 6. We have had some time for fun though and here comes the sun! So there will be more opportunity to get outside next term.

In English this half-term we have continued to use the book Darwin's Dragons. This time to help us write a balanced debate on whether or not they should have taken the dragon eggs from the Galapagos to be reared in a Zoo, or whether they should go back to where they once belonged. We then went on to study the poem The Highwayman, ultimately turning the poem into a narrative.

In History we have been studying the Beatles, looking at some of their key albums and songs and studying the technological and societal changes which allowed them to shine.

In Maths, we have covered Ratio and Proportion: Year 6 did really well with and seemed to take to the both the abstract and visual representation of this quite well. We finished the topic off with a 'Big Sheet Maths' problem solving session which the children got stuck into—some fantastic Mathematical discussion took place which was great to see. We are now exploring Decimals, Percentages and Fractions and will keep revisiting these topics as part of our revision towards SATs in May as well as continuing recall everything else we have learned in Year 6 and earlier years.

In Computing, we have been looking at data collection and spreadsheets, inputting data and turning it into a chart.

In Art, the children have completed their Beatles artwork based on the animation accompanying the famous track, 'Yellow Submarine' - they look fantastic!

As ever, thank you for supporting your children with their learning both in school and at home. They really do produce some wonderful work and their progress this term has been phenomenal, they should feel extremely proud. Shortly after we return from the break the SATS will be upon us and it's their opportunity to show us and their future schools' what they are capable of.

Well done year 6, another incredible half term! Have a wonderful break.



What an achievement!

Layla Driver Year 4

Layla recently competed in a club competition at Craven Gymnastics winning 2 silver medals. She placed 2nd in the individual competition for the floor event (in the 8-11 age group) as well as winning second place in the team event. This was all despite only having joined the club 4 weeks earlier, and as a result having a much shorter time to learn the routines than other gymnasts.

This has been an amazing boost for Layla's confidence, as she really had to overcome her nerves just to take part in the



event.

LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

Reuben has been offered another contract at Preston North End, for the U12s season, this will see him start his 7th season at the club!

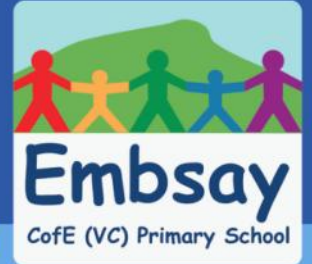
Reuben has also been selected for the Upper Airedale Junior Cricket representative team, which is the best cricket players in region from Settle to Bingley, he is one of the 12 players chosen to represent the region.



LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS

April	
Friday 4 th	Non-uniform day – Raising money for the Buffalo Bag project Year 5 – ‘Big Telescope’ Science Workshop (in the morning)
Tuesday 22 nd	Year 4 Swimming Lessons begin (6 lessons) Year 5 - Meeting in school for the Robin Hood’s Bay Residential 6.00-6.30pm
Thursday 25 th	KS2 Tennis 9:00 – 11:45 – Year 5 12:45 – 14:45 - Year 3
May	
Thursday 8 th May – Friday 9 th May	Year 5 Residential at Robin Hood’s Bay
Friday 9 th	KS1 Tennis 9:00 – 11:45 – Year 1 12:45 – 14:45 – Year 1
Tuesday 20 th	Year 5 – Brownlee Foundation Triathlon at Bradford Grammar School
June	
Monday 2 nd	Class Photos – starting at 9:15am
Tuesday 3 rd	Last Year 4 Swimming Lesson
Thursday 5 th	Craven Schools Cycling Tournament
Tuesday 10 th	Year 5 Swimming Lessons begin (6 lessons – Tuesday pm, final one on 15.07)
Friday 12 th	Year 1 – Terrific Trees Visit to Bolton Abbey
Friday 13 th	Mini Olympics 9:00 – 11:45 – Year 6 12:45 – 14:45 – Year 5
Friday 20 th	Mini Olympics 9:00 – 11:45 – Year 1 12:45 – 14:45 – Year 2
July	
Wednesday 2 nd	Year 3 – Let’s Learn Moor 9:45am – 2:15am
Friday 18 th	Last day of Summer Term

Embsay School PTA



APRIL UPDATE!

Join or Contact us: www.embsaypta.org.uk

CURRENT PTA GOALS!

- Raise £9,549 for multisports goal units 
- Raise funds to buy new phonics books  
- A theatre workshop for World Book Day 
- Repair the broken climbing frame in the playground 
- School staff wish list
- Deliver events to bring the school community together 

2025 FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE

The children have exceeded all expectations so far! A huge thank you to those children who have pushed themselves outside of their comfort zone and fully embraced the challenge by running stalls and doing challenges for sponsorship.

The total raised to date is £623.70. It's not too late to get involved, the challenge runs until Monday 21st April! Why not plan a sponsored walk with other classmates, wash cars for friends and family or set yourself a personal challenge? There's a prize for the child who raises the most per year group!



EASTER FAIR

Despite the weather, this was a roaring success!

Thank you so much to everyone who came and to those children who ran stalls.



SUMMER FAIR

Planning is already underway for the annual Summer Fair. This is our largest school event of the year, enjoyed by adults and children alike and we are very excited!

However, events like this need many volunteers to run the games and stalls. If you could donate just an hour of your time to help it would be hugely appreciated.

VOLUNTEERS WILL RECEIVE FREE FAMILY ENTRY!
Let's make this the best Summer Fair yet!

