



Newsletter

September 2025



Autumn 1



- Welcome back to a new school year!
- Our half termly newsletters are one of the ways that we share information with parents, so please do take the time to read them.
- All of our past newsletters are available on the website.
- In between the newsletters, information will be shared by email, through the app, and on the noticeboards by the entrances to the school.

Staff changes for the new year

We are delighted to welcome some new members of staff to our school teaching team:

- Miss Underwood – Y4 Chestnut class teacher
- Miss Russell – EYFS Teaching Assistant

They are looking forward to working with our school community.

Also, Miss Hoskins is currently away from school, so her class will be taught by Miss Zamzami in her absence. We know everyone will welcome her too!

Dates for the Diary

- 3rd September – back to school
- Week 3 – beginning 15th September:
after school clubs start
- 24th-26th September – Y6 residential visit to
Thornbridge
- Week 7 – beginning 13th October:
last week of after school clubs
- 21st & 22nd October – Parents Evenings
- 23rd October – last day of term
- 4th November – back to school



School term dates

- These are the dates for this school year 2025-26.
- Please arrange appointments and holidays for days when the school is closed.



Denotes Bank Holidays



Denotes School Holidays



School closed for staff training day



School closed for Academy Trust staff training day

September (22 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October (18 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November (20 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December (15 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January (20 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February (15 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March (20 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April (14 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May (15 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

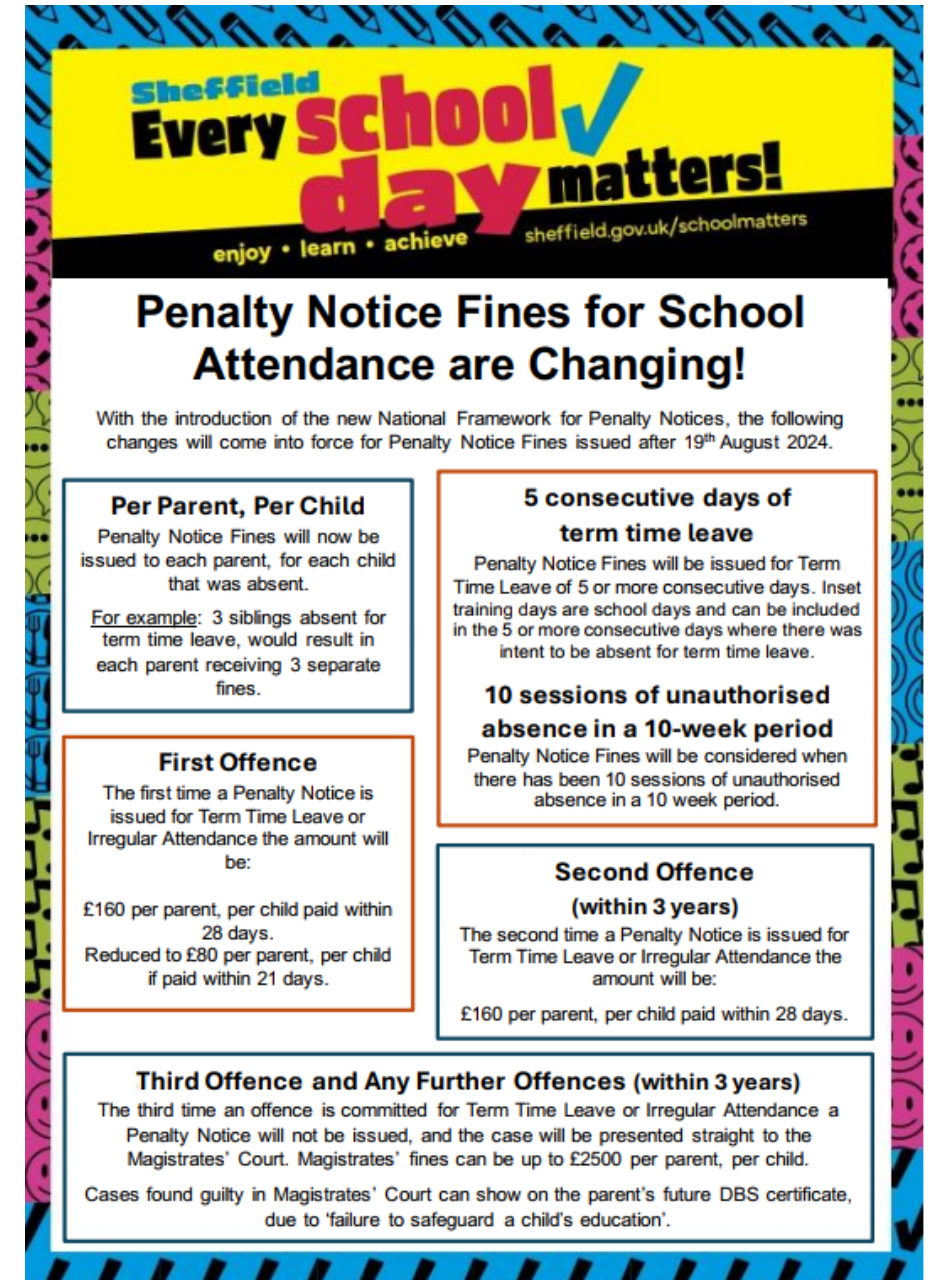
June (22 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July (14 days)						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Penalty Notice Fines

