



### Message from Mrs Gardiner

#### Newest addition to the Great Heights family

December 1<sup>st</sup> saw everyone in Great Heights Academy Trust welcome Bowling Green Academy to the Trust. This takes the number of schools in the trust to 5. We are very excited for Bowling Green to be joining as we already have special links with the school. We will continue to work with the school and hope that we can have some exciting projects for the children to work together on.



#### Newest addition to the West Vale family

Mrs Lawrence and her husband welcomed Sofia Eve to their family on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

She is an absolute joy and they are all doing brilliantly. Sofia is already an old hand with the new way of communication and has video called the children in Class 1 to introduce herself.

#### School Improvement visit

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December Amanda Bennett and Alan Giles visited West Vale to monitor the progress and impact that the school is having. They were delighted with everything they saw, commenting on the quality of teaching, children's behaviour and learning, and overall ethos and culture of the school. Well done to us all, we are very proud.

Well this is the final newsletter of the year. It is unbelievable how quickly this term is going. The staff and children continue to work amazingly to ensure that all the difficulties that we are facing in our daily lives do not impact too heavily on learning. Thank you to all families who have worked to ensure that they have followed guidance to keep us safe and been so vigilant with testing and selfless in ensuring that they have isolated and worked with their children at home to keep up with their education. It is great to see the West Vale family pulling together at this time. I thank all of you who keep the road clear outside school, stay 2 meters apart and wear a face covering, who make sure your children are ready to learn in the correct uniform and sports kit, engage fully on Seesaw and attended a different type of parents evening. Your support of school and your children is wonderful. A big thankyou to the PFA who continue at this time to raise money for the school and had a really successful online Christmas Fayre. There are still 2 weeks left and we will continue to work hard and enjoy the countdown to Christmas with quarantined cards, bubble parties, video nativities and festivities. It is different but we all work together to make it a success. Thank you all for your continued support.

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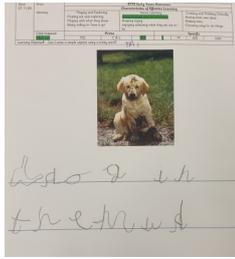
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Chief Operations Officer:  
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### Class 1



The children in Class 1 have had another busy week! In their Phonics lesson, they have all been learning new



sounds, along with segmenting and blending words too. In English, they found out a spaceship crashed into the playground. As a class they predicted what might be inside!

### Class 2

In Class 2 the children have made a placemat and a coaster. During their Art lessons the children learnt how to weave with card to make their placemat and they have learnt how to create a batik to make their coasters. They all had great fun and the finished products look fabulous.★



### Class 3



Class 3 have been learning about castles. They designed and built their own castles out of junk as well as constructing their own 3d shape nets.

Their castles had to be strong, sturdy and had to meet their design specification.



### Class 4



Amongst lots of other busy activities this month, Class 4 have been computer programmers, using block coding to design and create their own computer games.

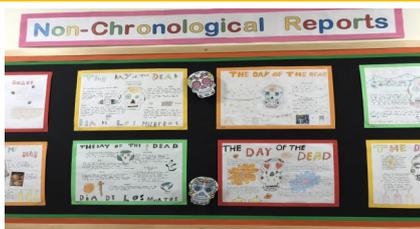
### Class 5



Over the past few weeks, Class 5 have been learning about Yorkshire in Geography. They have learnt about the physical characteristics of our local area and also thought about how tourism has an impact. They argued their case, for why the 'Tour de Yorkshire' should remain in Yorkshire and not move to Norfolk. Class 5 have also been completing some beautiful pictures inspired by our beautiful scenery. In English, they have been writing a biography about Nelson Mandela, a famous civil rights activist.



### Class 6



Class 6 have just finished their class book. They loved the happy ending. As the final part was set during the Day of the Dead festival, they decided to create non-chronological reports about the celebrations. Their work was amazing.



Reminder—Friday 11th December is Christmas Lunch Day when the children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper with their uniform.



### Need Support? - Numbers you may find useful

Women's Domestic Violence – 0808 2000 247 Men's Domestic Violence Helpline - 0808 801 0327 Childline - 0800 1111  
NSPCC 24 hour free phone service - 0808 800 5000 Police (if not urgent)- 101 Women's refuge – 0845 155 1485  
Social Services – 01422 393336  
Safeguarding Children—If you are ever concerned about any child please speak to Mrs Gardiner or Mrs Lawrence