



# Barrow Hedgelines

Spring (2) 2022

## From Mrs Wood

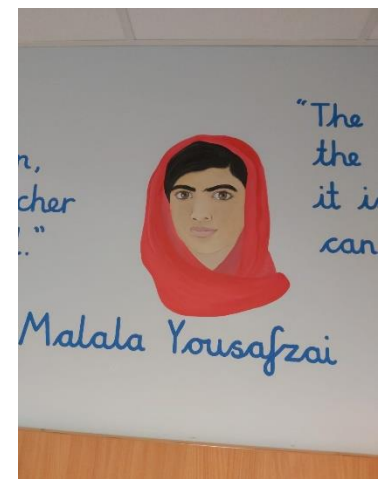
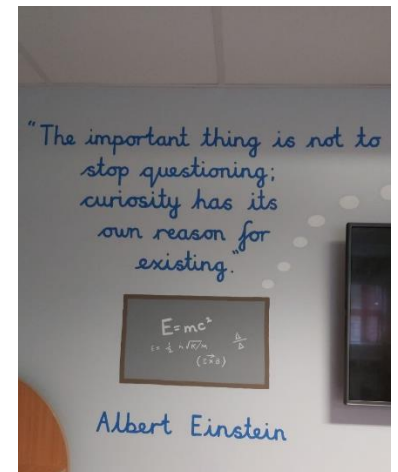
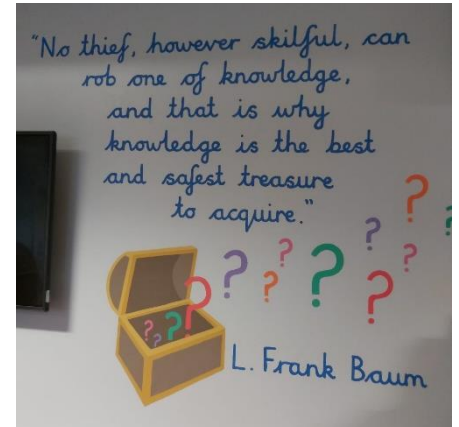
After the hugely successful sporting season we have had this term, there's no other way to open Hedgelines than to extend a huge well done and congratulations to our superb football and netball teams for all their successes this term. I have been lucky enough to watch some of the finals, both girls and boys playing, and have nothing but admiration and pride. The children have played so brilliantly and set the finest example in their behaviour and conduct, a real credit to themselves, their parents and the school.

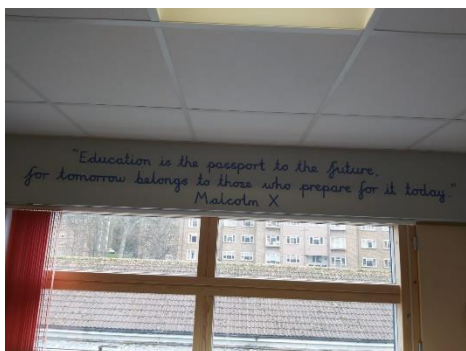
Additionally, I had a wonderful afternoon at Year 6's Strictly Come Dancing Showcase on Monday afternoon, which I know that parents thoroughly enjoyed too. They'll be much more on our sporting success in a separate edition of Sporting Hedge which will follow after the Easter holidays (we have been so busy participating in the events and need a little more time to put this together!) For now, I am sure you will join

me in thanking all the staff for their hard work in supporting the children, with a special mention to Mrs Wallis, Mr Buckingham, Mr Pearce and Miss Rayment.

As I reflect on another busy term, I am struck by just how many memorable experiences and super activities have taken place; but what is so lovely is that we have been able to enjoy so many of these together. There's been a real sense of community again, with a fantastic World Book Day, several charity days, and the children back in the hall with other year groups. Singing is very much back on the agenda and I purposely open my door each Wednesday morning to listen to the weekly Singing Practice. Thanks to Miss Pericleous and Mr Brooker who also organised a super Spring Assembly for the whole school to enjoy. I am so grateful to have such a fantastic staff team who work tirelessly. On behalf of us all, I wish you a very happy Easter break.

Our new Discovery Hub:





## Staffing Update

I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs McGinley all the very best as she leaves Barrow Hedges to start a new school after Easter. We wish her every success and happiness. We are pleased to welcome Miss Taniya Masood to our team as our new Squirrel Class Teacher.