- Please remember Sheffield's regulations for Penalty Notice Fines for school attendance.
- This information is also available on our school website or you can ask for a copy from the school office.



The poster features a yellow header with the text 'Sheffield Every School Day Matters!' in blue and red, accompanied by a large blue checkmark. Below the header, the website 'sheffield.gov.uk/schoolmatters' and the motto 'enjoy • learn • achieve' are displayed. The main title 'Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!' is in bold black text. The body of the poster contains several boxes with details about the new regulations, including changes for per parent fines, consecutive days of leave, and sessions of unauthorised absence.

Sheffield Every School Day Matters!
enjoy • learn • achieve
sheffield.gov.uk/schoolmatters

Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

Per Parent, Per Child Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent. <u>For example:</u> 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.	5 consecutive days of term time leave Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.
First Offence The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days. Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.	10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.
	Second Offence (within 3 years) The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.
Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years) The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.	

School dinners

- In September the cost of **school dinners** is **going up to £2.75** to match the rest of Astrea.

Tuck Shop

- Children can also bring money if they would like to buy a drink or snack at break time.

Packed lunches

- As we have a number of children who are allergic to nuts, we ask that avoid including any foods that contain nuts in packed lunches.
- Our school dinners are already nut-free, and we know which children have allergies so that we can make sure we keep them safe.



Fundraising Working Party

Friday 26th September 9.00am



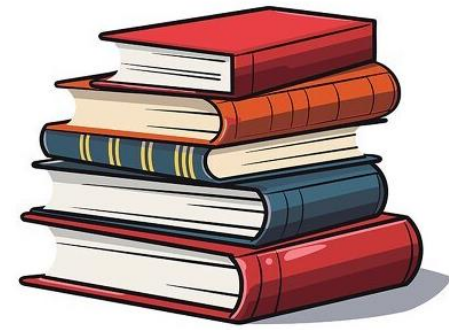
Do you have any fundraising ideas which could help school?

Would you like to help organise a fundraising event?

Following our last coffee morning, we would like to invite our parents to come into school to share ideas for how we can raise money to support the school.

If you have ideas for fundraising events that you would like to help organise, please come into school on Friday 26th September. Please ask at the office if you would like more information.

How is my child doing at school?



We know that parents want to find out how their children are progressing with their learning at school. We have planned two ways that you can find out how they are doing:

- Look At Books Mornings – a chance to sit with your child and look at the work they have done in their books:

7 October – Y3 8 October – Y1 9 October – Y2

14 October – Y5 15 October – Y6 16 October – Y4

We will send out timings for these days shortly.

- Parents Evenings – you will be able to book a 10 minute meeting with your child's teacher to discuss their progress so far:

22nd & 23rd October

School day



- 8.20am - Gates open (Breakfast club from 8am – 8.20am)
- 8.30am – Children will be greeted by staff and taken into school
- 8.45am – Gates close and children will need to enter by the office
(Please ensure that your child/ren are at the correct door before 8.45am)
- 3.15pm – School finishes (afternoon Nursery finishes at 3.10pm)

It is vital that every child is in school on time. They practise their reading skills from the moment they arrive in class, and missing lesson time makes it incredibly difficult for children to catch up.

Watoto Pre-School is working with Byron Wood to provide before and after school care to support working parents.

Please contact them for more information.



BYRON WOOD ACADEMY
Astrea Academy Trust
INSPIRING BEYOND MEASURE

BYRON WOOD PARTNERSHIP

In collaboration with Byron Wood School, we are now offering wrap-around care to support your work schedule!

