



Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been a really busy term, made even better by the long awaited visit from the Ofsted Inspector, Mrs Bathgate. Staff, children and governors were very pleased to see her so that we could show her what a normal day at Etwall Primary School is like. The children were wonderful and really engaged with the whole process! They went out of their way to speak to Mrs Bathgate and were a credit to the school. Thank you to all parents who either spoke to, wrote letters to, or expressed their views via Parent View to the Ofsted team. Our thanks also goes to school governors, Philip Poynton, Vice

Chair, Jo Jones, Safeguarding Governor, and Angela Jenner, SEND governor, who met with Mrs Bathgate during the inspection. Rishi Makwana, Chair of Governors, was unfortunately overseas on the day of the inspection, but kept in close contact with Miss Dixey throughout the day – with an eight hour time difference! ***We are now in receipt of the Ofsted report for the school. It has been sent out on our email service, placed on the school web site and hard copies provided to families not on our email service. We are very pleased! It can be viewed on the Ofsted web site from Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April for the general public.***



#### GOVERNOR CORNER

The school's Governing Body is pleased to announce that we have a new Co-opted Governor and extend a warm welcome to Mrs Shirley Bumstead. Mrs Bumstead attended the recent Full Governing Body meeting and we look forward to working with her over the coming months and years.

The Governing Body still has two vacancies for Co-Opted Governors and we have advertised for these in the Etwall Express from our local community. There is plenty of information on the school web site about what the role involves. It is really rewarding and the school is building an excellent team of governors. If you have a neighbour who may be interested, please encourage them to pop into school to see Mrs East who will pass their details on to our new Clerk to Governors, Mrs Ruth Bailey.



#### SAFEGUARD UPDATE:

##### FREE ONLINE SAFETY APP FOR CHILDREN

NSPCC's Childline has launched an app said to be the first to provide counselling to young people directly through their smartphone. Invented by four teenagers who wanted to use technology to

address the urgent need for confidential support among young people, the '[For Me](#)' app is free to download in the UK and Channel Islands and has been specifically designed for discreet usage.



The app utilises all of Childline's online services - from the 1-2-1 chat function with a counsellor, the 'Ask Sam' problem pages and entrance to a private locker, in which is a daily mood tracker and personal journal.

For more information, please visit <https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/for-me/>



### REVIEW OF E-SCHOOLS LEARNING PLATFORM

The school has received feedback from one parent, the school Senior Leadership Team will now make a decision about whether to continue subscribing to the e-schools Learning Platform. Thank you.

### INFORMATION FROM DCC : SIMSIMI – CYBERBULLYING APP

Simsimi is a Chabot that children and young people are using to purposely hurt others online. Users can input any text/phrases/response they wish and the Chabot may then use this as a response to other users if asked that particular question. It is this function that is causing concern because young people will be able to view these anonymous responses about themselves when they log in to the app. Please see information sheet for further information



### DIGITAL LEADERS : PASSWORD SECURITY

The school's Digital Leaders have been working with Miss Marriott to produce a children's guide to password security. This is a very important issue in the technological world that we live in. We were very pleased that, amongst other safeguarding issues, the children did tell Mrs Bathgate, Ofsted Inspector, that passwords should NEVER be saved or shared 😊

The children do have passwords for various web sites that they access to reinforce work done in school and they are taught in school that they should NEVER share their passwords. They are also taught that they should NEVER save their password to a computer or tablet even if the device offers to save it for them. This message does need reinforcing at home as these are lifelong security precautions. The first video made by the Digital Leaders is about making your password secure – have a look with your child/ren.

### **KS1 EASTER CELEBRATIONS**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April saw all of EYFS and KS1 walk down to St Helens Church to take part in our annual Easter celebrations. Each class took to the stage to showcase some of the lovely work they have been



doing in class to mark the beginning of spring and Easter celebrations! The children also sang some spring and Easter songs which helped put a smile on everyone's face (which was much appreciated considering it was Monday morning!) We would like to thank everyone who was able to help us on the walk to the church and also to those who came to watch and support the children, Our special thanks to Rev. Fiona for welcoming us once again to St. Helen's Church and hosting our celebrations.

### **KS1 PROJECT HOMEWORK SHOWCASE**

On Tuesday afternoon this week we held KS1's second project homework showcase of the year. Once again children from Robins, Kingfishers and Little Owls had the chance to showcase their fantastic homework to their friends and family. Throughout the day children were eager to show off their work and talk to visitors about what they have been learning. This homework is completely voluntary so it is wonderful to see so many children engaging with it and wanting to learn more!





