



# NEWSLETTER

## 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

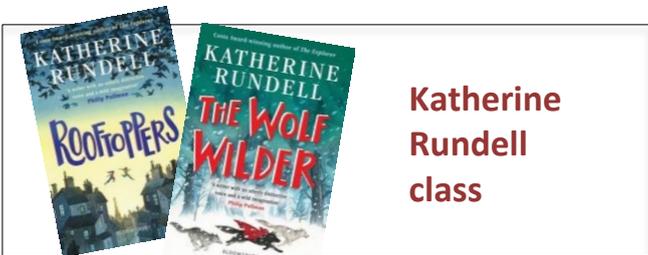
Love – Honesty – Forgiveness – Respect

### Collective Worship:

These past two weeks we celebrated Harvest, giving thanks for God’s provision through creation. The children shared songs and poems all about Harvest and being thankful. We also considered our Christian value of Respect, and the British Value of Tolerance as we focused on the appointment of the first TV presenter with Down’s Syndrome (CBeebies) and his value as a positive role model for us all.

### Important Dates

Thurs 21 Oct	Beach School Y5/6 Rye Harbour
Fri 22 Oct	Last day of term
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Inset day
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	First day of Term 2



Over the past two weeks, we have been reading lots of legends in English, revisiting some that the Year 6s would be familiar with from lockdown last year (including Theseus, Heracles, Persephone and Icarus) as well as a Welsh legend about the loyal canine companion, Gelert. We have been identifying the plot structure and features of this genre of narrative in order to plan our own legends to describe a mural that is featured in an abandoned building, deep within the sewer structure of the city in our primary text this term,

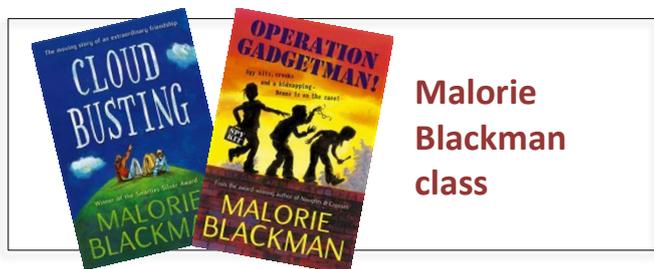
Orphans of the Tide. The children have now written their own legends to describe how and why the woman in the mural may be emerging from the shaggy old wolf. We have been working really hard to develop our description of the setting, keeping our reader in mind and choosing a range of effective vocabulary for impact. This week we also finished our book for the end of the day - our secondary text - The Wolf Wilder by Katherine Rundell, which has been a super introduction to the writing of the fantastic author that the class is named after.

In maths we have been looking at efficient methods for addition and subtraction and asking ourselves if a formal written method is always the best method? We have completed some multi-step problem solving involving addition and subtraction and have now begun to look at multiples, factor and multiplication.

In topic, we have learned about how waterfalls and meanders are formed and how landscapes can change over hundreds of years due to the natural process of erosion. We are now busily preparing our papier mache 3D models of physical

geographical features formed by erosion. This project has involved free-choice and problem solving for the children who need to work out how to get their desired results with the limited resources on offer. We have also designed our own geometric patterns for a prayer rug in RE to consolidate our learning on the importance of artefacts in Islam.

In RSHE, we have been learning about our rights and responsibilities in the classroom and at how we can all create obstacles to the learning that goes on in our classroom. We have been suggesting ways that we can navigate and remove these obstacles through our learning charter and through our responsibilities towards each other. We really enjoyed the game we played to demonstrate the consequences of obstacles and were all mightily impressed with Sophia's superhero like hearing!



Once again Malorie Blackman class have been working really hard in all areas of the curriculum.

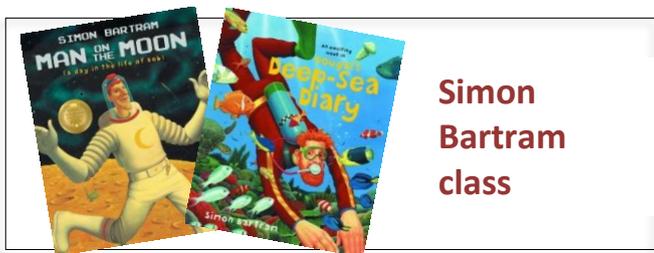
In maths we have moved on from pure place value to using the addition and subtraction operations. Year 3 pupils have been working with 2 and 3 digit numbers, while Year 4s have been working with 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers. We have been using our understanding of place value to discuss why  $554+5$  is a much easier sum than  $554+7$ . Within this discussion we have been looking at crossing through 10 and 100, and how to manage this effectively. To do this we have

been using a range of strategies, including using Base 10 materials, counters and number lines.

