

Art – Winners of the 2017 and 2018 Ilkley Carnival Cover Competitions
Winners in the Regional and participants in the National ISA Art Competition 2017

Woodland Trust – Gold accreditation in the Green Tree Schools Award

Rounders – U10 League and Cup Winners of School Sports Partnership 2016-17

Football – Boys Europa Cup Winners of the School Sports Partnership 2016-17

Girls Europa Cup Winners of the School Sports Partnership 2017-18

Cricket – U11 League and Cup Winners of School Sports Partnership 2016-17 with two pupils playing for the District team

Netball – U10 League and Cup Winners of School Sports Partnership 2017-18

Golf – Gabriel in Form 2 is the U7 winner of the European Junior Golf Tour

Swimming – Representation at the Regional and National Independent Schools Swimming Competitions
Winners of the School Sports Partnership Swimming Gala 2018

Modern Foreign Language

Mrs Smith's Class

Mrs Smith sent Form 1 and 2 on a word hunt in the School playground to test their Spanish. In pairs, we were given a clipboard with a character drawn on the front and 10 colouring pens. On signposts around the playground were different body parts and colours written in Spanish. We had to translate the words on the signpost into English then colour in the correct body part on the drawing we'd been given by Mrs Smith. There were lots of different signs, some hidden, some quite easy to find. For example, over by the Adventure playground, we found that one of the character's hands was red: 'una mano roja' so we coloured one hand red. By the gate to the Little Adventurer garden, another sign read: 'una rodilla naranja' – an orange knee. Mrs Smith said: "Hearing the children

practicing their Spanish, and their Spanish accents, out loud was fantastic as it showed how much they can learn at such a young age. Harry in Form 2 even came over to tell me he didn't have an 'amarillo' [yellow] colouring pen!"



STAY AND PLAY

In Stay and Play we had Little Notes upstairs with Mrs Coultas. We are getting really, really good at remembering the words to the songs, and are very, very good at remembering to SCREAM! when we see a crocodile in 'Row, Row, Row Your Boat'. We love when Mrs Coultas gets the instruments out for us to play. Some of us choose the wooden blocks, some grab the drums and some of us take the jingly bells! We concentrate really hard when Mrs Coultas asks us to play quietly and softly, tapping the blocks and drums, then LOUDLY by thrashing and crashing the instruments! Downstairs, we got up to all sorts. We made caterpillar paintings in the Little Adventurer room, dug in the sandpit outside, and filled tubs and bottles with water to Stay, Play and Spray! It was nice to play with the cool water in the hot sunshine, and we washed our babies with shaving foam and water making them lovely and clean. We ran around with spray bottles and even sprayed the older children! Stay and Play runs weekly Music and Art sessions every Friday during term time from 9.30am-11.00am.



WHAT'S ON

Thursday 26th April Key Stage Two Swimming Gala

Thursday 26th April Discovery Day and Year 2 Scholarship Day

Friday 27th April Pre-School Play Date with Pyjama Drama

Monday 7th May Wharfedale Festival of Performing Arts

Tuesday 8th May Karen Ross in for school photographs

Monday 14th May SATs Week Years 2 and 6

Saturday 19th May Ghyllstonbury

Monday 11th June Year 6 Enrichment Week

Friday 16th June Year 6 Weekend Residential to Robin Hoods Bay

Monday 25th June Palm Court Tea Afternoon

Friday 6th July Sports Day followed by Leavers Cricket

Monday 9th July Optional Parents Evening

Wednesday 11th July Great Explorers Graduation Day

Friday 13th July End of Year Celebration

Wednesday 5th September School opens

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Ghyll Royd News

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GREAT EXPLORERS

We welcomed children from the local area to school for a beach party! The sun was shining and we had a whole host of activities planned for our visitors. In our playground we splashed around in our paddling pool and blew bubbles into the

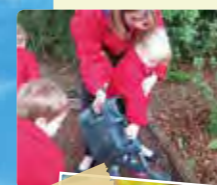


air. We made big sandcastles and bought ice-creams from the mud kitchen. Miss Coulton painted everyone's faces before we headed

out on a welly walk to find Captain Redbeard's buried treasure! Captain Redbeard's treasure map led us around the meadow, along the fence and into the woodland area where we found the 'X' which marked the spot. With our spades, we dug and dug and found GOLD! Lots of chocolatey gold coins to share with each other.