AGED 4+

Before School Care (08:00 – 09:00)
Start the day right with a healthy breakfast and a safe, friendly escort to Byron Wood School

After School Care (15:30 – 18:00)
We'll collect your child from school and keep them engaged with fun, enriching activities until you're ready.

NURSERY SCHOOL CHILDREN

Is your child currently enrolled at Byron Wood's nursery?

If you qualify for the Working Families Entitlement (WFE) 30 hours, you have flexible options:

1. Split the 30 Hours
15 hours at Byron Wood Nursery
15 hours at Watoto Preschool
2. Wraparound Care
Use your WFE hours to extend care before and after nursery sessions.
3. Holiday Play Care
Stretch your 15 hours to cover wraparound and holiday sessions for year-round support.



CONTACT US:
0300 016 5668 
office@watotopreschool.org.uk 

www.watotopreschool.org.uk

School uniform

- All children must wear school uniform every day.
- If they are not in uniform, we will phone home to ask that it is brought in, or they will be asked to wear some of the items that we have in school.
- If they continue to not wear uniform, parents will be asked to come into school for a meeting.
- Jewellery is not allowed in school. Earrings must only be small studs. Children will be asked to remove any other jewellery and parents will be asked to collect it from the office at the end of the day.
- The following pages show what should be worn as school uniform:

School uniform



White shirt



White T-Shirt



Navy blue cardigan or jumper (with or without school logo)



Grey trousers



Grey skirt



Grey dress



Grey leggings or tights (under skirt/dress)



Black school shoes



Long sleeved vest

If required



Plain navy, grey or

white head scarf

PE days

- Y1 – Wednesdays and Thursdays
- Y2 – Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Y3 – Tuesdays and Fridays
- Y4 – Mondays and Fridays (swimming until end January)
- Y5 – Wednesdays and Thursdays
- Y6 – Mondays and Fridays



On PE days, children should come to school wearing their PE clothes. Earrings should not be worn on PE days.

PE Uniform



Navy or Black Jogging suit



White round neck T-Shirt



Black or navy shorts



Plain black trainers



NO trainer boots

No earrings
should be
worn to
school on a
PE day.

Appropriate clothing



As we enter Autumn, please make sure that children have appropriate clothing to play on the yard and walk to and from school:

- A warm, waterproof coat or a cagoule
 - check the forecast to see what would be most appropriate
- If it is raining – waterproof boots/shoes
(children can change their shoes at school)



Please remember to put your child's name on any item of clothing they bring to school in case they leave it somewhere.

Transition Week - Sheffield Topic!

At the end of last year, all children spent a week learning with their next teacher.

For the whole week, they learnt about different parts of Sheffield's history, including about different Sheffield artists, so that all children learn about the community they live in.

Work from this week is now displayed around school, and the following pages show you what the children did.



Transition Week

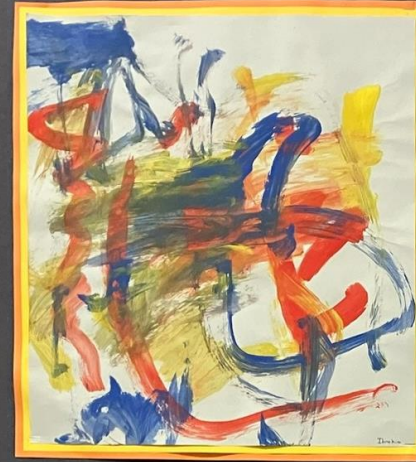
Nursery

Fl Acorn Class

Early Days



In nursery, we have been practising many new skills. We followed instructions, learned to put our lids on the pens and to work together with our friends.



We learned that we need to wear an apron when playing in the water and when painting.



We have been exploring the different resources in nursery using our developing fine motor skills as we replaced the pieces in a piggy and placed the large pegs onto the board.



Outdoors, we have been developing our gross motor skills when pouring and playing with the footballs. We also practised spinning and rolling the hula hoops.

