



# The School Newspaper Team



## Blesing

Class: 6ST

Favourite Lesson: Literacy

Hobbies: Netball, Singing & Acting

## Freddie

Class: 3NW

Favourite Lesson: Music

Hobbies: Running, Games & Kickboxing

## Lilly-Anna

Class: 6LB

Favourite Lesson: Maths

Hobbies: Knitting, Singing & Dancing

## Ethan

Class: 5KG

Favourite Lesson: PE or ICT

Hobbies: Football, PE & Eating

## Alexandra

Class: 4BB

Favourite Lesson: Maths

Hobbies: Karate, Gymnastics & Swimming

## Kaycee

Class: 6ES

Favourite Lesson: Music

Hobbies: Crocheting, Kickboxing & Knitting

## Isla

Class: 4BB

Favourite Lesson: Topic

Hobbies: Spice Girls, Rugby & Crafts

## Tayah

Class: 5KG

Favourite Lesson: Literacy

Hobbies: Gymnastics, Athletics & Dancing

## Zack

Class: 4BB

Favourite Lesson: Maths

Hobbies: Football, Cubs & Karate

Over the last 7 weeks, this budding group of journalists have researched, interviewed and written reports based on everything we have done in Autumn term at Smith's Wood Primary Academy.

I think you'll agree, we have participated in many events, attended many trips, and most importantly, learnt a lot!

They have worked incredibly hard to write these reports, and have helped me to put the whole newspaper together.

Each journalist has had the opportunity to write about an event of their choice, and we realised whilst reporting, what an abundance of activities we have going on at Smiths Wood Primary Academy!

**Reported by Miss Boobyer**





# More Than A



# School Newspaper

## Anti-Bullying Week

On the 20th November, the whole school participated in Anti-Bullying Week with many different activities happening every single day to raise the awareness of bullying.

The assemblies throughout the week were based on what the term 'bullying' means and how we can keep children happy and safe at Smith's Wood.

This year's theme for Anti-Bullying Week was 'Make Some Noise', because to keep children feeling safe, we need to talk about what bullying is, and how our children can overcome these obstacles.

The Monday was all about celebrating Anti-Bullying Week through an 'Odd Socks Day', where every child and teacher was encouraged to wear odd socks. Kaycee explained that we wore odd socks in order to "celebrate our differences". There was also a competition to design a pair of odd socks which Sienna (in 5KG) won!



Throughout the rest of the week, there was a daily 'Friendship Café' in either 2CS or 6LB at lunchtime where children could go and talk to their friends whilst designing a pair of odd socks. These Friendship Cafes were also used so that our Wellbeing Warriors could meet and talk to different children across the whole school. When we asked Miss Sayer about her thoughts on the Friendship Cafes, she stated "I loved seeing the KS1 and KS2 children being able to play together and make new friends. As well as this, I also enjoyed seeing the Wellbeing Warriors take their job seriously!".



Every day, the Wellbeing Warriors showed our school value of responsibility and friendship; they gave their time up each day to ensure that other children in our school were happy, safe and felt positive!

It's safe to say that this year's Anti-Bullying Week was a huge success, and we hope that all of our children here at Smith's Wood enjoyed it.

**Reported by Tayah (5KG)**

# Meet our new teachers...

## Miss Sankar

1. **What was your dream job when you were growing up?** *A teacher!*
2. **What inspired you to become a teacher?** *When I was in year 2 I had a really good teacher and knew that was what I wanted to do.*
3. **What is your favourite part of being a teacher?** *When the children get excited about the golden folder, and seeing a Friday assembly.*
4. **If you had a superpower, what would it be?** *Flying!*
5. **Why did you apply to be a teacher at Smith's Wood?** *I loved the school website, and the values stood out to me as well.*



## Miss Chalmers

1. **What inspired you to become a teacher?** *I've always loved working with children and had inspiring teachers when I was at school.*
2. **What do you love most about Smith's Wood?** *Our School Values!*
3. **Beside teaching in Year 3, would there be any other year group you'd like to teach?** *Any of them (although Year 6 is scary!).*
4. **If you had any other job beside teaching, what would you like to do?** *To travel around the world, or run my own business.*
5. **If you had a superpower, what would it be and why?** *To fly!*



## Mr Corbett

1. **What inspired you to be a teacher?** *I like to help people develop their skills.*
2. **What would you do if you won the lottery?** *Retire and buy a mansion with a garage full of sports cars.*
3. **Can you play any instruments?** *I can sort of play the keyboard and piano - I'm basically a one man band.*
4. **If you weren't a teacher, what would you be?** *A referee in the Premier League.*
5. **Did you have a job before teaching?** *No, because I was in college.*



# Autumn Term Events

## Remembrance

At Smith's Wood, we showed our respect for Remembrance in a few different ways. Every child and adult completed a one-minute silence at the end of the play time. During this time, we showed our school value of Respect.