LITTLE ADVENTURERS

The lovely, hot sunshine feels like a distant memory. Luckily for Little Adventurers, a little rain doesn't stop us from heading outside. In the summer term, we had an 'in the garden' theme where we explored the grounds, looking at flowers and plants. We also went on a minibeast hunt to see what creatures lived in our garden. We were outside as much as possible, digging



in our allotment, planting the seeds we had bought, and grew our own sunflowers. We each took it in turn to plant the seeds, before patting down and covering with soil. Then Mrs Davis helped us hold the watering can up high to tip it to let the water flow out. Our sunflowers were ready to take home for the summer holidays, which were almost as tall as us! We soaked up the sun splashing in the paddling pool, and when we were too warm, we cooled down by making and trying our own ice-cream!



A message from the Head...

2017 has been a brilliant year! Our Form 6 leavers all achieved a 100% success rate in their SATs and Secondary School Entrance Exams; our curriculum has evolved to include Pottery, Drama and more; pupils have continued to wow us with their art, music and sporting achievements; we have entered 2018 with the highest number of pupils in Key Stage Two since our move to Greystone Manor; and we are the top Independent School for Academic success in the Wharfe Valley!

Our pupils receive an enriched curriculum including three separate Physical Education sessions, and various Art and Music sessions weekly, as well as new additions to our curriculum which include Pottery, Drama, Bushcraft and Digital Art. I can't wait to update you on pupil's progress within these subjects as the months unfold. In this newsletter, you will find a snapshot of life at Ghyll Royd, from the countless achievements of our pupils, the always exciting lessons organised by our talented teachers and the many wonderful places we visit on our regular school trips and outings.

Looking ahead to the rest of the school year, I invite you to join us for 'Ghyllstonbury' a one-off event designed for families in the local area. Our very own mini festival is our way of celebrating another brilliant school year with pupils, parents, staff and members of the local community – and what better place to celebrate than on our own school grounds. There will be various acts throughout the day: music, a bar, games and much, much more! Get your tickets from the school office.

Thank you to parents, teachers, pupils and members of the local community for your continuous support. I hope you enjoy reading our newsletter and wish you all a happy 2018!

David Martin

Mr David Martin BA, MA, PGCE
Head Teacher

Reception

Mrs Hudson's Class

The rain couldn't stop Reception exploring the outdoors as we went on a trip to Harewood House in July! When we arrived in the morning, with Mrs Hudson and Mrs Langan, we were met by the lovely education team at Harewood House. We went outside first of all to meet the penguins! The penguins were in their element slipping, sliding and swimming around their enclosure. We loved looking at the penguins swimming and watching them



as they were fed by the trainers. Inside, we made penguin hats by cutting out and colouring the feathers and beaks before attaching to paper crowns. We then developed our formal writing skills by writing letters to fairies. In the woods we found the fairy door and placed the letters in a tree where hopefully a fairy would collect them later. Wandering around the grounds, we found a waterfall. Each of the class threw a coin over the bridge and made wishes – which the fairies will make come true. A few days later, a reply to the letters appeared in Mrs Hudson's classroom!



Form 1

Mrs Downes' Class

Reception and Key Stage One pupils took a wonderful trip to Harlow Carr back in May. With Form 2, we were learning about the senses and were asked to collect flowers and sprigs from plants to make our own perfume. We collected chamomile, mint leaves and lavender to make lovely smelling perfumes. In our learning challenge, we had to think about the senses, so smelling all these lovely plants and mixing them together to create unique smells was really interesting. We went on another search later for leaves and petals to make crowns. This time we were thinking about our eyes and our hands, to think what plants would make the crown look good and what textures could symbolise and represent. Prickly leaves make a sharp, pointy crown and lovely flower petals make a soft, prettier crown. After our activities, we joined Reception on the adventure playground and enjoyed playing with our friends!



Form 2

Miss Brown's Class

Together with Form 1 we went to the War Memorial in Burley-in-Wharfedale to help out with a local community project. We brought our spades, trowels and gloves into school before setting off to the war memorial for an afternoon of planting. Working in groups with the help of the school's groundsman, Bernie Connor, we arranged and planted the bold, colourful flowers. Originally, each School House



had been asked to get involved with a local community project. Mrs Downes asked the Burley-in-Wharfedale Community Trust if there was anything we could do to help. After finding out that the Trust needed some help maintaining the five planting tubs which surround the town's war memorial, the whole school decided to get involved in looking after the area. The plants will be watered regularly and checked upon by pupils and teachers from the school. The flowers will be dug up and changed by Key Stage Two pupils in time for Remembrance Day. A plaque has been fixed to one of the planters so the



children can be reminded of their wonderful work within the local community. We really enjoyed planting the flowers and can't wait to see them grow and brighten over the summer.



