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### Spring in our step!

For one of the shortest terms (just ten weeks in total), we have certainly managed to squeeze a lot into spring term 2024! It began with January's annual Blue Monday and ended with a traditional Easter Egg Hunt – with many memorable moments in-between.

In Reception, February 29<sup>th</sup> was a special day – our children spent the special leap year date leap-frogging around and making special frogs. In Year 1, our children have learned about Jackson Pollock, the famous American painter renowned for his 'drip technique' of splashing paint. Our Year 2 children have learned about how our local area has changed in their History unit and recently visited The Piece Hall to uncover some facts about its early days of cloth trading.

In Year 3, also in History, their Stone Age topic has really taken a hold – we thought some of the children wanted to stay in their camp at Nell Bank after lighting fires and exploring cave paintings. Year 4 have had a few trips outside of school, including their study of River Wharfe and the water cycle, as well as helping to set up our local allotment.

Our Year 5 children have been learning about forces in science – the class made three different-sized parachutes to test their effectiveness, recording – and analysis - their results like scientists. Last but certainly not least, Year 5's artist focus has been Antonio Colomboni. He even celebrated our own children's work via Instagram!



















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### **Rockstar Day!**

We had a day this term to celebrate Maths. On the NSPCC's Number Day, we all dressed (adults included!) as rockstars to give our Times Table Rockstars app a moment to shine. Children across school enjoyed number games, bingo, times table activities and certainly 'rocked on'!









#### First Aid

We are really proud of our PSHE curriculum in school, which we believe sets children up well for later in life as well-rounded citizens. It covers topics such as physical and mental health, friendships and relationships, British Values and mental health. We also want all our children to be safe, both online and offline. This term, we invited Flat Stanley to the new community space to teach our children First Aid and CPR. Who knows – we might have some future life savers on our hands! The children were complimented for their maturity and teamwork skills throughout.



### Anti-Bullying

#### **Ambassadors**

After a successful application, eight children from **Bowling Green** Academy were invited to attend the prestigious Princess Diana Anti-Bullying **Ambassador** training. The full-day event, joined with several other schools in Leeds, was insightful and allowed children a chance to be reflective, to spot bullying behaviours and to lead positive change.





Bowling Green Academy Stainland, Halifax, HX4 9HU Principal: Mr J Stuttard

MAT CEO: Mrs A Bennett Chief Operations Officer: Mrs J Firth



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### **Sporting Successes**

We've been non-stop sport this term, despite some very wet (and sometimes snowy!) weather. We have had two great visitors into school – Halifax Panthers and Halifax FC Halifax Town – to talk about their successful journeys to Wembley.

We have also had children from Bowling Green represent school at several sporting events, including boccia, football, new age kurling and the inclusive panathlon event.









### World Book Day 2024

As ever, World Book Day was a roaring success. This year we focused on characters from wellloved stories. The children enjoyed various character treasure hunts and quizzes throughout the day, working together to solve clues to solve who the characters were. A certain marmalade-loving bear was an obvious favourite. Our PTA also organised a huge Book Swap Shop and all our children went home on the day with at least one new-tothem text. Hopefully, all our children discovered a new favourite book, character or author!



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### Comic Relief's Red Nose Day

We got into the spirit on Red Nose Day with many children coming into school in either red noses or official, charity merchandise. During assembly, we watched part of Mollie King's impressive fundraising cycle around England and learned about Sir Lenny Henry's impressive legacy of supporting others in need.





### Egg-cellent decorating!

Our annual egg decorating competition took on a new life this year with a change in criteria – linked to our school aim focusing on later learning and careers, our eggs were designed after aspirational people or jobs. Choosing winners was tougher than ever –what an incredible array of eggs. We were blown away!















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#### Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP Minister for Schools

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Mr Jamie Stuttard Bowling Green Academy Stainland Road West Yorkshire HX4 9HU

5 February 2024

De Mr. Shitted

I would like to congratulate you, your staff and your pupils on the very high level of progress that pupils in your school demonstrated in the reading, writing and mathematics Key Stage 2 assessments last year.

Your school's results, as published on 14 December, show progress scores of 4.4, 4.3 and 4.7 in reading, writing and mathematics respectively. This means that in terms of the progress your pupils make between Key Stage 1 and the end of Key Stage 2, your school is amongst the top 5 per cent of primary schools in the country.

The government wants to ensure that every child has the fluency in reading, writing and mathematics necessary to prepare them for a successful secondary education and beyond, which is why I was delighted to see your results.

Thank you for your work in continuing the drive towards higher academic standards, and congratulations again to you and your staff for your commitment and success.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Damian Hinds
Minister for Schools