Each class also produced a Remembrance display in their classroom. The SWAG representatives throughout the week also created a whole-school display with Miss Wilson, which was displayed in our school office throughout the week. Lots of children did their own work at home too, including the poem from our journalist Alexandra, which is shared with this report.

**Reported by Isla (4BB)**

## Poppy, Poppy

Poppy, Poppy,  
As pretty as a bug ,  
Poppy, Poppy,  
Being eaten by a slug.  
Poppy, Poppy,  
Living on a grave,  
Poppy, Poppy,  
No-one knows how it's made.  
Poppy, Poppy,  
As red as a tomato,  
Poppy, Poppy,  
Smells as yummy as gelato,  
Poppy, Poppy,  
Is everywhere!

**Written by Alexandra (4BB)**

## Bikeability

This term, Year 5 had the opportunity to take part in Bikeability and were split up into different groups to pass the test.



Each group had to train and showcase how confident they were at riding a bike. This included with, and without, stabilizers. They

also had to prove that they were safe enough to be allowed to ride their bikes on the road, after proving themselves on the MUGA at school.

Lots of the children passed different levels and proved to the coaches how much they knew about bike safety!

**Reported by Tayah and Ethan (5KG)**

# Autumn Term Events

## Jane Goodall Visit

Children across KS2 had the opportunity to visit the one and only Dr Jane Goodall. We got to see all of her achievements in life. This includes books, films and even doll models.

She is well known for her work with chimpanzees. "My favourite part was when Jane Goodall told us all about her amazing work with the chimpanzees", stated Zack. Throughout the day, Jane Goodall inspired many of our children with her stories and every child came away completely amazed by her achievements.

Blesing mentioned, "My favourite part was when Jane Goodall showed us the story of when she saved a chimpanzee. I was emotional and was about to cry because it was so sad". It was a brilliant morning for everyone who had the chance to go.

**Reported by Lilly-Anna (6LB)**



## Live Netball Match

Throughout KS2, children across Years 5 and 6 have been training to win gold in the upcoming Netball Skills competition. I interviewed a member of the team. Alexandra said to us "We have been training extremely hard and I am so excited for what is coming up".

On November 15, these children from Year 6 had the opportunity to visit the University of Birmingham and watch a live netball match. The match was Birmingham vs Leeds and the score was a wild 61-55 to Birmingham! I

asked Lois from 6ST about her favourite part and she said that she loved watching them score nearly every goal they attempted.

To see more, you can head onto our school website to see the pictures!

**Reported by Blesing (6ST)**



## Children In Need

In November, Smith's Wood participated in a week of fun-filled activities to help the charity Children In Need.

We had a busy schedule of activities including:

- Tuesday—Penalty Shoot-Out against Mr Meers
- Thursday—Cookie Sale

- Friday—Non-Uniform Day

Children In Need has had a huge impact on children who needed it all over the country.

**Reported by Isla (4BB)**



# Terrific Trips

## All Things Wild

This half term, Year 3 went to All Things Wild as part of their Dinosaurs Topic!

When they visited, they were able to take part in many different workshops and activities, including the Dino Train and Fossil Hunting.

The Dino Train took the children on a journey through the history of dinosaurs, and the children could see real-life replicas of those dinosaurs too. The T-Rex really is huge!

After that, was the Fossil Hunt, where Year 3 had to find the fossils in a tray of stones and rocks, which was difficult.

The trip helped us learn lots more about the different dinosaurs we have looked at in Topic.

**Reported by Freddie (3NW)**



## Regiment Museum

On the 6th and 7th December, Year 4 went to visit the Staffordshire Regiment Museum as part of our World War Topic.

As we got there, we were greeted by two kind gentlemen and one kind lady, who were our personal guides throughout the day for both 4BB and 4JC classes.

For our first activity, we had a tour of a British trench (even in the pouring rain for 4BB!) and we experienced what life would have been like in the trenches for the soldiers.



After our encounter at the trench, we had a tour of the weapons and uniforms of both

WW1 and WW2. Some of us even had the chance to hold the weapons, as well as wear some of the uniforms that would have been worn during the World Wars.

As well as the trenches and weapons experiences, we also got to go into a real-life shelter. We looked at some different shelters which were used in the different wars in different ways. However, our favourite one to look at was the Morrison shelter, as we have looked at this shelter in our Topic work.

Finally, we went to the gift shop and got to spend some money to take something home to remember the day we had!

**Reported by Isla, Alexandra & Zack (4BB)**

# Terrific Trips

## Space Centre

On the 29th November, Year 5 visited the Space Centre as it linked to their Science topic of Space.

Throughout the day, they learnt lots of facts all about Space exploration! We saw different parts of a rocket and the controls used on the rocket. There was also a timeline of the events of the moon landing in 1969, and we watched a conversation from the moon landing. We also got to look at the different space suits which have been used throughout the last century.

The best part of the day was when we went into the planetarium and got to experience the planets and stars as if we were in space!

