



**Barton Clough  
Primary School**

BRIGHT FUTURES EDUCATIONAL TRUST

# Autumn 2 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

As the autumn term winds down, there's a special kind of magic that fills the halls of Barton Clough. The excitement of the festive season is palpable, building up to a well-earned Christmas break for our pupils and staff.

Our recent Christmas Fair was a huge, thanks to the tireless efforts of the Friends of Barton Clough. Not only did the fair spread festive cheer among our community, but it also raised just under £500 to support our school. It was a joy to see so many families come together, and we were especially delighted to have Santa and his elves make a heart-warming appearance.

We also got to celebrate the festive season with our Nativity earlier this week. The performance was wonderful, capturing the true spirit of the season. A round of applause is due for Miss Downie, Mrs Phoenix, Miss Hulme and Miss Law, who led the production; their hard work brought to life a show our pupils will always remember. And obviously, the show wouldn't have happened without the true stars, our fabulous KS1, Reception and Acorn pupils.

On a bittersweet note, we will be saying farewell to Mrs Unsworth and Mrs Gledhill at the end of the term as they move on to new opportunities. Their contributions have been invaluable. We thank them for their years of service and wish them all the best in their new ventures.

We are pleased to share that Mrs Johnson will be joining the team in Oak, and Miss Tati and Miss Brogan will be moving into Reception.

In happy news, we are overjoyed to share that Miss Evans, Mrs Cooney, and our newest member of staff, Miss Williams from The Orchards, are all pregnant and expecting in the new year. We are delighted by this happy news and know you will join us in congratulating them. I will write to you in the new year to share arrangements for their maternity covers.

As we look ahead to the New Year, I want to extend my warmest wishes to all of you for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2024. May this festive season be filled with rest and precious moments with loved ones.

A gentle reminder that pupils should return to school on Thursday, 4th January 2024, ready for the Spring term and all the new learning adventures it brings.

Happy Holidays to our entire Barton Clough community!

Warm regards,

Mr Foster-Carr



## Reception

It has been a wonderful wintery and festive time in Reception! We have been exploring the signs of winter and have enjoyed a trip to Lostock Park to discover the signs of winter in our local environment. We have even set up our own Costa Coffee shop in our class to "keep us warm". Gingerbread latte anyone?

We have also enjoyed all the festivities, decorating our class Christmas tree, writing letters to Santa and partaking in our first ever nativity performance where it is safe to say we were AMAZING!

On the behalf of all of Reception, Miss Hulme and Mrs Gledhill, we wish you a very merry Christmas and a wonderful new year! 😊

Miss Hulme and Mrs Gledhill

## Year 1

In Year 1, we have been on a trip into our local area. In geography, we have been looking at human and physical features. We have learnt what they are and examples of them. We went out into the local area around school to spot these features as real-life examples. The children did fantastically well at recognising and naming these. They were able to contrast the area near the shops and tower block clearly with Lostock park. The children listened really well and all participated in discussion with their partners and as a group. On the way back from the park, we went on a shape hunt. In maths, we have been looking at 2D and 3D shapes. The children were both enthusiastic and capable in their spotting of these in the environment. They were able to spot everything from square windows to cuboid containers on the field. Well done year 1 it was a pleasure to take you out. You have learnt so much and were really able to showcase your knowledge.

Mrs Bennion, Mrs Crouch, Miss Brogan and Mrs Phoenix



## Year 2

What a symphony of talent we witnessed this half term! Year 2 and Year 3 took to the virtual stage with a Zoom concert! It was an event where melodies floated and young musicians shone, all from the comfort of your own homes.

Year 2 dazzled us with the sweet sounds of the recorder, a culmination of their practice throughout the term. The highlight? Their performance of 'Chocolate Molinillo' – a delightful rendition that had us tapping along to the Spanish beats!

Thank you for joining us in celebrating the musical achievements of our bright stars. Here's to many more encores in the future!



