



Welcome to  
the  
Doncaster  
School for the  
Deaf  
Newsletter

**October 2022**

## Marking the passing of Queen Elizabeth II

We are deeply saddened at the passing of Her Majesty The Queen. As a Trust, we mourned her passing and hosted a memorial book for colleagues, pupils and students wishing to show their condolences.  
Alexis Johnson

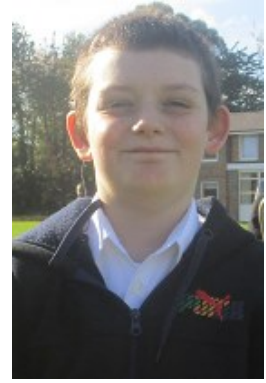
## New term

Pupils returned to school routines remarkably well. They all appear to have grown so much! Those transitioning from primary to secondary have enjoyed the opportunity to gain independence and responsibility and have been allocated with their own personal lockers. Year 7s are getting used to wearing school ties and look very smart in their secondary uniform.

The 2022/2023 School Council has been selected, After School Club has re-started and lots of trips and activities linked to learning have taken place.

We hope you enjoy reading all about our first half term.

# Welcome to our new pupils and staff

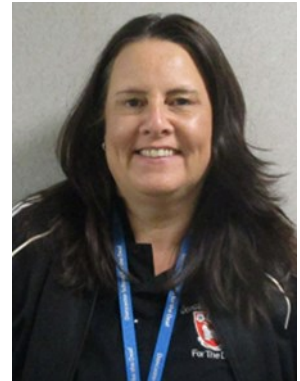


We would like to offer a warm welcome to Lili, Finley, David and Volodymyr who have joined the school this half term. They are really enjoying making new friends and Finley is settling well and enjoying all the different opportunities in Dickson House.

Our team of teaching staff has been enhanced with the appointment of Miss Williams, Mrs Kasperek, Mrs Sewell and Ms Harding.



Miss Smith, Ms Sung, and Ms Payne have all joined the dedicated team of Specialist Teaching Assistants.



All staff have worked extremely hard to help pupils settle into school routines after the summer break.

# Sealife project

As part of their Sealife project some of our Y8 Creative Arts pupils visited Cleethorpes beach. They looked at the environment and the effects of plastic and pollution. Influenced by attending a workshop by activist Marilyn Wilrich from Zebra Access, the pupils helped to clean part of the beach in order to play a part in protecting the environment. Pupils brought their art work and posters to the beach to spread their key messages about protecting the environment. They were joined by some of our Year 11 Photography pupils who were able to take lots of photographs as part of their course. Pupils enjoyed fish and chips followed by an obligatory ice cream before heading home.



# School Council



At the start of the new school year, pupils voted for the new School Council. We now have 9 representatives. The first meeting has been held and the first item on the agenda was to vote for the Head and Deputy Head of the School Council. We now have Keira (Head) and Chloe (Deputy Head). Congratulations! The council is already busy discussing the improvements for the school playground and also planning a Halloween party!

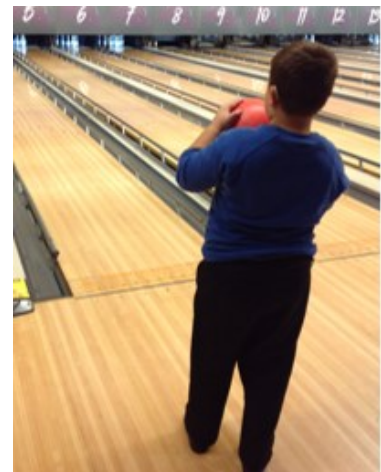
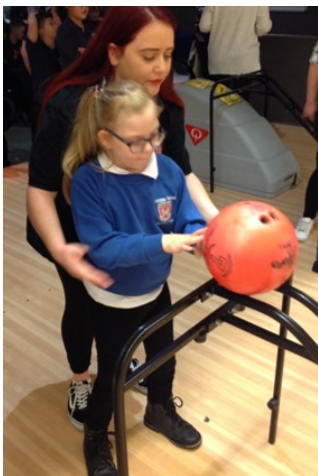
# Panathlon Ten Pin Bowling

Our primary pupils were invited to take part in the Panathlon Primary aged Ten Pin Bowling event.