Form 3

Mrs Beeson's Class

In our English lesson with Form 4, we worked in groups to make 'creature comforts' by creating homes for snakes, rats, rabbits and butterflies. In groups of 2 and 3 Mrs Beeson gave us an animal to look after and we were left in charge of creating their home. The shoe box-sized homes were to be made with bits of fabric provided by Mrs Beeson and objects found on the forest floor. Using our imaginations, we created chairs from little logs, lavish beds, and even luxury Jacuzzis. Mrs Beeson then surprised the class by telling them that they were to talk about their houses on TV. Miss Greaves filmed each group as we described our homes, using persuasive and informative language to try and promote the property like you see on the television! Back inside our classroom, we used adjectives and superlatives to sell our houses in an advert, just like what you would find on an Estate Agents website.



Form 4

Mr Laycock's Class

Forms 3 and 4 ventured to Brigantium to live like Romans for the day. At Murton Park we went to the Celtic houses to see what life would be like. Next, we went to the Roman forts and got a tour. After that we all got changed into some Roman clothes and next we made oil lamps with clay. After lunch, we learnt how to write in Latin and we wrote a letter to home. It was amazing! Outside, we dressed up in Roman army uniform. With a helmet, shield, and a long stick called a spear, we had to target Queen Boudica and the Celts. We then came head to head with a Celt and defeated him! We threw coins into the pond to make a wish to the Gods and worshipped the Roman God. At the end of the day we learnt how to do a Roman salute and we each received a coin to take home as payment. We had a lovely day at Murton Park, it was great fun!



Form 5

Mr Nicholson's Class

Mr Nicholson organised a spellbinding English lesson to test our vocabulary. In the woodland area of Greystone Manor, Mr Nicholson asked us to collect different objects to produce a potion. Some of us chose garlic, some chose leaves, some chose grass and a lot of us chose soil to make it a muddy potion! One by one, we went around the group to find out what our potion was called, and what its uses were – this tested our imaginations and our creativity as we had to describe our potions to the class. Mr Nicholson's next task involved turning the potion and mixing stick into a pen and ink! He assigned a letter to each of us and we had to find objects around the woodland area to describe. Once we had found something to describe, we had to use our inky potion and stick to write the word on the object. Our vocabulary and creative writing skills were tested as we had to think of sophisticated adjectives, rather than easy words like 'good' and 'happy'. Joey's

letter was 'H' and he wrote 'Humongous' on a very large tree! On the very same grand, tall tree, Charlie wrote 'Fantastic' as he thought it was the biggest in the grounds. Ava described the Forest Schools campfire as 'Manmade' and etched it onto the ground with her stick. It was a difficult task made enjoyable with the outdoors as we could think more creatively outside of the classroom. The lesson was packed full of fun, interesting and different ways of developing our vocabulary. Our poems are going to be filled with lots of sophisticated, fantastic, descriptive words!



Form 6

Mrs Marshall's Class

After a busy SATs week, we wanted to show each other what we had learned over the year and each presented our own lessons. Madeline planned a crafty physics lesson for Mrs Marshall and the rest of the class to take part in. We had to construct a boat that would float on water and withstand having marble weights added to them. The last boat still afloat would be the winner. All the boats were unique in design and each one of us had a different reason for our choice of design. Unfortunately, some designs were struggling to stay afloat from the moment they entered the water and were out of the running. For the remaining boats, Madeline passed marbles around one at a time to see how it would affect the flotation of the boats. Ben's boat was out of the running, then Mrs Marshall's, leaving just Crispin and Dylan playing battleships. Crispin's innovation with his buoyancy aids paid off and his boat was declared the last one standing. We learnt

a lot about structures and thought about how weights work and use gravity to pull objects to the ground. Other lessons from the week included a Drama lesson presented by Rohaan, and a sports lesson taught by Jack and Dylan. Form 6 finished off their time at Ghyll Royd with exciting lessons, a trip to Robin Hoods Bay, a pyjama disco, and a freefall jumping experience during their Enrichment week.



Music

Music achievements for this year include:

Crispin and Edward both passed their Grade 1 Music Theory exam! The talented pair achieved over 90% in the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music Theory exam, meaning they both received a Distinction mark. The exam requires a mix of theoretical understanding including a comprehensive knowledge of time signatures, rhythmic values and rests together with an understanding of pitch, tonality and music analysis.

Alexander in Form 6 passed both his Grade 1 Piano and Grade 1 Guitar exams with Distinctions. Alexander, who leads the Key Stage Two ensemble, also received two perfect scores of 21/21 in both sight-reading exams!

