



## Newsletter No 4

Welcome back, as usual not a moment of learning has been wasted.

We were very honoured to receive a visit from the distinguished academic Robin Alexander and Aston Villa Player, Ashley Westwood.

Robin Alexander came in to discuss the progress of the EEF Dialogic Teaching project taking place in Year 5. **He was extremely impressed with how we have implemented the project and how we are using the materials to develop different types of talk.** Robin viewed recordings of the classes and discussed strategies we are using. **He commented on being impressed with the children knowing the technical vocabulary for talk and how they use it when talking in class.** He is keen to see us again in the Spring term, when the project steps up even further.

On Wednesday we were lucky enough to have a visit from Ashley Westwood a first team player from Aston Villa. Year 6 met with him and asked some questions before he signed autographs for the children and posed for a photo with them.

After being spotted at the age of 6, he started his career at Crewe Alexander before joining Aston Villa in 2012. He told the children how determination and hard work has got him to where he is today, which hopefully will inspire our children to do the same.

Caitlyn 6H 'Ashley Westwood is very inspiring and made me think I should work very hard'.

Subhan 6H 'I enjoyed meeting Ashley Westwood as I have never met a real player before'.

### Reception Class September 2016

This week we held two open days for parents who have children starting school next September. **If you have a child who is due to start school next year you must complete your preference form by the end of December.** You can do this on line at

[www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) or a paper form is available from the school office. We will be holding additional open days before the end of this term where you will have the opportunity to see the teaching and resources available in our reception classes and ask any questions you may have.

### Ninestiles Academy Trust Teacher Training Day Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2015

Over the last year there have been significant changes to the expectations of our National Curriculum and the statutory assessments schools have to carry out at the end of Year 2 and Year 6. With this in mind, Ninestiles Academy Trust will be holding a training day for all teaching staff on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. This means that term will end on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December for all our children.

### Value for this month – Caring

During November we will be exploring the value of caring. We will be asking the children to think carefully about what we mean by 'caring' and the various ways that they can show that they care for themselves, other people, friends and family. Also caring for the environment around us, our school and our homes. We would like the children to think about how they can demonstrate this value in school and at home. At home we would like you to build on these thoughts. For example, you may talk about why it is important to think about how our actions can affect others and how it is important to show our family and friends that we care for them. We appreciate your help and support in reinforcing the school values.

### Young Writers

Writing instructions for how to build a log den, which included:

**'Clear a space, look for a long log with your friends, lean the long branches on the log'.**

Faizaan Ajaib 2W

## Curricular Enhancement

We have continued to ensure our children are provided with the best educational experiences to enhance the quality of their work:

### Year 5 Living Rainforest

On Wednesday 4th November, year 5 travelled down to Reading to visit The Living Rainforest. The children and staff got to explore the rainforest without even leaving the UK! The Living Rainforest is home to 700 species of plants and animals. During the visit, the children watched birds, butterflies, lizards and a sloth roam free in the tropical environment as well as looking and learning about the adaptations of other more dangerous and poisonous creatures. The children wowed the staff at the centre with their knowledge of the rainforest and their excellent behaviour throughout our visit. A big thank you to all the children and staff for a fantastic day.

'I really enjoyed the tour because we learnt about the animals in more detail. I loved seeing the tarantula but it stayed still so I didn't get to see it move.' Tajay

'I really enjoyed this trip because of the lovely creatures and we got to learn about their adaptations and seeing the habitats they live in. I really liked seeing the Toucans because of their colours.' Maryam

'I enjoyed it when we went into the humid glasshouse and saw the Toucans. I also enjoyed visiting the gift shop and buying a souvenir of the day.' Abbas

### Year 3 Snowdome

Year 3 had a wonderful time at the snowdome. The children did us proud! We went on sledges, tubing down an ice slide, made snow angles and had a snow ball fight!

Zaina 3HS 'The trip was amazing, the snow looked like soft salt'

Jay 3LW 'The trip was fun, we all played together in the snow and then made word banks!'

### Year 6 Tudor Experience

On Thursday year 6 were invited to a Tudor workshop delivered by a teacher from King Edwards. Here they were able to see artefacts from the Tudor era and make assumptions as to what they were and how they were used. They also looked at what they were made from. They spent time looking at the differences between rich and poor during this time and how they could be identified through the clothes they wore. Saamiyah 6OT 'I think the Tudor workshop was fantastic. I learnt so much about the artefacts and what they were used for'.

Ellie 6T 'Our Tudor workshop was amazing! I learnt so many facts that I kept telling everyone. I Especially liked the three handled cup'

## Forthcoming Events

**11<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 4 will be taking part in a Science workshop at Kingsbury School.

**12<sup>th</sup> November** – Y6 will be hosting a more able workshop 'Big Ideas for Young Writers' for schools within the Erdington Consortium.

**13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November** – A group of Year 5 & 6 children will be visiting Kingswood Residential Centre for the weekend with Mrs Lees together with children and staff from schools across the Ninestiles Trust.

**23<sup>rd</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> November** – Mr Simcox is taking Year 5 & 6 children on an outward bound experience to Aberdovey for the week.

**26<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 4 will be visiting Birmingham Library and the theatre to see The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe.

**2<sup>nd</sup> December** – Year 4 Class assemblies.

## Attendance

Congratulations to class 3HS who have the best attendance this week with an almost perfect 99.63%.

NAM	NPM	RH	RPB	1OW	1S	2P	2W
96.47	91.07	98.47	97.41	90.48	95.24	95.93	98.52
3HS	3LW	4G	4H	5C	5L	6H	6OT
99.63	98.47	96.56	97.41	97.41	96.67	95.93	94.44

## Dates for Your Diary

11 November	Y4 Science workshop	23 <sup>rd</sup> -27 <sup>th</sup> November	Aberdovey Residential
12 November	Y6 More Able Workshop	2 December	Y4 Class Assemblies
18 November	Y6 Blakesley Hall Trip	17 December	Last Day of Term
13 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> November	Kingswood Residential	18 December	Teacher Training Day
26 November	Y4 Theatre Trip		

C Phillips

Principal

6<sup>th</sup> November 2015