



*'I lift my eyes to the hills'*

## December 2021 Newsletter

Focus on our Christian value this half term has been on **Friendship**.

Across this term we have worked with the children on what friendship means to them and how we can support our friends and the school community.

Between the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, the children at Selside School held **Anti-bullying week** here at school with the theme of 'One Kind word.' Kindness is more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us and we thought as a whole school how important these things are and how through friendship and showing support we can pass on positivity.

The Discoverers had a fab day hosting **Friendship Day** with the Years 5 and Year 6s from Lindale at the beginning of November. They learnt all about friendship and what makes a good leader. They took on lots of challenges to promote their learning and had a lot of fun working together.

We have been very busy with events over the last term. The children ran and organised **Children in Need** day, raising a brilliant £160 for the charity. Then Reverend Tricia kindly brought us all the bits and pieces we needed to make Christingles. **Christingles** bring people together and symbolise friendship and hope. The money raised from all children which is still being collected will go as a donation to the Children's society and finally we held **Christmas Jumper day** to show support for Save the Children. The donations raised in school help protect the magic for children all around the world at this special time of year and let others know they are not alone.

Thank you to all the Families that contributed to our **Boxes of hope**. Each year the charity sends thousands of brightly coloured, gift-filled shoeboxes to bring some magic into a child's Christmas and our contribution to those gifts were outstanding for such a small school.

### The Adventurers

This half term the Adventurers explored the Topic of dinosaurs through stories such as ten little dinosaurs, Dinosaur Stomp and How does a Dinosaur say goodnight? We investigated food chains, dissected dinosaur dung and looked at their skeletons to see how they are similar and different to our own. Through Kendal Museum, we looked closely at fossils from millions of years ago and tried making our own. We also found out about Mary Anning, one of the most famous Paleontologists of her time. In Outdoor Learning, we enjoyed Autumn walks looking for signs of the changing season, making bird feeders, using fallen leaves and bark to identify trees on our school grounds. In Music we have been learning nursery rhymes and how to play the glockenspiels; we are getting really good at feeling the beat and playing together. The children developed their biking skills and confidence in Pedal and scoot with Kathy Bashford. In HeartSmart, we thought about 'What makes us special?' and 'how can we look after our hearts?' The children have loved working as a team to find their special hearts and think of ways we can help look after our friends' hearts as well. In RE we explored our chatterbox thinking of 'Why Christians celebrate Jesus's birthday?'. We thought about the real meaning of Christmas and ways we can be giving and spread



kindness at this time of year. We were filled with excitement for our school Nativity play, performing all our songs and actions we have been practicing this half term. We ended the term with our final adventure to Bendrigg's Winter Wonderland!

### **The Explorers**

The Explorers have had a very busy term. We have learned about modern day Greece in Geography, how our digestive system works in Science and how to design and make energy bars in Design Technology (especially what temperature we should have the oven on!)

In English, we have been writing fables and making exciting leaflets- we had a lovely trip out to Kendal to help us with our writing and even met the Mayor! Further to that, we have enjoyed a fantastic trip to Bendrigg, took part in two wonderful performances of the school nativity, had lots and lots of fun at the Christmas party and built a snowman when we had a snow day! It's safe to say that the Explorers have been working hard this term, bring on the next one! Finally, we wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.



### **The Discoverers**

This term The Discoverers have enjoyed lots of hands-on learning; from our Science experiments at the start of the term, to our outdoor Map Skills day, creating some clay sculptures inspired by the artist Alberto Giacometti and even having a chance to make our own websites. We have enjoyed hosting Lindale School children for a leadership day, running the bake sale for Children in Need and preparing for our school Nativity. We have all risen to the challenge of Year 5 & 6 and are continuing to work hard in Maths and English lessons. We have done some brilliant bits of writing this term including a letter to Cop26, an adventure story and an information text. We're all looking forward to a break so we can recharge our batteries and come back ready to hit the ground running in January. Thank you all for your support this term. Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year!



What a lovely end to the school term we have had here at school. All of the staff and children have worked extremely hard and are ready for a nice Christmassy break with their friends and family. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of January 2022.

Have a very merry Christmas & all the best for the New Year.

June Lowther and all the Selside School Staff