In English we have been carrying on with our work on Stig of the Dump. We have been writing about the kind of gifts that Barney might give to Stig at Christmas. A wide variety of ideas was shared by the whole class and these were then recorded, using the most descriptive language, wide range of punctuation and, where necessary, a range of conjunctions. In order to really understand this we have been discussing the grammar tools we use to do this, including adjectives, adverbs and powerful verbs - we have been identifying these in Clive King's original text and applying them in our learning. In addition, Year 4s in particular have been encouraged to paragraph their work.

In topic we have been looking at the final period in the Stone Age, the Neolithic. We have learnt about the significant differences in human life between the earlier periods and the Neolithic and talked about why these changes have come about. To show our understanding of this period, we have been creating 3D picture book pages, using springs, pop-up and other devices to bring the pages to life. Pupils have found the History more straightforward than the Design and Technology, however, with persistence and support from one another they are developing some really interesting and eye catching pages.

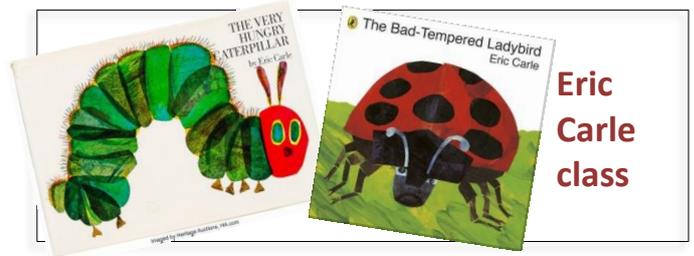
Finally, all pupils are given access to Ed Shed in school to practise their spellings and times tables. However, each week they are set a short maths task, intended to go alongside classroom learning and increase their fluency with key facts. This should take no more than 20 minutes in each week, if possible could you ensure they have an opportunity to complete this at some time during the week? Many thanks.



In English, Simon Bartram Class has been continuing our work on 'The Girl who went to Space'. We have nearly finished all of the planets and we have really enjoyed finding out about each one. We have even been learning the 'Planet song' to help us remember facts about all of them. Within our writing, again Year 1 have had a more scaffolded approach, with the use of word banks and writing templates to help them write about each specific planet. And again, Year 2 have had the challenge of making their writing more personal and unique to them, by trying to engage with the reader more. We are going to be moving onto choosing our favourite planet and writing about why it is our favourite, as we are now becoming planet experts!

In maths we have been moving onto addition, in very practical ways to really help embed our knowledge of this. With the help of the part, part whole model we have been investigating all the different ways we can solve problems where we need to find the total. We have also been linking this to our number bond work. Year 1s have been working more practically, using lots of different resources and representations, so that they can really get to grips with different numbers and totals. Year 2s have been looking at more abstract versions of this, using their knowledge to help them answer more problem solving activities.

In our Topic lessons, in History we have been looking at space travel and special specific events that have happened. We are currently in the middle of creating our own space time lines to record the most important facts we would like to try and help us remember. We are going to put all of our information into an 'arty' timeline that we can add to our classroom display.



We spent last week learning more about Harvest Festival. Our week started with performing a song in assembly. The children were amazing! Please look at the video on Tapestry. They also enjoyed bringing in their contributions of food. We had lots of discussion about where the food would go and that there are some people in our community who may need some help. We thought carefully about the things that we are thankful for and we each wrote a little thank you message on a leaf, which reflects the theme of harvest being at autumn time. We also thought about what our special food would be and drew some fabulous pictures.

In maths this week we have been looking at the Numicon and how it represents numbers. We searched through a tray of Numicon to find pieces that match. We are counting the holes to find out which number it is, but we are working towards knowing the number just by looking. We have begun exploring 1, 2 and 3. Whilst this may seem easy, it is very important that the children have a solid understanding of how each number is made up. We are doing this in lots of practical ways with beads, buckets and the Numicon.

In RSHE last week our puppets had a bit of a disagreement. One wanted to play with the other one who got so cross they used their hands to hurt them. We had a long chat about how we can use our hands in a kind way and thought of positive ways to help each other. We drew around our hands and decorated our drawings to help us keep kind thoughts in our head. This week, we will be looking at our golden rules, why we need them and how they help us to make good choices.

We have some lovely pumpkins in class and we have used them as inspiration for our paintings. We will be adding to this by looking at the insides of the pumpkins next week and doing some leaf printing. We have also been looking at conkers and would love some more if you see any out on your local walks!