We have also appointed Mrs Lou Baker who has joined our team of Midday Supervisors. Mrs Sharon Hepburn has joined the Nursery team, having initially started at Barrow Hedges in January as a Teaching Assistant in Year 6. She's really enjoying working with the children and staff. There have been some other changes to staffing arrangements in Nursery - we are delighted to confirm that Mrs Natalie Herman has been appointed as Nursery Manager, job sharing the role with Mrs Nicola Andre. Mrs Andre is working Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and Mrs Herman is working

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. We feel that this revised arrangement, in particular with them both working together on Wednesday, will strengthen leadership and communication.

Mrs Rachel Hollis, Mrs Angela Seeboruth, Mrs Emily Lillie and Mrs Lidia Mfulumpinga, Midday Assistants, are all now also supporting children within lessons which we know they are really enjoying.

## Nursery – Changes

Nursery have been learning about different changes that we can see all around us. We began by having fun with colour mixing and making many new colours all by ourselves. We LOVED exploring mixing different coloured water and even changed our water to perfume by adding herbs and scented plants from our garden. We soon noticed signs of Spring and we became "Spring Detectives" as we began to notice that new flowers and plants had started to grow. We ticked them off on a sheet when we had found them. This moved our learning on to looking at ourselves and how much we have grown from being a baby and what has changed about us too!

We invited some of our Mummies in with babies so we could compare the differences between the babies and us.



The babies had no teeth, couldn't walk or talk and had no hair either; we found this so funny!



We realised how much we have changed now we have grown and are in Nursery.

Finally, we did a lot of planting of flowers and seeds in our Nursery vegetable garden and sensory garden. We looked after the plants and seeds by watering them and watching them grow up.





We are excited to see what happens to our vegetable plants, strawberry plants and fruit bushes.



What a lot of different ways we have learnt about 'Changes We Can See' in Nursery this half term.

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### Reception – Are Eggs Alive?

This term in Reception, we asked the question 'Are Eggs Alive?' We were very excited to watch chicks hatch and grow.



We learnt about lots of different animals that come from eggs. Did you know that snakes, frogs, butterflies and penguins all come from eggs? We decided that some eggs are alive, but not the eggs we eat for breakfast! We also found out

that some animals don't come from eggs, these animals are called mammals and they come from their mummy's body. Mammals can feed their babies milk too. We also learnt about animals and their young. Lots of animals are born in the springtime; it's a time for new life. We found out all about the farm where lots of animals live during our very exciting trip to Bocketts Farm.

It was a super exciting day, and we couldn't wait to get there! We were very impressed with the big white coach and we liked looking out of the window to see the woods and the countryside. We met all the lovely farmers when we arrived who helped us to learn about the animals. We used very gentle hands to stroke rabbits, guinea pigs and a chicken that looked like a feather duster! We went on a tractor ride that went all the way around the farm. We saw pigs, goats, horses, cows and sheep. The ride made us laugh because it was so bumpy! We also went into the animal barn and saw the baby lambs; they were very cute. Lots of us were very brave and fed the sheep; we had to use flat hands so that the sheep could lick the food off our hands - their tongues were tickly.



It was lots of fun but totally disgusting! 🐷👃

Before we had our lunch, we washed our hands thoroughly so that any germs from the animals didn't make us sick. After lunch we could play! This was exciting and we had so much fun exploring with our friends. We went down huge slides, rode on tractors and jumped high on the trampoline. Some of us even did somersaults! We had a wonderful time. Then sadly, because all good things come to an end, we got ready to come back to school. Lots of us fell asleep on the coach. Phew! What an exciting and busy day! Do you know, mummies and daddies, all your children did us proud? They were beautifully behaved, listened carefully to instructions and they were very polite to each other and the grown-ups. Great job everyone! A big thank you too, for all the grown-ups who came to help us on our trip. We couldn't have done it without you. 😊

## Year 1 – Dinosaur Planet

This half term in Year 1, we have absolutely loved getting stuck into our 'Dinosaur Planet' theme! We used our History timeline and discovered that dinosaurs lived through the 'Mesozoic era', which began over 200 million years ago, when there wasn't even any humans! We learnt that this era was made up of three time periods: the Triassic, the Jurassic and the Cretaceous. Some of us found it rather sad that we would never get to meet a dinosaur, because they are extinct (which means they no longer exist). However, we really enjoyed finding out what scientists believe might have happened to the dinosaurs all those years ago!

In History, we also learnt all about the famous fossil collector and palaeontologist, Mary Anning. She is remembered today as one of the greatest fossil hunters to have ever lived and continues to inspire people with her spectacular finds in the Natural History Museum; Many of us were excited to share that we had seen these before when we visited London.



