



Robert Ferguson Primary School



Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have enjoyed our more frequent newsletters this term, all of which can be revisited via links on our website. Whether you are new to RFPS or you have a long connection with the school, you might also like to read past newsletters going all the way back to 2013!

In this edition, we have provided a photo round-up of just some of the wonderful things our pupils have been getting up to in the autumn term.

We wish you a merry Christmas, and every good wish for 2023,

Graham Frost, Headteacher

House End Residential - Year 5



September saw our intrepid Year 5 pupils taking on the challenges of a residential trip in which they walked up waterfalls, built and paddled canoe-rafts, climbed rock-faces, walked up mountains, and enjoyed splashing about and taking the plunge - getting very deliberately soaking wet!

We are planning to fit in some extra outdoor-adventurous activities in 2023, as the children grow their confidence and gain a great sense of achievement and wellbeing through them.

At RFPS we frequently encourage our pupils to have a spirit of adventure and a willingness to try something new!

Representing RFPs at Important Local Events



This term, pupils have represented RFPs brilliantly at the Youth Climate Summit hosted by Carlisle United, and at the Royal British Legion Remembrance Parade in Carlisle.

The Youth Climate Summit is a continuation from the annual event we pioneered in 2019.

Marking the Changing of the Seasons...



Seasonal celebrations are an essential part of the school calendar. Harvest was another very special occasion at which we were thankful for what we have, while thinking of those in need.

Books and Reading Always Key to Learning at RFPS!



Author Julia Jarman visited us and delighted the children with her stories. She talked a lot about her passion for writing. Our pupils have been inspired and have written some amazing pieces!

Learning Through Sowing, Growing, Cooking & Eating



It has been a very successful growing year in the school vegetable garden! We continue to encourage the children to be adventurous in their eating, including fresh fruit and vegetables!

Bringing History to Life: Imagining Life as Viking Settlers



Our Year 4 visits to Moorforge Viking Settlement, Aspatria were an incredibly successful way to bring history to life as an enhancement of their topic on the Vikings.

The children took shelter from the driving rain in a Viking longhouse in which the realities of life for a viking settler was brought to life for the children, who learned about hunting, food, domestic chores, sleeping arrangements, tools, medicine, weapons, and lots more!

This was the first time this particular visit was included in our programme, but it will certainly be one we will be repeating in the future!

The quality of Year 4's homework has been exceptional, with some amazing longboats and longhouses built!



Year 6 travelled to Keswick for the wonderful, cultural experience of live theatre at Theatre by the Lake, where they enjoyed an excellent performance of "The Borrowers", based on the book by Mary Norton. They followed this with a tranquil walk by the shores of Derwent Water.

Great Sporting Achievements This Term!



This term, we have had success in all competitions entered! Year 5/6 girls and boys football teams both reached the county finals, the girls team winning and progressing to the regionals next term, the boys team only narrowly missing out.

In cross country, there were individual medals and the year 6 girls won the team competition. Our dodgeball finished 4th, and two netball teams competing in local friendly games finished 1st and 3rd. Finally, the athletics team finished 2nd out of 10 teams. Well done to all involved!

*Year 1 Have Been Up to their Forestry Tricks,
Making Pictures of Pudsey with Sticks,*



Charity Totals:

BBC Children in Need - £460

Cash4Kids -£221

Thank you for your
generosity!

Year 1 continued their journey through Julia Donaldson's books and enjoyed making some of the Gruffalo's favourite food in the mud kitchen - there was roasted fox, owl ice-cream and scrambled snake galore! We made Pudsey's face for Children in Need using natural materials.

In December, we learned to use loppers and cut some hazel twigs to make Santa logs!

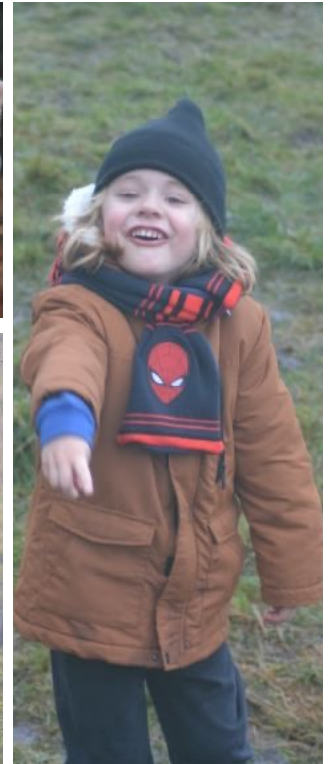
*...and Headed to Whinlatter, in the Snow,
Continuing their Search for the Gruffalo!*



Our trip to Whinlatter was amazing! We went on a hunt for some characters from the Gruffalo story, saw lots of interesting things including pine cones cut from the tree by crossbills, and enjoyed the wonderful views of the Lakeland Fells.

After lunch we had a visit from Santa himself and sang him a song to make sure he comes to visit us!

Reception Enjoyed a Day in Forest School, too!



Reception had a wonderful day in the forest! We had lots of fun, playing games, finding interesting and unusual things and cooking sausages.

Toasting marshmallows on a stick was a highlight for us all!

Wonderful Works of Art Around School



Just a few of the wonderful works of art pupils have produced this term!

Below: Djembe drumming with Zozo



A Magical, Musical Christmas at RFPS



Christmas is always a special time at school, but somehow, this year seemed extra special.

Perhaps it was the quality of the singing at all of the year group presentations and nativity plays.



Perhaps it was the return of live audiences (thank you)!



Perhaps it was the (arguably best ever) Christmas fair, in its welcome return after a gap of several years due to Covid19.



Indeed, it was probably because of all of the above, plus a delicious Christmas dinner, and more.

We will end the term with some traditional Christmas carols, and look forward to seeing the children return for the **Spring Term on Wednesday 4th January.**