

23/01/26



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of Beaconside,

As I reflect on another busy week it felt appropriate to reflect on the story we have been focusing on in worship. In the Bible we read about the Walls of Jericho and heard how progress didn't come from rushing or force, but from faith, perseverance, and everyone moving forward together, one step at a time. At the same time, the foundations for our expansion are now being dug, quite literally, as we take exciting steps towards the future of our school. This week has felt like one of those moments where you can really see a school growing and moving forward, sometimes in quiet ways and sometimes in very visible ones.

Across classrooms, learning has been full of energy and curiosity, from Reception children welcoming a vet visit that sparked thoughtful questions to Year 5 exploring space inside the Wonderdome and letting their imaginations travel far beyond the classroom. Year 6 stepped back in time exploring weapons and history at Carlisle Castle, and KS2 pupils have represented our school brilliantly in inter-school cricket competitions, showing teamwork, determination and sportsmanship. Behind the scenes, staff have been coming together for wellbeing-focused meetings, taking time to support one another, reflect, and ensure that we are in the best place to support our children.

When I walk around the school, from muddy boots to hard hats, from baby news to big learning adventures, it's clear that something special is happening here.

Thank you, as always, to our staff, children and families for playing your part in this journey as we move forward together, supporting one another, those steady steps really do make a difference, and it's a privilege to see it happening every day

Polly Cudby

Head of School

NUTS!!!





A gentle yet serious reminder to start with.

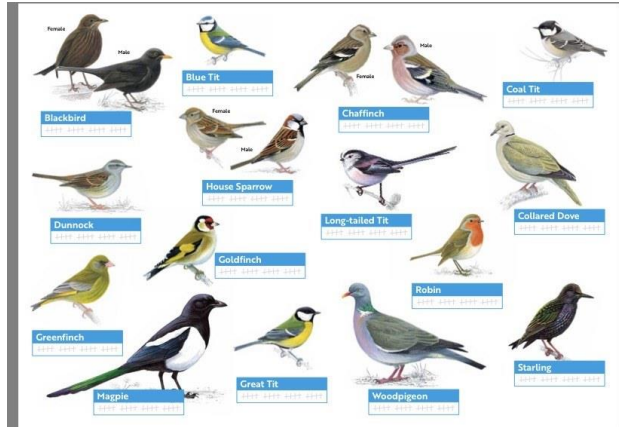
**Please do not send products containing nuts into school.**

Whilst I fully appreciate how delicious a spoonful of Nutella can be, I am hoping not to need to use our emergency first aid training for an allergy related incident.

Thank you for being considerate to others in our school community.

[RSPB Great British birdwatch](#)





This weekend is the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch . You don't need to be a member.

What is it?

A great national family event to be part of, counting birds in your garden or park for an hour. The general public can count a greater number of birds than scientists, the data is important to know how populations are managing.

This is a link for all the details and a photo of an ID sheet <https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch/faqs>

This can all be completed online, you can research bird sounds too 🎵 😊

Have fun 😄 , happy birdwatching 🐦 🖼️ 🦢 📄

## Nursery....where it all begins

The Nursery children have been busy again this week, reading Goldilocks and the Three Bears, exploring oats on the sensory tray and making bowls of porridge with fruit and honey for snack. They've also been enjoying playing number games, using the upside down Duplo boards, belting out tunes on the keyboards and jumping in muddy puddles. 😄 😄 😄 🦶 🌧️ ☁️



# Goldilocks and the 3 Bears



The bears never saw her again.  
The end.







