



BIRCH HILL

PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

Learn, Believe, Achieve Together

Newsletter

19 January 2024

Welcome

I accompanied the School Choir when they took part in our third Young Voices event at the O2 Arena, London on Tuesday night

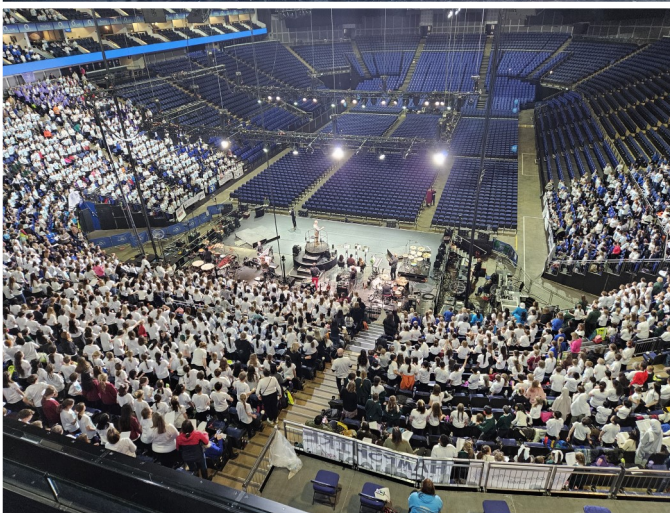
It was such a wonderful opportunity for the children to sing in a huge arena, alongside such a wide range of professional artists. There was a range of dancers, singers and musicians. More of the story and photos on page 2.

We were all incredibly proud of the children. It was a long day but their behaviour, along with their enthusiasm was wonderful throughout and it was a pleasure to take them.

Next Week, the Trust is in for a two-day School Review. This will help us identify strengths and areas for development and support going forward.

If you see them on the playground at the beginning or end of the day, please feel free to have a chat and introduce yourself. There will be a more formal opportunity for parents/carers to feedback on the school in the summer term.

Michael Dillon - Headteacher



Young Voices

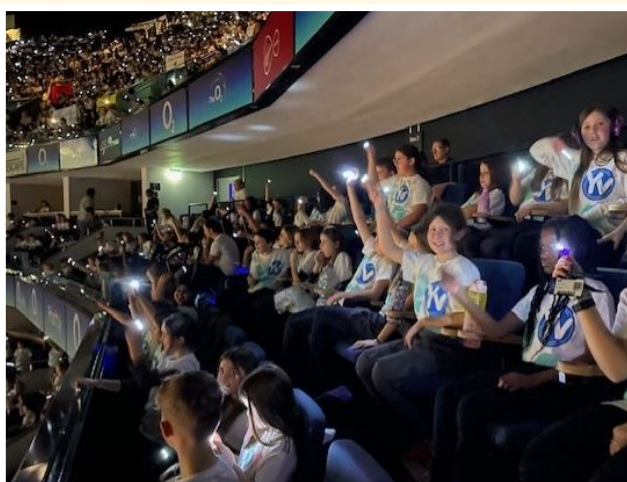
On Tuesday, The Choir performed at the Young Voices event at London's O2 Arena.

With almost 9,000 children participating every night, Young Voices is a series of concerts that bring together school choirs from all over the UK to become the largest student choral group in the world.

In addition to having the chance to perform at such a large arena, the children get to share the stage with a variety of professional musicians. We sang songs this year with Natalie Williams, Nandi Bushell, and MC Grammar. Our children behaved wonderfully throughout, and they sang and danced with tremendous passion.

The day was particularly memorable for choir members Florence, Riley, and Amel who got to spend their birthdays together while taking part in the event.

Choir members, please remember that taking part in Young Voices automatically makes you eligible to apply for a Blue Peter Music Badge Award at www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/bp-music-badge.



Year1

This week Year 1 have been working on their Oracy skills . We had an Oracy assembly and we were discussing the statement 'We are better when we all work together'.

The children really enjoyed talking to their partner or in their trio about the advantages and the disadvantages of working together. Well done Year 1!