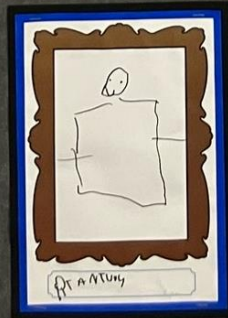
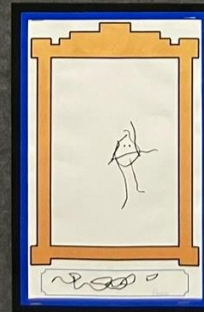


Transition Week

F2

F2 Elm Class

Welcome to
Ash and Elm



Playgroup Room

Go outside

Transition Week

Year 1

Y1 Beech Class

Phlegm is a Sheffield-based muralist and artist who first developed his illustrations in self-published comics. Phlegm's work features in the city of Sheffield, and can mostly be seen in run-down and disused spaces. Phlegm creates strange illustrations of unreal characters from his imagination, to form an untold story.

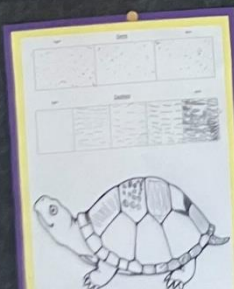
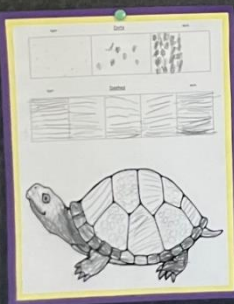
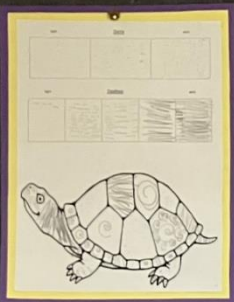
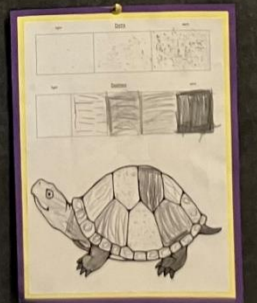
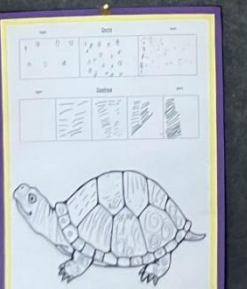
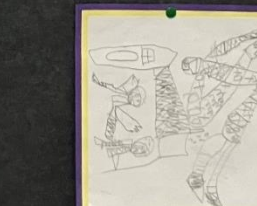
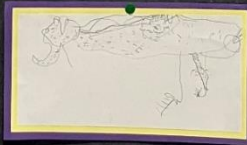
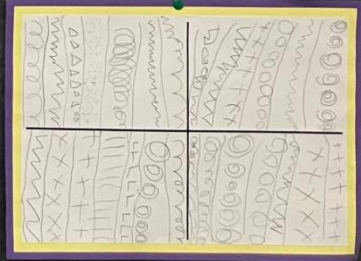
Phlegm (pseudonym)

muralist - directly paints onto walls or surfaces

Phlegm

Y1 Fir Class

In Year 1, we looked at the dots, lines and patterns Phlegm uses to create his pictures. We looked at how the dots and lines can be drawn closer or wider apart to create lighter or darker areas. We also looked at how repeating patterns can be used to create texture. We used these techniques to create our own artwork in the style of Phlegm.



Transition Week

Year 2

Y2 Rowan Class

The Great Flood of Sheffield



We have been learning about the Great Sheffield flood 1864.



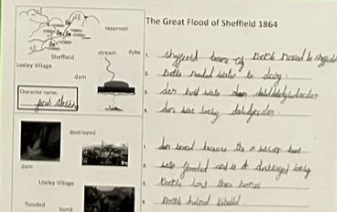
Khalid

200 years ago Sheffield became a good city. People need clean water. A big dam was built to stop the water from coming.

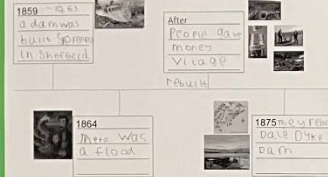
Amal



Aisha



Kadison



Arsal



Elen



Cesa

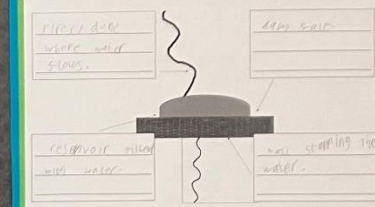
We found out lots of information about dams and reservoirs.

200 years ago Sheffield became a big city. People needed clean water. A big dam was built to stop the water from coming.

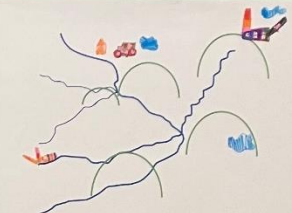
Amal



Fahad



Devanah



Layyan

200 years ago Sheffield was a big city. People needed clean water to be healthy. A big dam was built in a big area. The big dam was built to stop the water from coming.