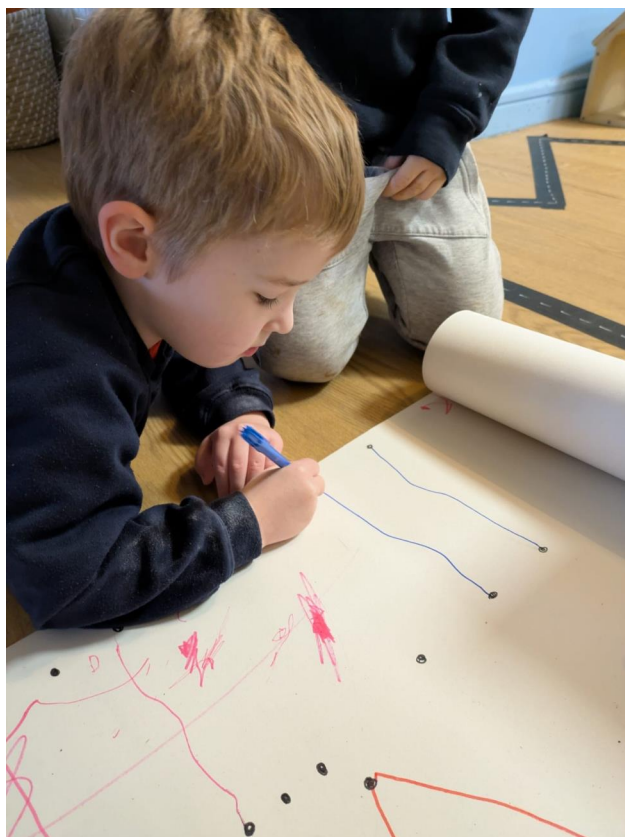












If you or your family & friends would like to apply for a place with us at Beaconside please contact Gill Smith at the Nursery or [office@beaconside.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:office@beaconside.cumbria.sch.uk)

OPAL









This term we are on the hunt for

- guttering
- prams
- suitcases with wheels
- scooters

This week we met and had chance to discuss all things OPAL as part of our extended OPAL team.

Abig welcome to Ana, and Oil- our latest Opal Parent Link volunteers. Also a welcome to Mrs Smith joining from our staff team too.

Look out for these lovely ladies with any OPAL related questions!



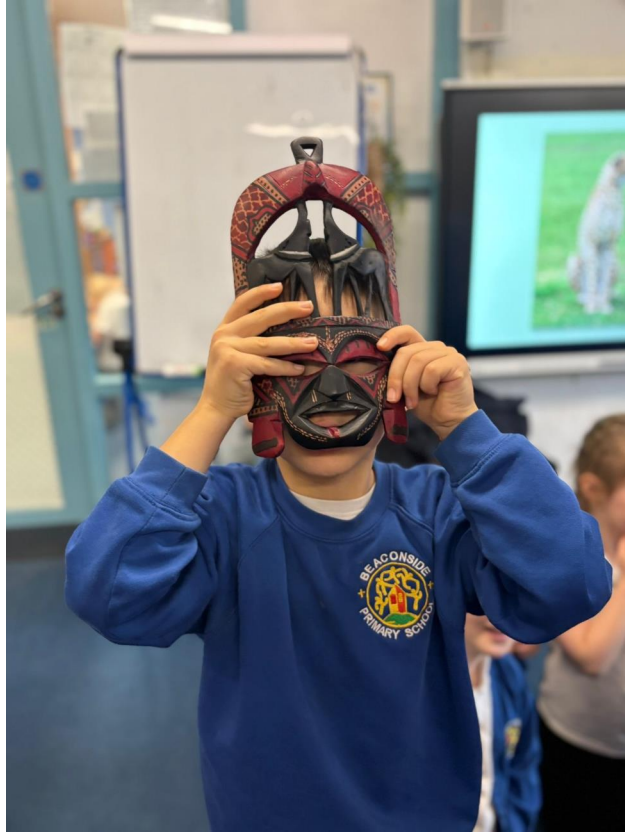


## KS1 Visitor

KS1 have had a visitor all the way from Kenya today, Peter is a wildlife photographer who has taught them about the wildlife and traditions in Kenya











