



BUILDWAS ACADEMY

Head of School: Mrs H White

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www.buildwasacademy.com

Executive Principal: Mr S Tilley

21st October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, what a busy first half term we have had, and this week has been no exception.

We had our second parents' meetings. I know all teachers were happy to be able to chat with our parents and carers about how the children have settled into their new year groups and the progress they have been making.

This week in Willow class we have been looking at Autumn. We have looked at the story 'The very last leaf' and have done some writing about Lance the leaf. We created our very own 'Leaf-man' using leaves, acorns and sticks and then used some of the left-over leaves to create leaf printed pictures. We have spoken a lot about our feelings and associated colours with certain feelings. We have been using autumn coloured playdough to create autumnal creations and have been creating lots of our own autumn themed pictures. In our maths we have been focusing on the composition of numbers 1-3 and how we can say and show it. What very busy bees! After half term we will be looking at the festival 'Diwali', 'Halloween' and 'Bonfire night' so expect lots of colour and sparkle.

In Beech class this week the children have been continuing to write non-chronological reports about hibernation. The children have enjoyed Comparing Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Elizabeth II and learning about their lives. The highlight of the week was attending the East Shropshire Sports Partnership KS1 MAD event at Broseley C of E where the children got to take part in a variety of team events. The children all tried their best showing great teamwork and resilience. Two children from Beech class were also chosen to receive awards for determination and showing respect.

This week, in Oak, the children have continued with their Skara Brae holiday brochure writing. Matthew told me how they described the home-reared beef to tempt people to the Skara Brae hotel. This afternoon, the children have completed their Stone Age art project. Keira explained, 'We used berries, mud and fat to create some Stone Age pictures.'

Holly have had a wonderful week, continuing to learn about the Vikings! The children have been busy exploring law and punishment during the Viking period. In English, they are writing a persuasive speech about a Viking battle. They have used metaphors and similes, along with repetition to write an engaging speech. They have also been busy finishing our science topic investigating solids, liquids and gases.

Our Bronze Ambassadors are busy in school, Natasha has explained what she enjoys about her role, '...using my Bronze Ambassador skills to organise an activity during PE.'

Wednesday saw our Key Stage 2 Harvest celebration at Holy Trinity church. Ava said they '...sang conkers and harvest samba.' Both Holly and Oak read poems. Oak's choice was very humorous and the Key Stage 2 rendition of Sing by Gary Barlow and the Commonwealth choir, learnt in honor of Queen Elizabeth II, sent tingles across many an adult's skin. How very beautiful!





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School is looking refreshed after Matt Sewell came in on Wednesday to give out new sports storage a makeover.



This year we are focusing on children's school attendance. It is known that missing school for any reason can cause a child to fall behind in their learning.

When children are taken out of school during term not only does the education of the individual child suffer, but it can cause disruption to the rest of the class, with teachers having to repeat work and give extra help so that the pupil can catch up.

We have a new Attendance Policy which can be found here on our school website: <https://www.buildwasacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2022/10/Attendance-Policy-October-2022.pdf>

As part of this policy, we will be giving children certificates for good or improved attendance at the end of each term. The class with the best attendance will also receive a £10 gift card to buy something for their classroom.

This week our class attendance is:

Willow	95%
Beech	98%
Oak	97%
Holly	93%





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We intent to relaunch out Opal Lunchtime play after half term. After some parental feedback we have decided that for this academic year we will use a hybrid approach with full all-weather rollout from September 2023. As you will have seen, we have installed some Wellie racks on the playground. For children to access the field at lunchtimes they must have a pair of Wellies in school. These will live upside down on the new Wellie racks. Children must also have waterproof trousers and a waterproof coat that can be kept in school. We will be updating our uniform list to include these items and are also seeking funding to enable us to provide a bank of spares for children who have not got these. Donations of outgrown wellies and waterproof clothing will be gratefully received. Children who have wellies, waterproof trousers and coat will also be able to access the playground during wet weather. For this academic year, we will also provide the option of being indoors should it rain heavy. We hope this will accommodate the wishes of all children and still support us to uphold our believe in the importance of play.

Just some of the things to look forward to next half term.

- Our annual trip to the panto for years 1 to 6. This year it's Beauty and the Beast Please see MCAS, payment can be made in full or installments over the half term.
- Willow class Christmas Extravaganza
- Children in Need
- Willow and Beech Christmas Play
- KS2 carol concert

For our Year 6 parents, please remember that Monday 31st October is the last day for secondary school applications! You will need to apply to your local authority no matter which school you are applying to.

Please see the attached PTA flyer about Halloween Fancy Dress.

Have a wonderful half term making memories together and we will see you on Monday 31st October.

Warmest wishes

Mrs White
Head of School