Miss Downie

## Year 3

Throughout the Autumn term, the Year 3 class embarked on an artistic journey, delving into the realms of collaging and painting. Under the expert tutelage of Miss Wright, we have explored a variety of techniques and styles in our art lessons. Their creative explorations were particularly inspired by the vibrant works of our focus artist, Steve Mbatia, known for his captivating African landscapes. This inspiration is vividly reflected in the students' final projects, where they have skillfully combined the elements of collage and paint to create their own unique interpretations of African scenery. These pieces not only showcase their growing artistic abilities but also their understanding of Mbatia's style.

Miss Kennedy and Miss Wright





## Acorn

In Acorn, we have been taking part in learning through some Christmas activities.

Little Acorn have completed some mark making of Christmas cards. We are so proud of them for engaging in the activity and exploring using the tools needed to add something personal to a Christmas Card.

Big Acorn have also done brilliantly with a Christmas card making activity for our DT project. We learnt how to make a slider mechanism. Everyone put lots of effort in to make sure the slider worked effectively.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone's final piece!

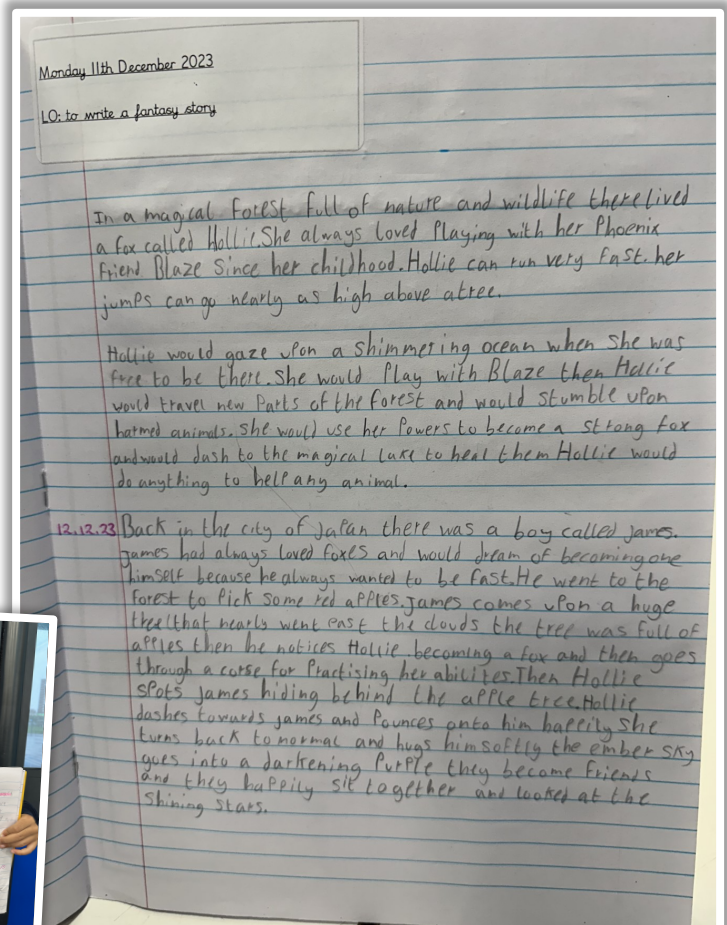
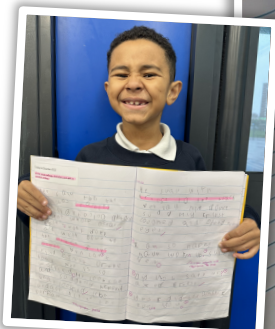
Miss Law, Mrs Bessasi, Miss Scott and Miss Tati



