

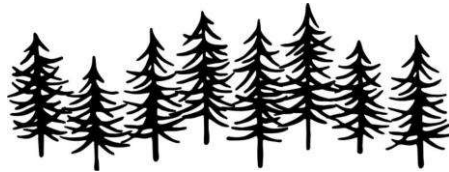


Friday News

Spring Term Issue 12 31st March 2023

Well done to this week's
Steeton Superstars

Saplings Faizah Aziz		Seedlings Arthur Drake	
<i>Maple</i> Ayyan Nawaz	<i>Oak</i> Nuh Raj	<i>Willow</i> Sasha Ahmed	
<i>Elder</i> Rishaan Sachdev	<i>Fir</i> Ubaid Ullah Siddique	<i>Rowan</i> Annabel Coope	
<i>Ash</i> Zayan Hussain	<i>Holly</i> Adam Sarwar	<i>Silver Birch</i> Safiya Javaid	



Our forest principle this half term:

empathy

In the blink of an eye it is Friday again. The final Friday of another term. We have had a very busy week with lots of visitors.

On Monday, Miss Akram told the story of Easter in assembly and the reasons behind why there are Easter traditions. She made links to other stories in other religions and explained to the children similarities between Lent and Ramadan. The children sang some Easter songs – one about a cross bunny. Miss Akram launched an exciting competition and all week children have been following footprints and signs to collect Easter eggs. A lot of fun and Easter egg-stravagance.

Children have loved our egg rolling competitions this week. There have been some wonderful entries with such creative ideas. Many thanks to Steeton Co-op who donated prizes for the children.

I have fasted for some days this week in order to experience what many members of our school community feel during Ramadan. I have nothing but tremendous respect and admiration for you if you are fasting. I have not been getting up in the early hours and so I am not as tired as you, and I have only done a fraction of the time but even so it takes some real resilience to keep up the energy and motivation to work so hard with little fuel in your body throughout the day.

Joseph ran at Loughborough on Saturday and my goodness what a race! As the Year 5's were on the start line, it was thundering and lightning and I have never seen mud like it in my life. Joseph you ran a super race with extremely high standards of running from all over the country. Although you didn't win a medal, we are all very proud of you to take part in such a prestigious event. Well done.

On Monday, an advisor from Bradford came to see Magic Monday in action. It was an absolute pleasure to take him to every class in order to be able to see our curriculum in all its glory. He was really impressed with the children's skills and their resilience towards their work. Year 1/2 were demonstrating fine motor skills with their lily pads based on the work of Monet and Year 3,4,5 and 6 were all working on different artefacts with papier mâché. We are looking forward to next term when we will move from art and design into design technology on Magic Mondays.

On Wednesday, the advisor came back with 2 more of his colleagues. They spent the day all over school to see children and their progress. It makes me very proud to say that they were impressed – impressed with our buildings, our curriculum, our staff but most of all with our children. They spoke to many children over the day who told them very truthfully how they felt about Steeton Primary. The vast majority of children said that they would not change anything about their school and all the visitors spoke very highly of behaviour around school which impacts positively upon learning.

Our spring raffle has raised £404- wonderful! The draw has created a super buzz across school. Thank you to everyone who has bought tickets and supported us. Well done to our prize winners. Huge congratulations also to our science competition entrants. Miss Lafbery has been blown away by the standard of entries. She says, "Congratulations to all of the children who entered the bridge competition. I have received around 50 entries of outstanding quality. Children have been very imaginative creating their bridges using a wide range of resources".

Please give a virtual round of applause to:

- EYFS and KS1 winner – George Hawker
- LKS2 winner – Riyad Haleem
- UKS2 winner - Umar Ahmed

We have also held a charity football match today between teams from Steeton and Sandy Lane, who we work closely with. Mr Shaw arranged a great afternoon, consisting of Year 5 and 6 girls' and boys' teams with spectators from across both schools. It was really nice to see children cheering on their own school but also enjoying the spirit of the afternoon for what it was. Parents came to spectate and donate and we have raised over £400 between the two schools. Fantastic achievement.

Mrs Kennedy sent out some information this week regarding changes to Bradford's unauthorised school absence procedures. It states a shocking statistic that children in Bradford are twice as likely as the average child in England to be off school with unauthorised absence. I have added the letter to the bottom of this newsletter so that anyone who missed it can read it. Please be aware of the increased penalties for unauthorised absence, with fines of up to £2,500 being introduced by Bradford Council.

