



# Curriculum Newsletter

October 2021

## Celebrating Curriculum Success

Welcome to the first edition of our curriculum newsletter of this school year. In this first edition of the new school year, we are delighted to be able to share with you some exciting news about a number of national awards our school has achieved since the last edition of our newsletter.

## Skills Builder Success



At the end of the summer term this year, we received the wonderful news that we had achieved the Skills Builder Partnership Silver Award for excellence in the teaching of eight universal (transferable) skills. In our school, our teaching incorporates age-appropriate activities to help all children to develop the eight universal skills (see above). We know that to succeed in life our children need strong academic skills and so much more. Our commitment to delivering high quality skills teaching is a reflection of this. The Partnership have also identified us as a national 'Showcase School' for our work in this area of teaching: [Menston Showcase](#)

To find out more about the eight universal skills and more detailed descriptions about what children learn in each, please see our Skills Builder website page: [Skills Builder](#)

## Outdoor Learning Success



Our firm commitment to providing high-quality outdoor learning has been recognised and we are delighted to now hold the Silver 'Learning Outside the Classroom' Quality Mark. The assessors commented that the award was in recognition of the fact that "all learners have access to good quality educational experiences outside the classroom walls."

You can find out more on our outdoor learning page: [Outdoor learning at Menston](#)



## STEM Success

### Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths!

Here at Menston, promoting STEM education is a key element within our curriculum. We do this by providing high quality teaching of these subjects and also by providing an increasing range of additional projects and activities to enable children to explore STEM areas.

We are pleased to announce that in July of last year, all of our Year 4 children (now in year 5), achieved the British Science Association Superstar Award. They are the first group in the history of our school to achieve this fantastic award. The children had to work very hard to complete a range of investigations designed by the British Science Association which required them to develop and apply their science skills and knowledge. We are looking forward to awarding all the children their Superstar certificates shortly.

Added to the existing awards we hold, these latest awards recognise our commitment to providing all of our children with a broad curriculum which helps to prepare them for their next steps in education and their life beyond school. We will, of course, continue to develop our curriculum even further.

*And lastly, hot off the press...*

We have just heard the exciting news that our school has been accepted by The Royal Society as panellists for The Royal Society Young People's Book Prize. Children in Year 5 and 6 will have the opportunity to judge six brilliant science books which have been shortlisted by The Royal Society. The children's comments and reviews will then be combined with those from other school judging panels to decide which book is crowned the winning book of the year. We will share more news of this exciting process with you later in the term.

You can find out more about our strong commitment to STEM education on our website page: [STEM at Menston](#)

Our children have an exciting year ahead with lots of wonderful learning opportunities to explore. We look forward to continuing to share our curriculum news with you in our curriculum newsletters each half-term.

Back copies of our curriculum newsletters can be found on our website: [curriculum newsletters](#)