## Harvest Thanks

A huge thank you to all our families for your generous contributions to our Harvest Celebration! Your donations went to the Rye Food Bank who were extremely grateful. As always, our St. Michael's community rose to the occasion and showed kindness and compassion to others – thank you again.



## PSA – we are recruiting!

Please remember to show your support for our school and its pupils by joining our PSA (Parent School Association). They have lots of exciting plans coming up and need to build their numbers. Please contact Anna Blackman ([alblackman85@gmail.com](mailto:alblackman85@gmail.com)) or Luke Bishop ([lukebishopmail@gmail.com](mailto:lukebishopmail@gmail.com)) with your expression of interest.

## After School Clubs: more for you!

In our recent Parent Survey, a number of parents felt that pupils would benefit from additional after school clubs. We acknowledged this request and

as a result, have been working hard to increase our provision for pupils after school. We are extremely pleased to announce that in **Term 2**, the following clubs will be available (*letters with full details sent separately to the appropriate groups of pupils*):



- **Mondays:** Wildlife Club (Years R to 6)
- **Tuesdays:** Creative Games (R & KS1)
- **Wednesdays:** Bat and Ball Club (KS2)
- **Thursdays:** Dodgeball, Premier Education (Years 1 to 6)
- **Fridays:** Football (Years 5 & 6)

These run in addition to and alongside our own **wraparound After-School Club provision which is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays.**

Also, coming on Wednesdays later in Term 2 (and into Term 3) will be a Time to Dance club...watch this space!

We hope that this extended provision is a welcome change and that as many pupils as possible take up the offers available to them, in particular for those clubs run by external providers who, of course, need a minimum number of attendees in order to cover their costs.

We look forward to seeing most of our pupils engaged in activities beyond the academic, to support their broader development and nurture their talents and interests.

Thanks, in particular, go to parents Lucy Bowyer and Glenn Keen who have volunteered their time and expertise to run Wildlife and Football clubs respectively – we are very grateful. Thanks also to Mrs. Ruu for sourcing additional provision for us so that we have such a full complement of clubs.

## Wild World Heroes

Congratulations to our amazing pupils who signed up and completed the Summer Reading Challenge this year! The following pupils read six library books of their choice over the holiday and should be rightly proud of their achievements – we certainly are!

Our St. Michael's Wild World Heroes are:

- Reception: Arthur
- Year 1: William E.
- Year 2: Freddie, Grey, Joseph, Flo, Charlie, Matylda, Arthur
- Year 3: Betsy, George, Noah
- Year 4: Bonnie, Henry, Dottie, Edward, Harry
- Year 5: Gaby

## Donation Thanks!

St. Michael's has been the very fortunate recipient of a generous donation of £1,000 from Rye Golf Club! What an unexpected and welcome surprise it was when Jacky Moor, the Lady Captain of the club rang the doorbell last week.

She informed the school that this donation was possible due to funds raised in a recent Charity day held at the club. We are most grateful and thank them so very much for thinking of us. This money will go towards purchasing phonetically decodable readers and some new library books.

Thank you Rye Golf Club – your kindness will make a big difference to the children of St. Michael's.

## Inset Day

A reminder to all parents that there is an inset day scheduled for Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November so no pupils should attend on that day. **The first day of Term 2 is Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** – we look forward to welcoming all pupils back then.

## Open Morning: 11<sup>th</sup> November

We remind you to share with friends, family and the wider community, our upcoming Open Morning for prospective parents **on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November from 9:15 am**. The next academic year is a low sibling year for us at St. Michael's, which means a greater chance for securing a place – spread the word!

## Headteacher Award

Awards for outstanding achievement go to:

### This week:

Eric Carle Class: Rhys  
Simon Bartram Class: Alexia  
Malorie Blackman Class: Edward  
Katherine Rundell Class: Jamie

### Last week:

Eric Carle Class: Daisy  
Simon Bartram Class: Freddie  
Malorie Blackman Class: Robyn  
Katherine Rundell Class: Faith

## Good Citizen Award

Awards for helping others to feel welcome go to:

### This week:

Eric Carle Class: Arthur  
Simon Bartram Class: Arthur  
Malorie Blackman Class: Lucia  
Katherine Rundell Class: Gaby

### Last week:

Eric Carle Class: Frankie-Ray  
Simon Bartram Class: Talia  
Malorie Blackman Class: Aria  
Katherine Rundell Class: Ashton



## Closing Reflection

The Lord bless you and keep you.

**(Numbers 6:24)**