We won 1st prize! Nieve was our top scorer and Isabel won a medal for the top 'Hot Shot'. Amazing teamwork.



**1<sup>st</sup> prize**



## Surprise visit from Miss Croggon

It was a lovely start to the new term to have a surprise visit from Miss Croggon and her baby. It was great to meet baby Louie, he was an absolute star and behaved so well. Everyone wanted to cuddle him, he is such a cutie!

There were quite a few broody staff members at the end of the visit!



# Achievements and Recognition



Many congratulations to Mrs Lyon who has recently passed the British Sign Language qualification at Level 3. Well done!

Congratulations also to Miss Croggon who has passed the National Professional Qualification for Middle Leadership (NPQML) at Leeds Beckett University.



One of our pupils Eleanor had the honour of lighting 6 candles for the Queen at York Minster on behalf of the Girl Guides. She is pictured with her sister, Lucy.

What an amazing privilege!

Did you see Eleanor on Blue Peter recently? A while ago Eleanor one of our Year 10 pupils, received the Blue Peter Sports badge as she told them about her rounders achievements and how being Deaf doesn't hold her back. Eleanor was asked to be part of the Blue Peter show on Friday, 23 September to help celebrate International Day of Sign Language. With help from Ms Laverack, we recorded a video for the show. Eleanor wore her 2 Blue Peter badges with pride.



Well done Eleanor, we are very proud of your achievements!

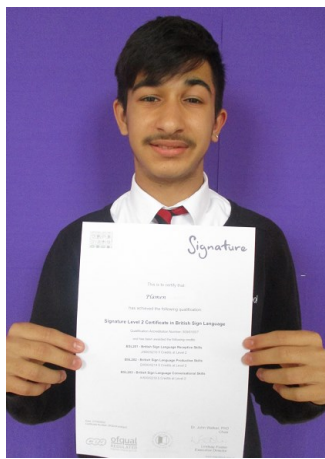
# Achievements and Recognition



Congratulations to both Mr Brennan and Mrs Fiedor on passing British Sign Language Level 1.



Igor, Plamen, Lacey and Ralfs have all passed British Sign Language Level 2. They have worked extremely hard to achieve this!



# Photography Trip to Sheffield

As part of their 'Buildings' project, some of our Year 10 and 11 pupils visited the city of Sheffield. They looked at unique buildings and visited both the Millennium Gallery and the Graves Art Gallery. There were lots of different styles of artwork on display and pupils were able to draw inspiration from the wide range of artwork they saw. Some pupils were particularly inspired by the work of conceptual artist, Rich McCor, who creates small silhouetted shapes and brings them to life by holding them against European monuments. A great day, enjoyed by all!



# Pupil of the Week Award



Congratulations to Finley O. who was presented with the first 'Pupil of the Week' award this academic year for adjusting so well during his first week at our school.

Dariens was the second recipient of the pupil of the week.

Dariens is a good friend to others and always works well in class. Well done!



Mrs Dixon was delighted to present Veronica with her award for showing more confidence.

Well done, Veronica!

Staff have commented on what a confident and smiley young lady Tiffany has been and it is for these reasons she was presented with the Pupil of the Week award by Mr Nelson. Well done, Tiffany!



# Pupil of the Week Award



Congratulations to Henry who received the Pupil of the Week award for working hard in class and engaging well in activities at play-times. Well done, Henry!

Both A Jay and Finley were presented with their awards for being helpful and polite to staff and their peers.