Hadiya

We learned about the village of Loxley, which was devastated by the flood.

Industrial Revolution

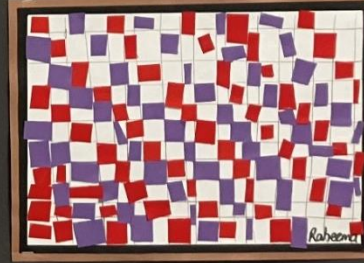
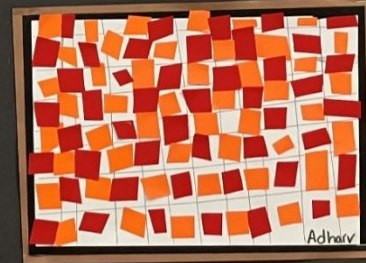
During transition week, Y3 were learning about how Sheffield changed from a quiet farming village to a huge city due to the Industrial Revolution.



Rich people had a better life and were able to have access to clean water, better food and even had huge houses.



Poor people had a hard life during the Industrial Revolution. We learnt that poor people were treated unkindly and weren't given proper pay. Many people had poor diets and were hurt in the workhouses.



Bryn Hughes is a Sheffield artist who is well known for drawing Sheffield buildings. The children tried to draw in a similar style and used water colours like Bryn Hughes.

Immigration

in Sheffield

Y4 Maple Class



During Transition Week, we also learnt about the Sheffield artist Joe Scarborough, who created artwork about his everyday life. We tried to emulate his distinctive cartoon style and featureless faces in some of pastel drawings to go with our writing.



Our drawings show a snapshot of an asylum-seeker's everyday life: moving in to a new house or moving out of their old one.

Dear Diary,
I hope Sheffield is a nice place to live. I've heard it's a big city with lots of things to do. I'm excited to start my new life here. I'll be staying in a small house with a garden. I'll be going to school and making new friends. I'll be learning English and trying to understand the culture. I'll be working hard to make a better life for myself and my family. I'll be grateful for the chance to start over in a new place.



Dear Diary,
I have been staying in a small house in Sheffield. It's a nice place to live. I'm excited to start my new life here. I'll be staying in a small house with a garden. I'll be going to school and making new friends. I'll be learning English and trying to understand the culture. I'll be working hard to make a better life for myself and my family. I'll be grateful for the chance to start over in a new place.

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Dear Diary,
Today is my first day in Sheffield. I'm excited to start my new life here. I'll be staying in a small house with a garden. I'll be going to school and making new friends. I'll be learning English and trying to understand the culture. I'll be working hard to make a better life for myself and my family. I'll be grateful for the chance to start over in a new place.



In Year 4, we learnt about immigration, and looked at why people historically moved to Sheffield and why they had to leave their own countries.

Dear Diary,
I have been staying in a small house in Sheffield. It's a nice place to live. I'm excited to start my new life here. I'll be staying in a small house with a garden. I'll be going to school and making new friends. I'll be learning English and trying to understand the culture. I'll be working hard to make a better life for myself and my family. I'll be grateful for the chance to start over in a new place.

Dear Diary,
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We spoke about our own and our families' experiences of immigrating, and then used this to write a diary entry as an asylum-seeker moving to Sheffield.

Dear Diary,
I have been staying in a small house in Sheffield. It's a nice place to live. I'm excited to start my new life here. I'll be staying in a small house with a garden. I'll be going to school and making new friends. I'll be learning English and trying to understand the culture. I'll be working hard to make a better life for myself and my family. I'll be grateful for the chance to start over in a new place.