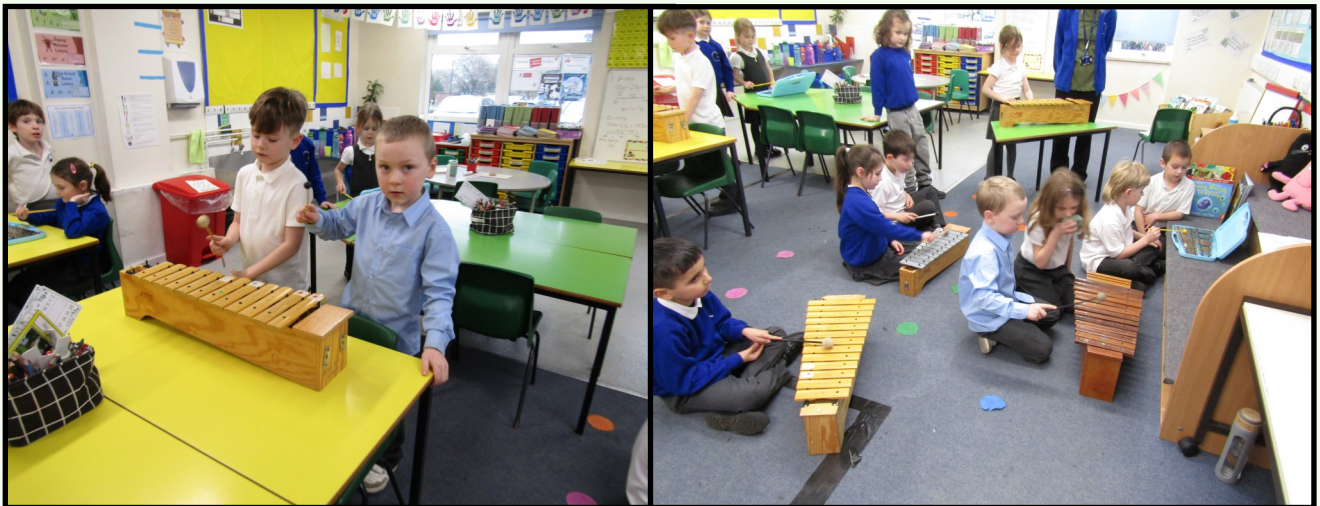
Year 2

In Year 2 this term, the children have been busy exploring giraffes as part of their fact file writing in English. They have done an extremely good job of including key devices such as subordinating and co-ordinating conjunctions as they begin to extend their writing now we are in Spring 1.

In Maths, we have been learning about money and the children have tackled some challenging questions about counting amounts and finding change! They have also made lots of links about how money is used in our daily lives too.

For topic this term we have been exploring lifecycles with a focus on chickens. The children were very excited to hear that we are expecting chicks for two weeks this term and they will be roped in to look after them.

In music, Year 2 have been learning about beat, rhythm, lyrics and melody. On Wednesday we used glockenspiels and xylophones to practise the melody with the notes C and D.



This week's Triple Thank You and Triple Star Awards

Isaac - Y6
Ethan - Y6
Mia - Y6
Buddy - Y1

Thank You
Thank You
Thank You
Triple Star

YEAR GROUP REMINDERS

NURSERY	-
RECEPTION	Please try to listen to your child read <u>at least 4-5 times each week</u> and <u>sign in the diary</u> when you have done so. It is good to write which page they have read up to, a short comment on how well they did with reading/answering questions and your initials. Thank you.
YEAR 1	As above
YEAR 2	As above
YEAR 3	-
YEAR 4	-
YEAR 5	-
YEAR 6	-
SAPPHIRE	-

DATES FOR THE DIARY—Spring Term 2024

NSPCC Virtual Assemblies	Monday 22nd—26th January
Take One Picture Art Week	Monday 22nd—26th January
NSPCC Volunteer Workshops for Y2, Y5 & Y6	Wednesday 7th February
Take one Picture Art Exhibition	Thursday 8th & Friday 9th February (timetable to follow)
HALF TERM	MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY—FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY
INSET DAY	FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY
Family Learning Workshop—Reception	Thursday 22nd February & Friday 1st March - 9am-10.30am
Parents' Evening	Tuesday 27th & Thursday 29th February - 4-7pm
Year 5 Parents' Evening	Wednesday 28th & Thursday 29th February - 4-7pm
Family Learning Workshop—Year 1	Tuesday 12th March & Thursday 14th March - 9am-10.30am
END OF TERM	THURSDAY 28TH MARCH
INSET DAY	MONDAY 15TH APRIL
INSET DAY	TUESDAY 16TH APRIL