## Oak

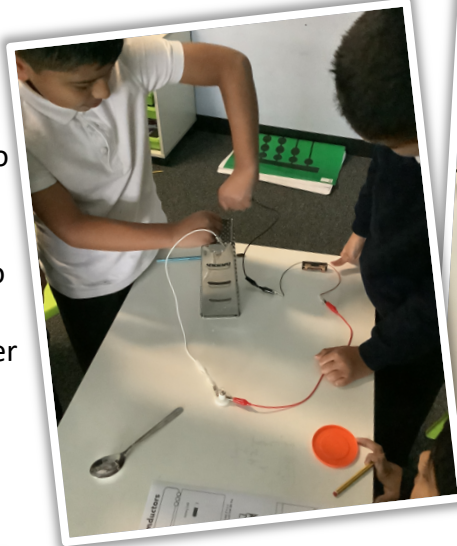
Oak have been absolutely inspired this half term during our Pathways English lessons. We have focused on the fairytale 'Nen and the Lonely Fisherman' which is a retelling of the traditional story of 'The Little Mermaid' however there is a slight twist to the original story. We have loved reading this story and writing character and setting descriptions focusing on mermen in the ocean. We worked very hard to design and create our own magical and human characters that then became the focus of our own fairytale story where they faced a magical problem before working together to overcome it. We can't wait for our new story next half term!

Miss Higgins, Miss Scott and Mrs Unsworth



## Year 4

Year 4 have been learning all about electricity in their Science lessons this half term! We conducted lots of experiments to understand how circuits work. We then used our knowledge of circuits and apply this when testing our different materials to see if they were conductors or insulators! We found that metals, such as; gold, copper and tin where great conductors of electricity but materials such as rubber, paper and glass were not! These materials were insulators!



Miss Ball



## Year 5

This half term Year 5 have loved studying dance in PE. Throughout the lessons, we have developed an understanding of rhythm, dynamics, spatial relationships and levels. Our dance has been based on the traditional tribal routine, The Haka. It incorporates the original Māori dance moves alongside some of our own, which were inspired by words and phrases we generated in response to watching the famous sequence as it's performed during the start of various rugby matches. Year 5 have embodied the intensity and aggression perfectly! Why not see if they can recreate it at home?!

Miss Evans and Mrs Cooney



## Year 6

Year 6 have enjoyed some outdoor history learning this half term to deepen their understanding of warfare and weaponry over the past 500 years. They made their own arrow heads, lit beacon fires to warn of incoming enemies, used radio cyphers to send messages to their allies, used camouflage to keep hidden on the battlefield, dug trenches and recreated their own Christmas Day football match on No Man's Land. It has been amazing to see them all so engaged with key moments in our country's history.

Miss Kucharski and Mrs Johnson



## Breakfast Club

What a fabulous start to the new school year! The breakfast club has gone from strength to strength. The club is fully funded by Greggs and the choice of food continues to go down well with the children. We encourage children to try new foods and we are open to suggestions to be added to our choices.

As well as eating, the children have the opportunity to play games with their peers or to complete some drawing/writing. I have to say, I love watching the development of friendships between the different age groups as well as the joy of watching the year 5 and 6's meet up for a chat with their friends.

Remember that the breakfast club is completely free to everyone and open from 8-8.30 every day. Thank you for your support at making this fantastic group such a success.

Mrs Phoenix

## The School Day

Timings for the school day:

Breakfast Club – 8:00am-8:30am

Gates Open – 8:30am

Gates Close – 8:45am (**children arriving after this time will be marked late**)

Gates Open for Pickup – 3:10pm

Children Dismissed – 3:15pm

## Autumn 2 Attendance

Reception	89.1%
Year 1	89.1%
Year 2	91.9%
Year 3	94.2%
Acorn	94.3%
Oak	86.7%
Year 4	95.5%
Year 5	92.8%
Year 6	93.8%

## Uniform

Please ensure that your child is in the correct school uniform each day:

- A white polo shirt
- A navy-blue jumper or cardigan with the school logo
- Black trousers, skirt or pinafore dress
- Sensible black shoes
- A school tie and V-neck jumper in Year 6.

Hoodies or other jumpers should **not** be worn.

Jewellery (except 1 pair of small, stud earrings) and makeup should not be worn.

Our uniform policy is available on the school website.

## Spring 1 Upcoming Events

Start of Term for Pupils	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January
Y6 Trip to Stockport Air Raid Shelter	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January
Reception Open Day for Next Year	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January
Y2 Trip to Mosque	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January
Y6/Oak Crucial Crew Trip	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January
Y5/5 Girls' Football Competition	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January
Safety Week	5 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> February
Break up for Half-Term	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February