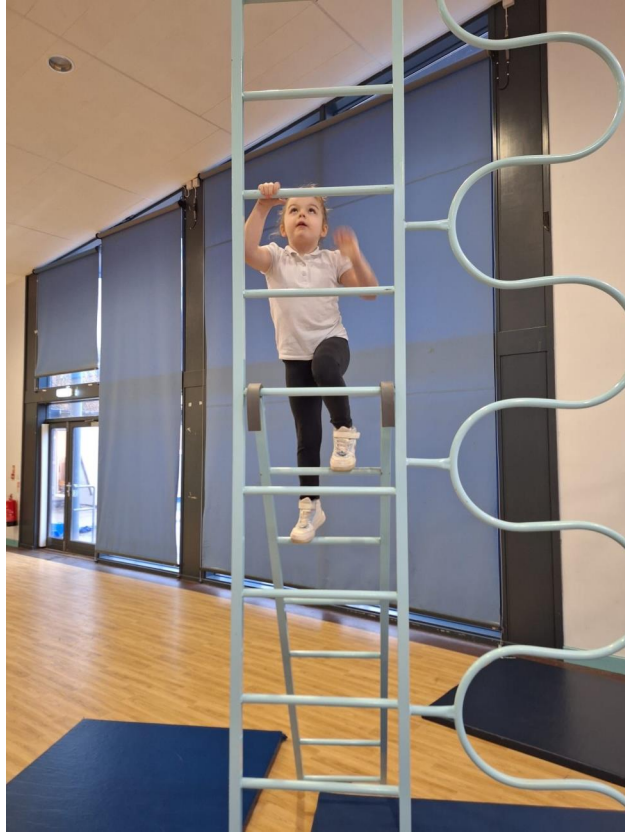
## Resourced Provision

From bubble experiments to scaling great heights, it's been a busy week in RP!







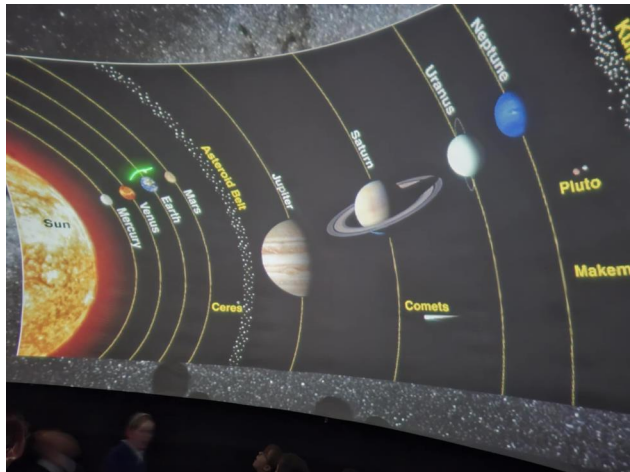
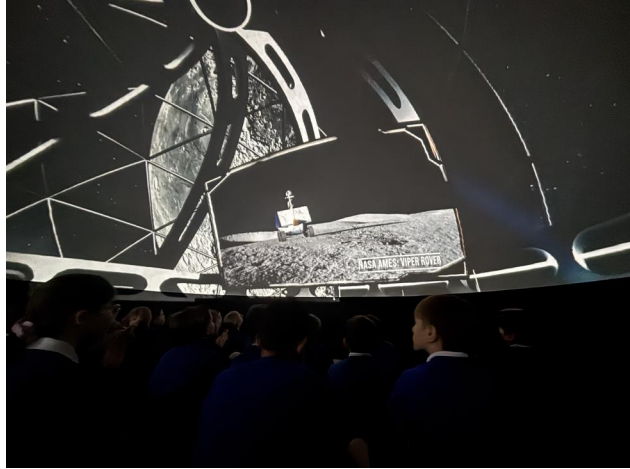


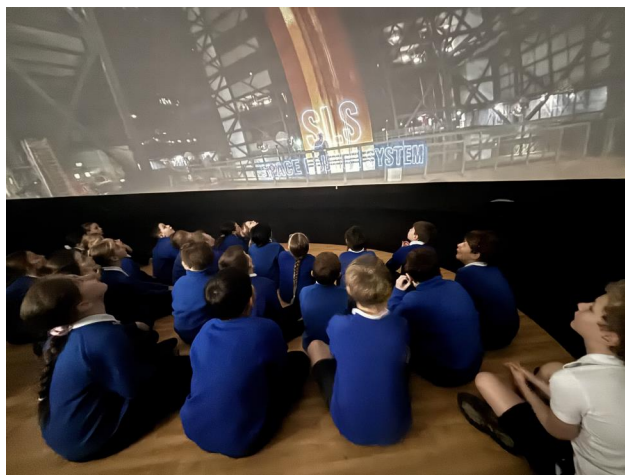


## Wonderous Wonderdome!

Year 5 had an amazing time on Monday when the Wonderdome came to visit! Students were captivated as they explored space, planets, and the wonders of our universe through an immersive and interactive experience. 🚀 🪐 So many curious questions, excited faces, and budding astronomers—what a fantastic way to bring science to life! ✨ 🔭







## Reception

This week we have taken maths outside, creating number lines with chalk and finding physical representations of numbers around the playground. Inside, we painted numbers, choosing how far we wanted to count.