From all the staff at school, we would like to wish everyone a very happy holiday. The children are ready for a break and we will return ready to go again for the final term of the year at 8:30am on Monday 17th April. It will be a very busy term with King Charles' coronation, Eid parties, SATs, phonics screening, EYFS new starter events to name but a few.

Enjoy the break,

Miss C Redman

Date	Event
17 th April	EYFS eye tests
18 th April	Ash forest school day
18 th April	Y2 SATs information session 3:15 - 3:45pm
20 th April	Re-scheduled cross country at Temple Newsome
24 th April	Eid parties
25 th April	Parents' consultation evening - NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS
27 th April	Parents' consultation evening - NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS
Monday 1 st May	School closed - bank holiday
5 th May	King's coronation party day



Please send your child to school in correct school uniform:

- Black shoes or trainers that are good for running around in.
- No colourful hair accessories.
- No jewellery.
- Black trainers for PE.

We have some items of school uniform in school if you need any. Get in touch with Mrs Kennedy. We are happy to help.

Write your child's name in all items of clothing.

Thank you

Steeton Primary School Office

Contact Miss Kershaw

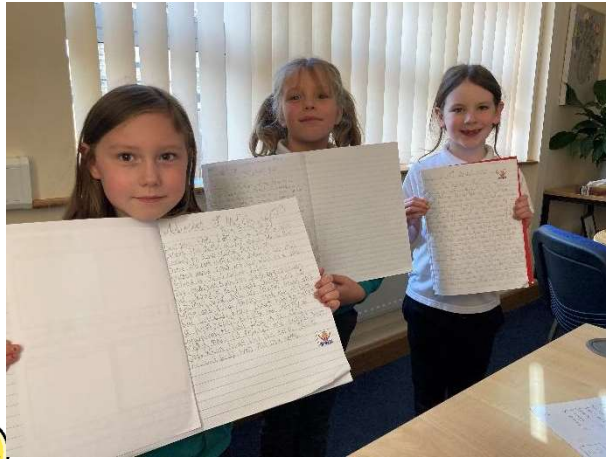
Telephone: 01535 653315

Email: office@steeton.bradford.sch.uk



@SteetonPrimary

Remember to inform us of any changes to contact details or medical information



Egg rolling, national cross country run, Magic Monday, reading for pleasure, spring raffle, PE with Mr Shaw, writing to be proud of...just a snippet of another busy week at Steeton.



Dear Parent / Carer,

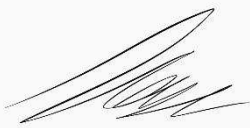
Absence due to unauthorised leave taken during term time is a significant issue for all Bradford schools. Children in Bradford are twice as likely to be absent due to unauthorised leave during term time than the average child in England, with absence due to unauthorised leave during term time representing the third highest reason for absence behind Illness and general unauthorised absence. In the 2021-2022 academic year, Bradford children missed almost 150,000 days of school due to unauthorised leave taken during term time.

Absence due to unauthorised leave during term time covers a variety of reasons for absence, including holidays during term time and travel to other countries to visit family and attend celebrations and events. Currently schools can request a penalty notice from Bradford Council for each child, and each parent, where unauthorised leave takes place. Despite this, absence due to unauthorised leave during term time continues to take place, with a significant number of families taking more than one period of absence during an academic year, or taking a period of leave of four weeks or more.

A decision has been made by Bradford Council to change their approach to situations where families take two or more periods of unauthorised leave in a 12-month period, or when a period of four or more weeks of leave is taken. In these instances, Bradford Council will utilise the option to start legal proceedings via the magistrates' court, instead of issuing a penalty notice. This means that parents may be liable to receive a significantly higher fine (up to **£2,500 per child, per parent**) if found guilty, as well as receive a criminal record, which may be reportable to employers (for example, via a DBS Check). In rare circumstances, magistrates can consider a custodial sentence for up to 3 months. This change will come into force from 1st April 2023.

I have no wish to deprive families of an extended period of leave away from our school, but my first concern has to be the educational development of your child. Requests for leave during term time are never taken lightly and we will always consider the social, emotional and cultural reasons for the leave, whether the leave is exceptional, as well as your child's overall level of attendance, academic attainment and the impact any leave may have on your child's learning during their time away. However, continued absence from school will have a detrimental impact on a child's academic attainment, therefore I wish to make you aware that for this reason we support the decision of Bradford Council, and it's important that you are aware of this change so that you can take this information into consideration when deciding whether or not to take a period of unauthorised leave during term time.

Kind Regards.



Sharmyn Kennedy
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John Leese
Education Safeguarding Service Manager
Attendance, Prosecutions and Child Licensing
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council