



'We lift our eyes to the hills'

December Newsletter 2022

Wow, what a term! We've had such a busy fun filled few weeks. Our school value focus for this half term has been **friendship**. It is amazing that people still had the time to fill a shoe box for the Boxes of Hope charity for our friend across the world. We **collected 27 shoeboxes** to send to our friends in Romania. Our school council, raised **£124.22** for children in need here in the UK. Finally, last week the Explores and Discoverers had a truly wonderful time singing at the **Westmorland Homecare** Christmas social event and so did the members of Westmorland Homecare. We sang songs, picked out raffle prizes and most importantly got people up for a festive boogie. Thank you to the Robinson's for providing us with Free school transport to and from the event. Without them we wouldn't have been able to make the trip.



The Adventurers

This half term the Adventurers have been very busy! In Science we have been learning about light and dark and exploring shadows. In our History Topic we have been learning about Toys from the past and Present exploring new big words like Century and Decade! It was really lovely to see all the toys that the children brought in from parents and grandparents and to compare how toys have changed but also stayed the same in lots of ways. In DT we have been experimenting with moving mechanisms, creating prototypes and solving problems as they arise. The children have been planning their final designs and are eager to make these in this last week of term. The year 1 wrote their first story for the year after exploring the story structure of the Gruffalo. And wow were these excellent stories! Have a fantastic Christmas everybody and look forward to seeing you next term.



We **discover, grow and thrive** together.

The Explorers

The Explorers have had a busy term! We have been learning about the Maya in history, which involved learning about their number system and debating aspects of their lives. In science, we learnt about plant and animal adaptations- we created experiments on cress seeds and interpreted the results. We are currently finishing sculpting our bird's nests after lots of sketching and investigation into the materials available to us. We have also taken part in many whole-school trips and activities and have all completed our Young Leader's award! It has been a very enjoyable term and we can't wait to start our new topic of space after Christmas!



The Discoverers

The Discoverers have had a very exciting Autumn term. We have had Pupil Parliament, been orienteering, completed our Young Leaders Awards and even had the chance to sing with a live orchestra. We have learned lots about some amazing explorers in History, made cushions in DT and been having a lot of fun with Gymnastic in PE. Next term is all about space! We will be learning about our solar system, finding out about what Britain was like in the 20th Century and discovering fashions from the past. There is a lot to look forward to!

Stay and Play

On Friday the 9th of December we welcomed new faces to our Selside School community and invited potential future parents and children into our Adventurers class for our 'Elmer's Christmas' Stay & Play. They all had a brilliant morning and thoroughly enjoyed playing with new friends and exploring the EYFS environment within our school. Thank you to the children and staff for being so welcoming and for their hard work to help make the morning run so smoothly.

Cycle wise

Our older children have just completed a week of their Level 2 Bikeability with Cycle wise. They all demonstrated courage, friendship, respect and thankfulness over the week and we are very proud of all that was achieved. Thank you to the parent helpers who came in to support the school staff with the sessions.

The Big Sing

On Friday the 2nd of December children from the Explorers and Discoverers attended the Big Sing at Kendal leisure centre with 250 children from other schools across South Cumbria and sang with a live Orchestra. They sang a range of songs from the Polar Express, Frozen and also many Christmas carols. They all beamed on stage in front of their families and friends, showing a lot of enthusiasm and singing beautifully. Well done to all the children involved.



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Christmas Fair

Big thank you to the SSA for their huge efforts at this year's Christmas Fair. We raised a fantastic **£350**. Thank you to our school children and parents for their fantastic baking and all donations for prizes. Your contributions and support really do make all the difference.

Nativity

I'm sure you will all agreed, all children performed their socks off at this year's Nativity. Dave from Lakeland films filmed the nativity and if you purchased a disc, they will be out to you shortly once the editing has been completed.

Reading Workshop

We will be holding our reading workshop on **Tuesday 17th December** at 3.45. This is a session for parents to look at how to support your child with early reading at home and how these progresses into KS1 and KS2. We will hold a film club in the hall for the children to help with child care. It would be really good as if as many parents could attend as possible.

SSA – Amazon Smile

Please don't forgot to support our SSA if you make any amazon purchases. Simple use Amazon Smile and search for our name **Selside School Association** is on the list. *AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.*

Communication

We love to hear from you but please note that the office is not always staffed. Please leave a message on the answer machine or send an email. Messages and emails are checked at lunchtimes and at 3.00pm. Please make sure that any changes for the end of the school day are communicated, **preferably before 12.00pm.**

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year. Thank you for a great start to the school year and we can't wait to see what 2023 has in store.

Best wishes

June Lowther and the Selside Team

Dates for the diary

Wednesday 4th Jan – Back of School

Tuesday 24th Jan – Bags2school collection

Friday 27th Jan – SSA school Film night

Monday 20th – Friday 24th Feb – Half Term holidays