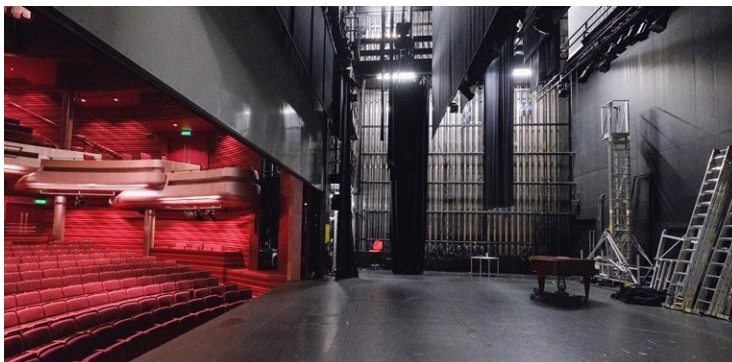
Congratulations !



# Tour of Cast Theatre

A group of Year 8 and Year 9 pupils went to visit our local theatre, CAST in Doncaster recently to learn about careers in a working theatre. Pupils met interesting staff from a wide range of jobs in the theatre, quizzing them about what they do. They also had a tour around the backstage areas of the theatre, learning about how the lighting is set up and changed high above their second space stage, visited the actors changing and costume areas and got to go onto the main stage and learn all about how the sound is controlled – they felt the rumble of the huge speakers hidden in the stage walls and saw the sound control desk which costs more than an expensive car!

Pupils got to see how much work and skill goes into running the theatre and had plenty of opportunity to ask questions about how it all worked and what the staff there enjoyed or found challenging.





# Enrichment

Recently, in Enrichment, pupils were visited by four members of 'Good News for Everyone' (formerly The Gideons UK). They very kindly gifted our pupils with either a Bible or an activity book to take home and keep. They showed pupils a video telling the story of Gladys Aylward who helped many children in China in the 1930's. Pupils then had chance to ask questions. After their visit, they sent a lovely email saying how impressed they were with our pupils.

*"we wanted to say how much we enjoyed coming to your school to offer little Bibles to your students. They were most attentive and a real pleasure to be with"*

In a different Enrichment session, pupils learned about reducing, reusing and recycling. In light of this, they used recycled materials, such as cardboard tubes, plastic bottles and glass jars, to create their own Halloween decorations. They created lanterns and candles using paint, hot wax and hot glue. They looked brilliant!



# Visiting Deaf Artist

Talented Deaf Artist, Vicky Barber-Crimes visited school and demonstrated the art of acrylic pouring, a fun, liquid painting method, which the pupils found mesmerising.

She explained the barriers she has faced as a Deaf artist and how she has overcome these barriers in order to develop her career.

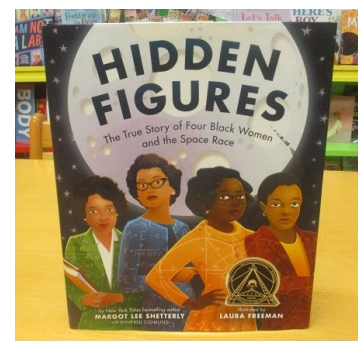


# Roald Dahl Day

To celebrate Roald Dahl Day we had a special Enrichment session in school. We learned all about Roald Dahl and realised that most of us had either read his books or seen the films. One of Roald Dahl's favourite things was to create revolting food to put in his books, therefore we created our own revolting recipes! We had lots of fun using sweets to represent disgusting things such as mice tails and snozzcumbers. We then listened to two short stories by Roald Dahl: 'The Pig' and Roald Dahl's own version of 'Little Red riding Hood'. Both of these made us laugh out loud!



# Black History Month



As October is Black History Month, we have been enjoying reading about some of the influential Black people in history. It has been really interesting to learn about the barriers many Black people have faced and also to celebrate the achievements of a whole range of amazing people in Black history. Here, Ralfs is reading the book 'Hidden Figures', the story of four extremely intelligent Black women who worked at NASA as mathematicians during the early years of the American space race.

# After School Club



Pupils have made the most of the fine weather and have spent lots of time riding the variety of bikes as well as playing indoor sports such as badminton and basketball. After school club has been a lovely opportunity for new friendships to be formed too.



# Halloween



The School Council did a great job in organising this year's Halloween party. Lots of fun was had by everyone. It was a lovely way to end the first half term.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Friday 21st October 2022

Monday 31st October 2022

Friday 16th December 2022

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

School closes for half term

School re-opens

School closes for Christmas

School re-opens