We were lucky enough to have a very special visitor, who brought in lots of amazing fossils for us to explore. It was so much fun as we got to pretend to be palaeontologists and dig in the sand to excavate the fossils.



In Art we got to make our very own fossils. We used plasticine and a toy dinosaur to create our moulds and then poured plaster of Paris over and left them to set. We then peeled away the plasticine and we were left with a hard, stone-like fossil. We then used coffee to make them look really old, just like they had been discovered from the

Mesozoic era, millions of years ago!



In English, we created fact books and included some fascinating dinosaur facts that we had found from a range of non-fiction sources. Did you know the Eoraptor was one of the earliest known dinosaurs? We have also been enjoying our fiction unit, looking at the story 'Land of the Dinosaurs'. We used role-play to act out the different parts of the story and have been practising using exciting adjectives to help add description to our sentences.





It has been such a busy, fun-filled half term! Well done everyone for working so hard, we are all very proud of you and everything you have achieved! 😊

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### **Year 2 – Muck, Mess and Mixtures**

What an amazing half term we have had in Year 2 learning about 'Muck, Mess and Mixtures'! We kicked things off in a truly messy fashion with our very own 'Messy Day'. The day was a massive success where the children did lots of activities: the children made slime using a range of ingredients; they looked at the chemical reaction that occurs when mentos come into contact with coke and they played a gross game of, 'What's in the Box?' The fun didn't end there though and each week the children have investigated the properties of materials in a range of experiments.

In English, George's Marvellous Medicine has been a focus and this has led to some amazing narrative writing as well as some awesome medicine recipes of our own. The children loved listening to the story and we hope they will explore some other Roald Dahl books now too!

### **Year 3 – Scrumdiddilyumptious**

In our Scrumdiddilyumptious theme, we have looked at healthy eating and what makes a balanced diet. We discovered that a balanced diet needs to include protein, fruit and vegetables, dairy, carbohydrates and fats. A balanced diet doesn't mean that you have an equal amount of each food group! The most important part of our diet is to include lots of fruits and vegetables! It is important to remember that if you don't have these food groups in a balance, then your meals that you thought were healthy, may not be as good for you as you first thought!

In DT this half term, we used our learning on nutrition to design and make a healthy pizza.



We used tortillas for the base and thought carefully about

what toppings we could add to make them delicious but healthy too. We had lots of fun making (and eating) them!

### **Arjun, Oak Class**



### **Year 4 – Hooke Court**

Year 4 have had an exceptionally busy half term studying our 'Traders and Raiders' theme. We picked up our history learning from the collapse of the Roman Empire and followed the rise and fall of the Anglo-Saxons, Vikings and ended with the Norman conquest of 1066 and its impact on English language and culture. In Science we've been studying sound; how it's made, how it travels and the difference between pitch and volume. However, the highlight of our half term was undoubtedly our residential trip to Hooke Court. The children represented themselves and the school outstandingly well.





They truly enriched their Norman learning as well as developing key skills of independence, resilience and collaboration. Well done Year 4!

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### Year 5 – Beast Creator

To conclude our theme of 'Beast Creator', we had a bug specialist come to our school and explain facts about bugs. We were first shown a Giant African Snail and a millipede with over 200 legs, which we were allowed to touch. Some of the things we learnt were that when you shine an ultraviolet light on a black Scorpion's exo-skeleton, it turns turquoise and when a tarantula's hair gets into you, it makes you itch for a week! Do you know why a cockroach hisses? It's so that their predators (mice) think it's a snake and get scared away...



The workshop ended with a real treat when we were shown a Cornfield snake! Cornfield snakes are constrictors and when they find mice, they strangle them and can make their mouths three times as wide to swallow the it whole! We learnt so much from meeting the animals and it was a great way to end the term.

By Avi and Jamie (Beech Class)




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### Year 6 – Letters about Plastic

Dear Parents and Carers of Barrow Hedges,

I am writing to you today to explain why you should be reducing your daily use of plastic; the staggering volume of single-use plastic in our society is inconceivable. Did you know 80% of the litter in oceans comes from land sources? Do you care about

the creatures of our precious planet? The future of this environment is at risk - the impact of our actions may result in innocent animals being killed or in danger of extinction because of our plastic use.