**Reported by Tayah & Ethan (5KG)**



## Black Country Living Museum

The Black Country Living Museum was an amazing trip as we got to immerse ourselves in a different era.

The Music Shop was personally my favourite place to visit as we got to see a grand piano from the 1950's as well as all of the different vinyls from throughout the years!

The Black Country Museum is an amazing experience for anyone who would like to experience the decades or even just go for fun!

In my opinion, everyone who went enjoyed it and surprisingly not just for the gift shop!

**Reported by Kaycee (6ES)**

## 60s Day!

On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November, Year 6 had the opportunity to dress up 60s style. During the epic day, they made patterns in Math, read about lots of 60s information in Guided Reading and wrote a newspaper report about the iconic moon landing of 1969 in Literacy.

In the afternoon, they created their own commentary on the glorious 1966 World Cup Final with England's win, and to end it off,

they created a 60s inspired fashion outfit for a band or artist from that era.

All of the children and teachers in Year 6 dressed up in 60s outfits for the day!

**Reported by Lilly-Anna (6LB)**

# Christmas Events

## Christmas Celebrations

On Tuesday 12th December, at Smith's Wood Primary, we had a brilliant day filled with joy, since we wore our best Christmas Jumpers on a fabulous Christmas Jumper Day! Each child donated £1 which went to the Save The Children charity.

As well as this, it was also our annual Christmas dinner day, which saw nearly all of our children enjoying their Christmas dinner with the rest of their class. We also listened to

Christmas songs and pulled Christmas crackers. It was a great day for all!

**Reported by Isla and Zack (4BB)**



## Reception Nativity

Some of our youngest children in the school had the opportunity to perform to the rest of Smith's Wood this half term in their Christmas Nativity.

Many children and teachers from across the school enjoyed the dancing, singing and the readers in the show.

When I asked Miss Boobyer what her favourite part was, she said "all of the Reception children were incredible at remembering their lines and songs, but also their dancing was amazing!"

As well as the Reception Nativity, we have also showcased the talents of our Nursery children in their very own Nativity, as well as our Year 1 and 2 Carol Concert and our Year 3/4 and 5/6. All of our children (and teachers), put in lots of effort to make sure that these performances were perfect!

**Reported by Blesing (6ST)**

## Christmas Disco

This year, KS1 and KS2 each had their own Christmas Disco and the chance to visit Santa!

You could visit the little tuck shop and buy a drink, crisps or a bag of sweets that were provided by some of our teachers. Also, you could have your nails painted by some other teachers!

Throughout both of the discos, Mr Wright was an incredible DJ and played some of our favourite songs to dance to (even the teachers joined in with dancing!).

**Reported by Tayah (5KG)**

# Puzzle Page

Have a go at finding all of the Christmas words in this word search! House point if you can find all 9 words!

Designed by: Kaycee (6ES)

G	F	W	C	Q	G	H	D	H	J	H	A	P	P	Y
A	S	H	H	T	S	T	W	A	H	S	A	D	Y	I
F	N	J	R	D	C	U	D	G	R	I	N	C	H	T
T	O	H	I	H	B	I	Y	T	Y	Y	W	V	N	O
U	W	R	S	D	J	F	E	L	I	J	H	I	O	P
G	T	I	T	C	O	S	S	G	J	Z	A	G	R	S
C	W	B	M	B	L	H	Y	A	T	Q	I	R	F	C
J	T	A	A	J	L	F	I	G	A	H	A	S	F	F
D	V	W	S	Y	Y	B	Q	U	A	T	R	E	A	F
Z	S	Q	I	D	T	A	H	B	C	D	E	H	G	S
V	Y	I	P	A	G	H	D	X	E	L	V	E	S	I
I	T	G	U	Y	A	U	W	A	P	E	E	E	D	L
E	I	R	K	U	S	W	B	E	L	W	A	Y	N	K
G	O	C	E	L	F	T	J	R	D	A	S	D	T	T
M	A	T	F	E	T	B	O	Y	H	F	F	W	T	D

JOLLY  
HAPPY  
TREE

SNOW  
HOLLY  
GRINCH

ADVENT  
CHRISTMAS  
ELVES

# Merry Quiz-mas!

Want to test yourself with a cool quiz? Then try to beat our leaders of the school - remember to share this with your parents too! There's a question based on each Topic throughout the years! Can you beat them? (No sneaky peaks at the answers!)

Created by: Kaycee (6ES)

1. Name an animal which lives in Africa.
2. What animal makes the 'oink' sound?
3. What are 2 dinosaurs with long necks?
4. How many soldiers died on the first day of WW1?
5. What was the name of the longest reigning Queen?
6. What was Queen Victoria's real name?

1. Multiple Choice of animals
2. Pig
3. Diplodocus & Brontosaurus
4. 57470
5. Queen Elizabeth II
6. Alexandrina Victoria

# Important Dates

Date	Event
8/1/24	Return to school
8/2/24	Parents Evening
9/2/24	Break up for February half term