We also took part in the RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch. We made our own bird feeders and placed them around the school. We have read lots of books and begun to learn about different types of birds and how to identify them, before conducting our bird watch.







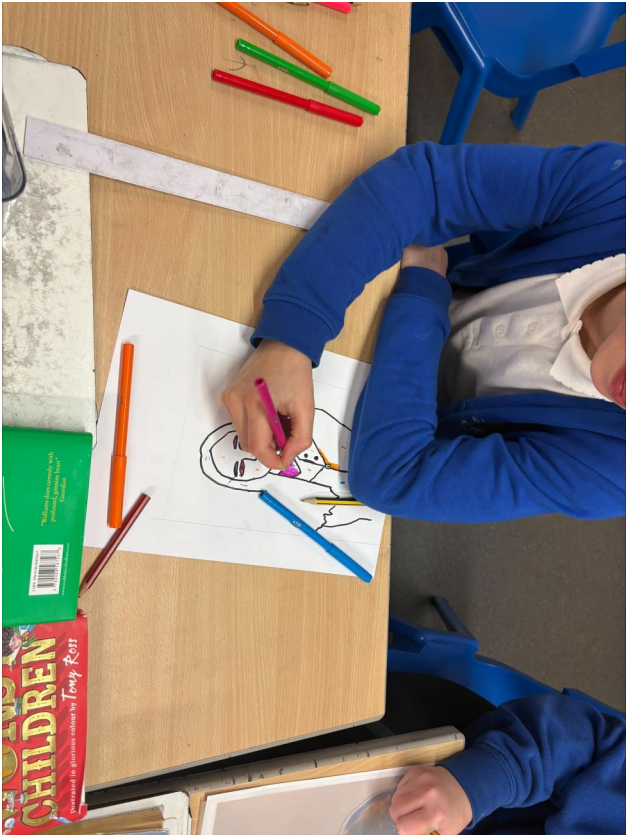


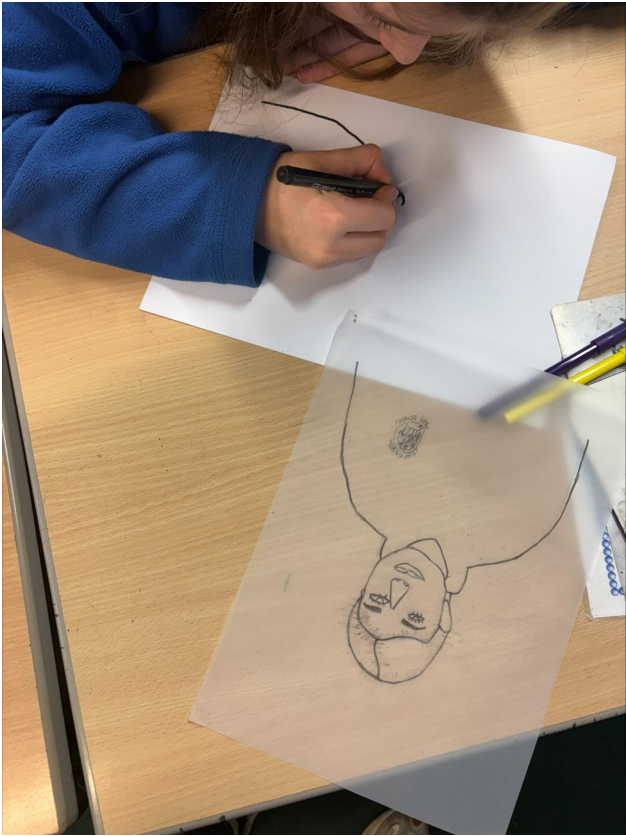
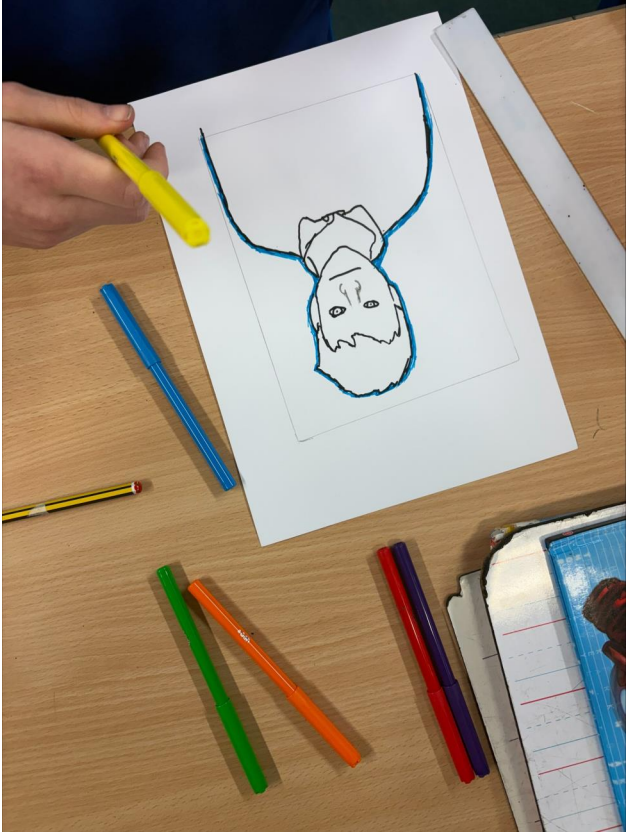