Each year, an obscene 12.7 billion tonnes of litter ends up

in our oceans – that's equivalent to one truckload per minute! Carpeting their habitat is plastic; over 90% of marine life become entangled in waste products every day. Our plastic footprint (the amount of plastic individuals use) is increasing rapidly and harming our ocean animals: clogging their airways with rubbish; putting them at a high-risk of drowning in the oceans; and being unable to swim due to their bodies becoming tangled in plastic bags and even egg cartons. An extreme change is needed – and fast...

As humans, we are in charge

of the changes we must make. We can reduce our plastic footprint in many ways:

- Stop littering, as plastic can pass through drains and eventually end up in the oceans
- Always recycle plastic, where possible, so products can be produced again
- Switch to reusable items, wooden items or fabric items

Even though people find plastic bags or packaging convenient, it is lethal. Many small changes can be made in a matter of time to save our animals' lives from danger.

Plastic is a very durable, well-known and therefore trusted material. Nevertheless, many people admit it can last too long. It takes approximately a devastating 5000 years to fully decompose. One plastic bottle creates as many as 100,000 microplastics, so plastic is not always appropriate. I beg you to make a change for your child's safety and for the future generations! Malala Yousafzai famously said, 'One family, one child, one action, one change can make a difference!' Plastic is the most efficient way to destroy our planet. It is not too late to make a drastic change – is it?

Yours sincerely,

Isla-May (Willow Class)

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Are you going to help me save our world? We desperately need to start now. Plastic is a part of everyday life and, unfortunately, it is severely impacting our planet. Plastic is everywhere: at our breakfast tables when we pour our milk; the shopping bags we use to buy more plastic items and even the device you are using

to read this letter. Do you want to live in a world plagued by plastic? Most sensible people would answer 'no' however, I don't think you really know how terribly we are treating our precious planet.

Every year, 100,000 sea animals (such as turtles) are killed as a result of plastic waste. It is ending up in our oceans entangling and suffocating our innocent marine creatures. Did you realise the impact that one piece of plastic is having on our oceans and wildlife. This could have an effect on us - plastic (in the form of microplastics) could end up in our food. Clearly, the effects of plastic are catastrophic! As well as animals, plastic can have further effects on us humans; plastic can contribute to climate change as creating plastic produces greenhouse gases which are harmful to us and our planet. We need to stop!

You can help make a difference by significantly reduce your plastic footprint. Your plastic footprint, as most intelligent people would know, is how much plastic you use in a certain amount of time. You can reduce it in a number of ways:

- Use refill stations for items like soap
- Say no to disposable cutlery



- Get your milk delivered – this milk is packaged in glass rather than plastic
- Use reusable bottles and coffee cups
- Use a Bag for Life (which I'm sure you already do!)

Annually, a staggering 180 million plastic bags enter our oceans; this has a disastrous impact on our world. Surely someone as smart as you would know that it is a good

idea to use less plastic. Do you really want your children to live in a world suffocated in plastic? For more information, visit our friends at Greenpeace to understand more reasons to reduce your plastic footprint: <https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/>

Are you going to help me save our world?

Yours Sincerely,  
Callum (Sycamore Class)

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Dear Barrow Hedges community,

I am writing to you today to talk about a horrendous problem: plastic pollution. Recently, this situation has become a huge problem to our sea creatures and wildlife, who were already under threat. Out of the 300 million tonnes of plastic we use each

year, over 40% is single-use. Everything, from the rubbish in the bin to the wet wipes you throw down the toilet, ends up in our oceans. Surely someone as caring as you would know that this must stop, wouldn't you?

Millions of animals are suffering each day due to the staggering amount of single-use plastic we use. Plastic bottles, bags, straws, packaging food wrappers are just a few main examples of every-day plastics that are used by us. However, these are the obvious ones. Microplastics are a huge problem. These miniscule pieces can be found in the ocean and soil. No one wants to be the cause of this tragedy, so reduce your plastic footprint now.

Although the damage us humans have already made is unforgivable, we can still find alternatives to plastic and cut down on our plastic footprint: buy a metal, reusable water bottle; use soap bars instead of liquid soap, which can be extremely harmful; and drink water from the tap instead of buying bottles of water. The rate at which we are polluting our oceans doubles every eleven years. At this shocking rate, our oceans could be lifeless. Why not invest in a milkman, who could bring your milk in an environmentally-friendly way. Out of all the plastic we use, only 9% is

recycled, 12% in our oceans and the rest, in landfills. Next time you eat a packeted food, check the label to see whether the packaging is recyclable and tell people these ways of reducing your plastic footprint.

Our once azure oceans are now a home for plastic. This horrendous problem must stop, or at least be cut down. Hopefully – in the future – plastic will be gone altogether. Remember, if you can't reuse it, recycle it.

