



# Newsletter Autumn 2020

Welcome to the Raccoons newsletter. This half term we have had lots of fun! Read on to find out more.

This half term Raccoon Class went on the 'best school trip ever!' - **Go Ape at Moors Valley!**



Wow! What a day! We saw our Raccoon Rangers in training really showing what they are made of. A day of tree top adventures, den building, walking and even a bit of singing gave the children the opportunity to tap into their inner strength. It was so inspiring to see so many children overcome initial nerves or fear to embrace the physical challenges of the day.

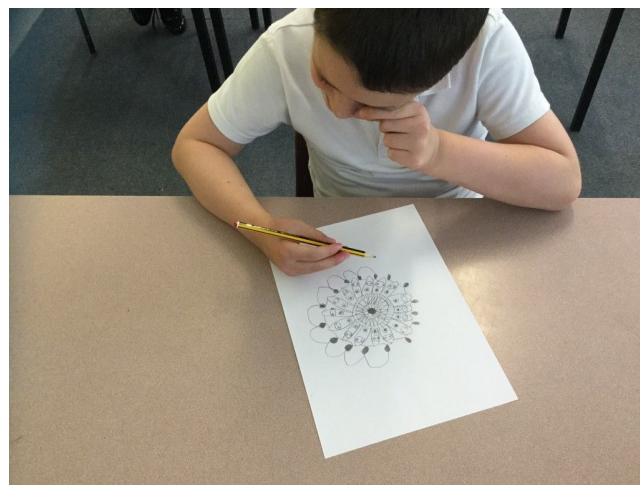
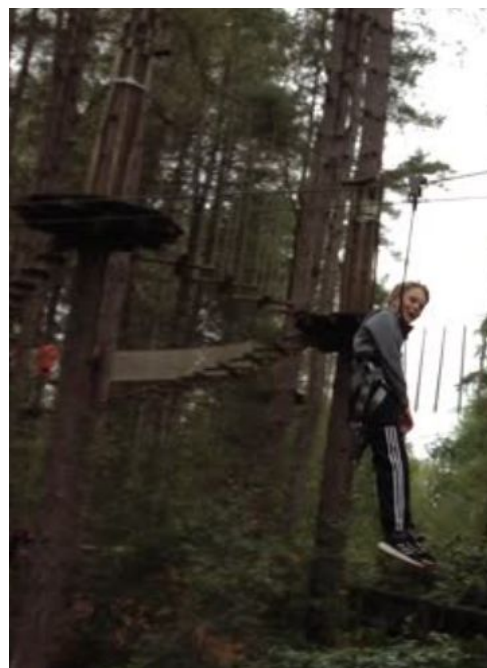
"Best day ever" was repeated many times throughout the day and the smiles on the children's faces, even when it got a little soggy, were what it is all about. Resilience and teamwork were the order of the day and the children and parent helpers showed this in abundance. When we returned, the children made some fantastic leaflets and posters to pick out their highlights and persuade others that this is truly a trip to remember.



We have focussed a lot on growth mindset and resilience so far this term to help our children be ready to learn and settle back into school life. The real experience they had at Moors Valley will be a huge reminder for the whole year of what they can do when they work together and tap into that positive attitude they all showed on the trip. Well done Raccoons!

This half term we have used our exceptional outdoor area in ways that we have never done before. Take a look at some of our work.

We first learnt how to draw Mandalas in class and then used our natural environment to create our own unique patterns. This activity was calming, creative and fun!





We have been learning about the different types of triangles and quadrilaterals. Here we are making some of these shapes using sticks in our outside area.



In literacy we wrote diary accounts from the point of view of a hedgehog. We first made our own hedgehogs using anything we could find in our natural environment.



Raccoon Rangers as scientists growing cress and discovering magnetic inventions



### Interview with Miss Townsend

We have enjoyed having Miss Townsend in class with us this half term. She has spent time getting to know each of us really well...now it's our turn to ask her some questions!



*Theo:* **Do you think you're lucky to have been placed in this school?** Of course, everyone is so lovely and all the staff and children have been very welcoming.

*Brodie:* **What is your favourite subject?** Definitely History and PE

*Kacey:* **What do you like best about this school?** Obviously the Raccoons Class

*Brodie:* **What's your favourite animal?** I would have to say my dog 'Twiggy' as she is amazing, even if she is slightly mad!

*Kacey:* **What's your favourite colour?** Burgundy and all autumnal colours.

*Theo:* **What is your favourite sport?** I love all sports, but my all-time favourites are skiing and fencing.

Thank you Miss Townsend for all your help and support over this half term. We look forward to your fencing lessons next half term!

## The rest of the School

### Rabbits

Rabbit class have been engaged in 'Pirate Play'. We have become pirates, drawn our own treasure maps and even dug for treasure.



We have created sea pictures using the form of bubble blowing, built a pirate ship in the scrap pod (where even the pirate captain had to walk the plank!) and used balance scales to investigate the weight of treasure collected. We read the story 'Pirates love Underpants' and made our own, proudly hanging them on the washing line. We were worried that those "pesky pirates" from the story might try to steal our pants so we wrote warning signs to keep them at bay.



We planned and followed an investigation in the water tray to find out how many pirates would fit on the boat and how much treasure could be stored before the boat sank. Fun filled learning ahoy!

## Robins



In science we have been learning how we can change the shape of different materials. We melted HUGE chocolate buttons in our hands.



We have read the story of the Enormous Turnip. We are now growing some turnips. Hopefully we can eat them in November.



## School Council

This Academic Year the School Council members are:-  
Phoebe & Bobby (Year 1); Dominic and Keira (Year 2); Brodie and Maisie (Year 3) and  
Reuben & Jemima (Year 4), Lead by Mrs Hunt.

We hope you have enjoyed reading our newsletter.

We hope you all have a lovely half term break and return to school rested and ready for more wonderful learning and fun!