## Year 5

Year 5 have been learning all about the Pop Art movement this half term. They have looked at Andy Warhol's Campbell Soup Tin for inspiration and have since traced images of their own faces, chose complimentary colours from the colour wheel and used these to create a self portrait in a similar style. We can't wait to see the final pieces







## Class Worships



Here are a list of upcoming Class Worships for Spring term 1 and 2.

Thursday 12th February- 2:40pm 3T

Thursday 26th February- 2:40pm 2B

Thursday 5th March- 2:40pm 2J

Thursday 12th March- 2:40pm 1M

Thursday 19th March- 2:40pm 3F

**Tuesday** 24th March- 2:40pm 3R

Please wait by the bottom school entrance [near the park] to access via the KS2 Hall door.

Class Worship starts at 2:40pm

Thank you for supporting us with these!

## Y1 Phonics Screening meeting for parents

On Monday 9th February we will be holding a meeting for all year 1 parents in the Key Stage 1 hall. You can enter via the main office from 2:20pm. The meeting will start at 2:30 and will finish no later than 3pm in time for pick up. The meeting will explain all about the year 1 Phonics screening assessment and will give you hints and tips in how to best support your child leading up to the assessment. If anyone has any issues or questions, please speak to Mrs Bevington or Miss Short

## Y6 SATS information meeting for parents.

We will be holding a meeting for year 6 parents on Monday 26th January at 5pm.

This will be held in the KS2 hall.

Please enter via the stained glass window entrance.

## World Book Day 2026



This year, World Book Day will take place on Thursday 5th March. We will be inviting children to dress up as their favourite character or word. We wanted to give families as much notice as possible leading up to the event! Any children who do not want to dress up are more than welcome to attend school in their uniform that day, as they usually would.

2026 dates.....



**Monday 26th January- y6 SATS information evening 5 until 5:30pm- please enter through main office**

Thursday 29th of January Blackwell Arts- 5D

Friday 30th January Blackwell Arts-5H

Tuesday 3rd February - Y3 to Field Studies Council, Blencathra

Monday 9th Feb - Y1 Parents Phonics screening information meeting- 2:30-3:00 in the KS1 hall

Tuesday 10th February - Parentlink - 9am

Wednesday 11th February - Valentines disco- KS1 3:15-4:15 / KS2 4:30-5:30PM

## How to contact me



Did you know I now have a dedicated email address that you can use to contact me directly for matters you feel aren't suitable to go through the school office?

[pcudby@beaconside.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:pcudby@beaconside.cumbria.sch.uk)

Please note this isn't a "fast-track" option, the usual channels should still be used for day-to-day matters such as absences, bookings, or messages for class teachers. Using those systems helps us make sure everything gets to the right place quickly and smoothly.

I will do my best to reply within 48 working hours. We all share the same priority, the very best for your child, and I truly appreciate the kind and constructive way families communicate with school. It makes a real difference.

I'm looking forward to continuing to work together this term and beyond to make it a happy and successful one for all our children.