From Pearl (Chestnut class)

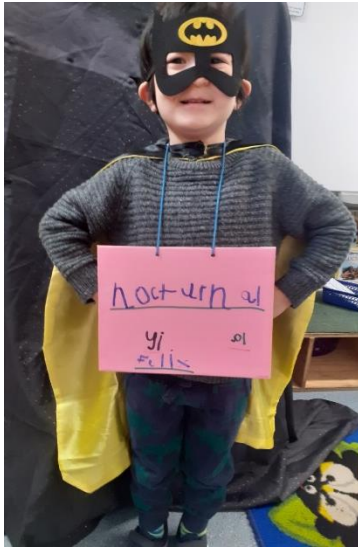
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### World Book Day

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, we celebrated World Book Day! As always, the children had so much fun immersing themselves into a world of literature. This year, we decided to focus on vocabulary and so we asked children to come to school dressed as an interesting word. We had a plethora of vocabulary from nouns such as invertebrate, pizza and hero; to adjectives such as nocturnal, ancient and brave. There seemed to be a running theme with the teachers' chosen words, as 3 chose to come as exhausted, frazzled and shattered! The outfits were incredible and we would like to thank you for all your



hard work helping to put them together.



The rationale behind this theme was from educational research into the importance of developing and expanding children's vocabulary and understanding of words in different contexts.



This has a huge impact on their reading, but also across all subjects within the curriculum and their understanding of the world. Feedback from the children showed that they loved the new theme and were very articulate in synonyms, antonyms and the meanings

of the words they had chosen. We had winners for best dressed in each year group and these children have won a book of their choice!

overwhelmed by the talent in our school. See the separate letter to read the winning entrees.

Well done again to Charlotte in Year 2 and Luke in Year 6.

## World Poetry Day

On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March it was World Poetry Day and as a school we celebrated by exposing children to a range of poetry. During our English lessons, children in each year group focused on a different type of poetry, from nursery rhymes in Reception to sonnets in Year 5 and

narrative poetry in Year 6. The children loved the opportunity to focus on poetry, letting their inner poets free for the day. A personal highlight were the Year 3 odes to their favourite foods. Here are some particularly powerful quotes:

*'Oh burger, what a salty delight you are. My mouth waters like the rain falling, as I chew your brilliant cheese!'* Elliot, Oak Class.

*'Oh, delicious cookie. How I crave your chocolate chips! You leave me thinking of childhood days eating you.'* Hannah, Oak Class.

We had many entrees for the Cirrus poetry competition and were

## Dates for the Diary

18 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Bank Holiday
19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Children Return to School
19 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Reception Fairy Tale Tea Party (Dress Up)
3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2022	Y4 Gross Guts Workshop
10 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	Y5 Trip to France
16 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	Y6 Trip to Condover
27 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	INSET Day
30 <sup>th</sup> May - 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2022	Half Term
6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	INSET Day
7 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Children Return to School



## Keeping under 5's safe online

It's never too early to start taking action to keep your child safe online. As soon as your child starts talking about or exploring the online world, you should start conversations with them about their online activity and put support in place. Visit the [Thinkuknow](#) website to read their article which looks at the benefits of children accessing the internet and how to make sure your children have a safe experience online.

- Explore together
- Talk to your child about their online experiences
- Supervise your under 5 while they're online
- Parental controls
- SafeSearch
- Set boundaries

## Social media and mental health

How we experience social media can affect our mood. YoungMinds together with O2, have gathered tips and advice on how to enjoy a more positive time online.

[Young Minds | Looking after yourself: Social media and mental health](#)

There are tips for talking to your child about their use of social media and the internet including:

- Have conversations from a young age
- Lead by example
- Talk about personal information
- Act on warning signs

Details can be found at: [Young Minds | Parents Guide To Support - Social Media and the Internet](#)

## Age and content ratings on apps and games

The NSPCC and O2 have produced a really useful summary to help make the different companies' age and content ratings easier to understand. It can be found here:

[Net Aware | Age and content ratings on apps and games](#)





## Earth Hour

On Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 8.30pm, millions of people across the world took part in Earth hour by switching off their lights for one hour. Earth hour unites people across the world who are passionate about our planet. Did you take part? Perhaps over the holidays you could make more of a conscious effort to switch off lights and other electronic appliances. This could also save you some money!



**FOR  
YOUR  
WORLD**

**SWITCH OFF ON FOR YOUR WORLD**