ANGLO SAXONS

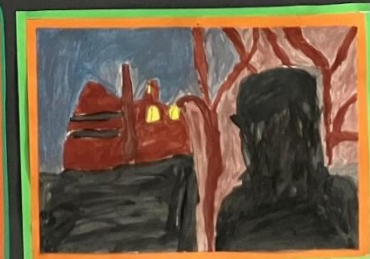
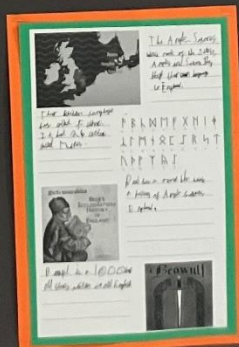
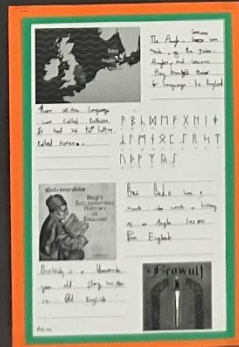
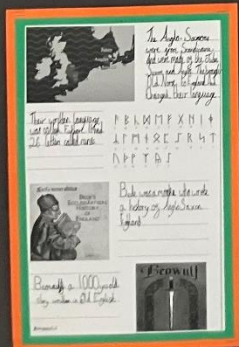
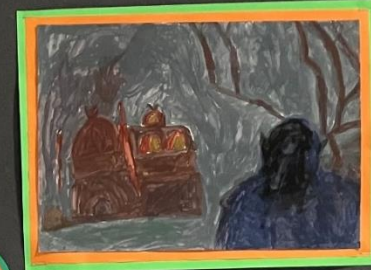
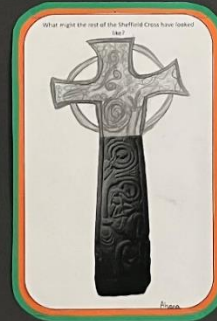
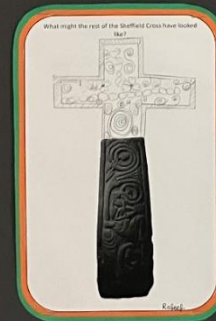
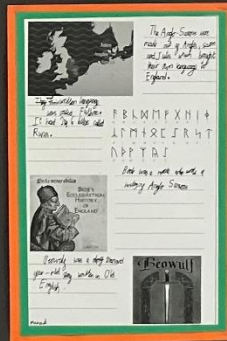
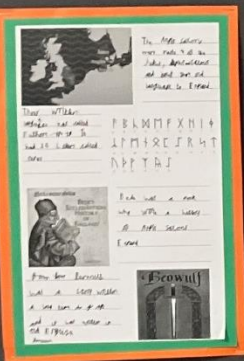
Anglo Saxons included illuminated letters in their books – highly decorated letters on each page.

One incomplete Anglo Saxon artefact is the Sheffield Cross. We tried to design our own tops to the Cross.

In Year 5 we learnt about the Anglo Saxon origins of Sheffield.

The Anglo Saxons wrote in runes, using an alphabet called Futhorc.

Anglo Saxons told stories through embroidered tapestries. We have told the beginning of the epic story of Beowulf.



Y6 Oak Class,

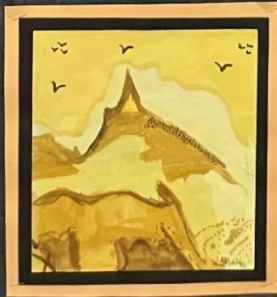
John Ruskin



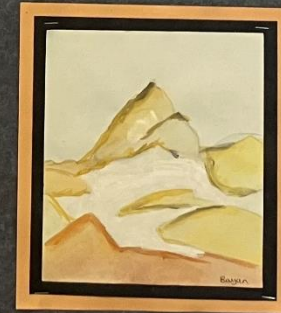
Year 6's looked at Ruskin's painting "The Matterhorn from the moat of Riffelhorn". They annotated his art work, and created their own watercolour painting of the Matterhorn—a mountain in the Alps, which they were able to work out from a map of surrounding countries.



John Ruskin was a Victorian writer, art historian and art critic. In his lifetime, cities expanded during the industrial revolution.



He set up the Ruskin Collection for workers, who often lived in polluted areas, to experience nature, illustrated books and minerals.



Y6 Elder Class

Sheffield Children's Choir

Please see this flyer for information about the Sheffield Youth Choirs.

These are absolutely fantastic for children who want to enjoy more singing, and are very reasonably priced.

They also provide great opportunities for performances.



SHEFFIELD YOUTH CHOIRS

Singing for every young person in
Sheffield!

Junior Voices – Y2–Y5

Tuesdays 6:15 – 7:15pm

All Saints Catholic High School

Youth Voices – Y6–Y9

Tuesdays 7:30–8:30pm

All Saints Catholic High School

Concordia Voices – Y10+

Mondays 6:45 – 8:15pm

The Foundry Studio

Scan the QR code for more info or email
MusicHubProjects@sheffield.gov.uk



Contact

You can contact school in the following ways:

- Phone – 0114 272 3624
- Email – enquires@astreabyronwood.org
- Astrea App
- Don't forget to follow us on twitter @BWA_Sheffield