



# October



## Headteacher

I can't believe it's October half term already and what a busy half term it has been. It was lovely to launch our new school vision with the children, " **We nurture children's dreams**" on Wednesday. I was amazed at the costumes and the aspirations all our children have and it was a brilliant day, making me very proud to be the headteacher at such a wonderful school. If you haven't seen it yet, have a look at the video on the website.

<https://www.gillibrand.lancs.sch.uk/news/2021-10-21-school-vision-launch>

Have a great half term. See you all again on Monday 1st November.

**EYFS** Our theme has continued on the topic 'Ourselves' but we have also spent time considering harvest time and autumn. Through the text 'Elmer', children have learned about celebrating difference and diversity. We have been thinking carefully about what makes us special and unique. We have also been learning about the purpose of different parts of our body and particularly our senses—we particularly enjoyed preparing and then tasting a harvest soup. We also took part in our first assembly and were able to perform a song for the children in KS1. In the past week, we had a wonderful time taking part in the Dream Day along with the rest of the school. We have also been exploring the story of the 'Gruffalo' and we finished the week with a Gruffalo hunt within the school grounds which was very exciting and enjoyed by all.

**Year 1** October has been a very busy and exciting month. The children have now fully settled into Y1 and have been enjoying many exciting events.

October is the month where Christians celebrate Harvest and we were able to share a celebration assembly with reception and Y2, where we sang a new song and led a prayer that we had written.

Asda also visited us to talk about keeping healthy and making healthy food choices and we sampled lots of new foods and some of us even surprised ourselves by enjoying foods we had previously disliked.

'Trikidz' also came to visit the school this month. We were able to compete in a mini triathlon and we all had a great time taking part in running, cycling and even virtual swimming!

October ended with our 'Dreams Day' to launch our school vision— 'We Nurture Children's Dreams'. We all come to school dressed as what we dream to be when we grow up. We shared a whole school assembly (our first ever) and talked about our dreams during the day. We even converted our class into a veterinary hospital, a medical centre, a building site, an army obstacle course, a football pitch, a dance studio and a theatre to support our dreams.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy half term holiday and I look forward to seeing you all in November!

**Year 2** October has been a great month in Year 2! We have continued to work hard in English, writing some wonderful stories and really starting to get to grips with the expectations of the Year 2 curriculum. In maths, we have started to learn about money, recognising the different coins, combining amounts and using coins when visiting 'Mr Thomas' Toy Shop!'. In PE, we have learned and performed a wonderful dance, which you can see on our class seesaw page. We worked with Pearl from Chorley Sports Partnership to learn the dance and we have performed it for Year 5 – they were extremely impressed with our moves! We also loved the Trikidz triathlon day, being able to try the different events and show our competitive spirit. During the school vision launch, we dressed up in some great costumes and we have a class full of ambition to achieve their dreams of being everything from astronauts, artists and police officers. Some of us even had the privilege of spending time with a professional artist and a local police officer to find out all about their careers. We cannot wait to continue our dream journey next half term.





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## Year 3

What a great half term we have had in Year 3 and to have the 'Dream Day' to end it all was amazing! We have really enjoyed dressing up as our dream job and listening to others people's dreams. We have also finished our science and geography topics this half term, ready to start our new topics in November. We have enjoyed writing instructions for our pumpkin soup and tasting it, although it was not to everyone's liking. Have a great half term and we will see you all in November. Happy holidays from Miss Watson, Mrs Hayhurst and Mrs Hoyle.

## Year 4

What a fantastic first half term it has been! We have had lots of amazing experiences ranging from a visit from the River Ribble Trust and going on a walk to our local river to launching our new school vision of— 'We Nurture Children's Dreams.' We have worked really hard over the past few weeks and have produced some amazing work which we are very proud of!

In English, we have thoroughly enjoyed our live lessons with 'Teaching Live' and Pie Corbett which we will continue after half term. We have developed our writing skills and are beginning to use lots of these new skills in our every day writing.

Our geography this half term—'Rivers', has been a great topic which the children have really enjoyed. We have learned lots of interesting things like names of rivers around the world and also in the UK. We have also looked at the features of a river and can use geographical vocabulary to name them.

Well done to everyone in Year 4, I cannot wait to see what next half term brings!



## Year 5

Over the last few weeks, Silver Birch class have started their 'Teaching Live' sessions in English and worked on some creative poetry. In maths, we moved onto addition and subtraction problems involving exchanges over four or more digits. We have recently completed final performances in both PE (a dance) and Music (a river-themed song) which are available to view on Seesaw. Silver Birch ran, swam and cycled their hearts out during a super day with Trikidz where whole the school smashed all the triathlon targets set. We now look forward to a well-earned break before some more exciting activities and learning next half term.

## Year 6

How quickly has it got to October half term? In Year 6, we have been doing some amazing things! We were fortunate to have the opportunity to work with Trikidz. They are a charity who came in to challenge the whole school to take part in a triathlon! Don't worry, there was no water involved! We ran, cycled and dry swam as far as we could. As a school, we didn't fully complete the triathlon distance but we tried our best and had lots of fun doing it. Every Friday, we also take part in our Samba drumming lessons. Here we learn about rhythm, beat and playing as a group. We have also learned some names of the samba drums - try and test us! Also, we have celebrated the launch of our new vision statement - 'We Nurture Children's Dreams', with a huge whole school celebration. We all came dressed as what we want to be when we grow up, in Year 6 we had fashion designers, artist, teachers, photographers and so many more great career ideas. We are already looking forward to our next topic, Victorians!