Daniel in Form 6 passed his Grade 1 Piano Exam with a Merit. Bea, also in Form 6, passed her Grade 2 Violin in exam with a Merit. Tom in Form 6 passed his Grade 1 Clarinet exam with a

very secure Merit! Tom, Daniel and Bea are all members of the KS2 Ensemble.

Evie in Form 6 won a place in the Children's Chorus of Opera North. The Children's Chorus provides boys and girls aged 8-13 from across the North of England with exciting opportunities to further their musical education and talent through the support of a professional opera company.



ART



Back in May, Form 5 pupils created their own posters for the Ilkley Carnival Cover Competition. Ava's poster was chosen as the winner for her 'At the Movies' theme, which was distributed onto thousands of Tesco bags, and the face of the 2017 Ilkley Carnival.

In October, we held the first ever Wharfedale Art Competition during this year's Ilkley Art Trail. Ghyll Royd School joined over 60 artists exhibiting in this year's trail, attracting over 100 eager schoolchildren and art enthusiasts over the weekend. Artwork from Ashlands Primary, Ben Rhydding Primary, Burley Oaks Primary, Moorfield School and Ghyll Royd School pupils was displayed around the Multipurpose Hall for viewers to marvel at the work of young, budding artists.

Three local artists kindly leant their time to come along and judge each category, choosing a first, second and third place for each – which proved a very difficult decision process! The judges had a lot of fun seeing what the children had produced during their school art lessons, and were overwhelmed with the quality of work.

DRAMA



The 2017 Key Stage Production of 'Cinderella and Rockerfella' was a smash hit with parents and staff praising pupils for putting on a fantastic show. Specialist Drama Teacher Mrs Hughes and Specialist Music Teacher Mrs Coultas perfected the scenes and songs with an all-singing, all-dancing cast made up of children from Forms 3-6. DVDs of 'Cinderella and Rockerfella' were sold to parents to help fund our 'Theatre of Dreams' tiered seating. Thank you to all of you who have already donated towards the Theatre or sponsored a seat. You will help make such a difference to the viewing quality of our performances!



Forest Schools

In Forest Schools this year, Form 3 worked in pairs to create beautiful patterns using string and pieces of wood. Mrs Woods, Freddie and Isla demonstrated the Nordic swinging activity to the rest of the group where the children had to simultaneously pass the tied wooden piece to each other, left hand to right hand, one after the other to create a funky twisted pattern that could be used as a keyring or bracelet!

Form 4 had a fun game of Eagle Eye in their newly assembled dens. Using great teamwork and communication, the boys and girls worked together to build their wooden nest, and a tepee. The den worked as the main location of the Eagle who closed their eyes to let the other children hide. If they opened their eyes and spotted a fellow pupil unhidden, then they would be called out and would join the nest. The children finished off their session with some quiet time where they could sit and tell stories around the campfire with fruit, hot chocolate and crumpets!



SPORT

The annual Ghyll Royd School Sports Day took place on Friday 26th May and had all years competing in the various races, competitions and events over the course of the day. With water bottles filled and sun cream applied the children were ready to compete in the gorgeous sunshine on the Sports Fields at Greystone Manor. Parents and family members joined the event in the afternoon, ready to cheer on and support the children.

All three school houses won events from the morning's Key Stage Two athletics, setting up for a very close win for the afternoon. In the afternoon, there were 100m, 200m, 400m, 600m and 800m sprints and relays, as well as beanbag, sack, and egg and spoon races to enjoy, all officiated by Mr Nicholson. Particularly memorable highlights from the day included the close-call photo finish between Oliver and Archie, in Form 4, during the 600m race, some great teamwork shown as Verity helped Evie along the track, the Early Years races and



of course, the Mums and Dads races where Mr Ayaz sped ahead of the pack despite his injury!

Mrs Merkin presented pupils with the most points with their trophies. Evie in Form 2 won the most points for Rodney in Key Stage One, Archie in Form 4 received the most points in Lower Key Stage Two for Drake, and Ava won the most house points for Upper Key Stage Two for Rodney. Mr Martin revealed that House Rodney were the winners, beating House Drake by just one point! The

Red Rodneys were cheered on by the entire school and made their way up to collect their trophy. House Captain Rohaan in Form 6 collected the trophy and was asked to wrap up the event, to which he responded: 'Thank you and goodnight!'



The children showed great sportsmanship and respect towards each other, and represented Ghyll Royd beautifully. Thank you to all pupils for putting in so much effort and for making the day so enjoyable. Thank you also to Mr Nicholson who arranged and organised the entire day. Thank you to parents for attending and cheering on our pupils!