Our topic 'Where in the World...' meant that we had many countries on display in the hall with an array of facts and information! We all learnt a thing or two! Whether the children had produced a model, a PowerPoint, poster or fact file in their homework book they had all clearly enjoyed their homework and gained a lot from it. Thank you to all of the parents/ carers at home that have ensured this homework topic was a success! Thank you also to all parents who are ensuring that the children are engaged with their daily homework in addition to making time to support them with these fabulous independent projects.

***Don't forget the KS2 Project Homework Showcase at 2.45pm on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April!***



#### **SPORTS UPDATE:**

It's been a busy time in sports since the last newsletter with a number of events taking place. The swimming team won the South Derbyshire finals and are now heading to Louth to represent the county in the East Midlands finals. The football team, went to Barnsley to represent Derby County in the Kids Cup regional finals, which they won and will now be playing Ipswich Town's representatives before the Championship Playoff final at Wembley in May. We took a team to the Year 3 and 4 Derby

County Ladies Football Festival and another to the Year 5 and 6 event. Both teams performed really well and narrowly missed out on the knockout stages. The netball team qualified for the South Derbyshire finals at John Port school and came a creditable fourth. We've been to Pingle school in Swadlincote to take part in two football festivals – one for Years 1 and 2 and one for Years 3 and 4 which the children thoroughly enjoyed. We also sent a hockey team to the South Derbyshire finals, who came runners-up, narrowly losing out 1-0 in a penalty shoot-out in the final and the tag rugby team have qualified for the South Derbyshire finals at Melbourne SP later this month. It is proving to be a very successful sporting year and the children involved can be very proud of their achievements.



#### **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

The School Council have been working incredibly hard of late, raising money for charity. They have raised over £140 for Comic Relief by selling red noses and organising a joke telling competition which was won by Eleanor in Ospreys class, a budding stand-up comedian no doubt! They also put a lot of time and effort into organising and running the annual chocolate bingo night, which raised an incredible £580 for Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity. As always, these events cannot

succeed without the support of parents and carers, therefore the School Council would like me to pass on their thanks for your continued backing of their fund raising efforts.





### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT WORK : BEHAVIOUR POLICY

Following feedback from parents, staff, governors and children, we are proud to be able to launch our NEW LOOK behaviour policy after half term. The policy is to be emailed to parents who use this service and put on the school web site for all parents to access. It incorporates the STARFISH values detailed on the last newsletter and this theme will carry through all we do, including rewards and certificates. A "Parent's Guide to Rewards and Sanctions" at EPS has been produced and will be sent out to parents after Easter and also put on the school web site. Mr Ormiston is developing a new section under the "Children's" tab that will showcase all the documentation and certificates after Easter. ***Thank you for your continued support in this aspect of school life.***



### KS2 EASTER CELEBRATION

KS2 children attended an Easter Celebration Service on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017, with Rev. Fiona at St Helen's Church. Many parents attended and the children delivered the celebration with respect for its beliefs. All classes participated with showcasing work (which they had completed in class); singing Easter songs and of course the all-time favourite, 'The Chocolate Song'. Easter art presented by Eagles, and sock animals by Falcons helped to remind us all that spring brings new beginnings. Kestrels

and Ospreys shared poems, which they had written themselves, and Sparrowhawks shared their paintings illustrating the Easter story. Thank you to Rev. Fiona for hosting the celebrations once again.

### KS2 OUTDOOR ENRICHMENT DAY!

Last week KS2 were lucky enough to enjoy an outdoor enrichment day with Frazer and Katy, friends of our school, who have delivered many outdoor activities to the children over the last few years. The theme was North America, which has been our humanities topic for the spring term. The children experienced nomadic lifestyles by building tipis and practised their hunting skills by making bows and arrows and doing archery. They used their story telling skills to tell a story using a story stick and they also enjoyed cooking on the camp fire, and a thoroughly good time was had by all! Thank you to the PTFA for funding this event for the children.



### ASSESSMENTS IN SCHOOL

Y2 and Y6 will soon be having their assessments in school. Y6 assessments are w/c 8<sup>th</sup> May and Y2 assessments start the week after. We really want these to be "played down" at home please as we do not want the children to be anxious about them at all. We certainly do not want them "revising" over the Easter holidays or spending long hours after Easter doing this. We work very hard in school to prepare the children year on year to achieve their end of year expectations by providing a broad, stimulating, fun filled curriculum, which develops a true love of learning. We carry out ongoing

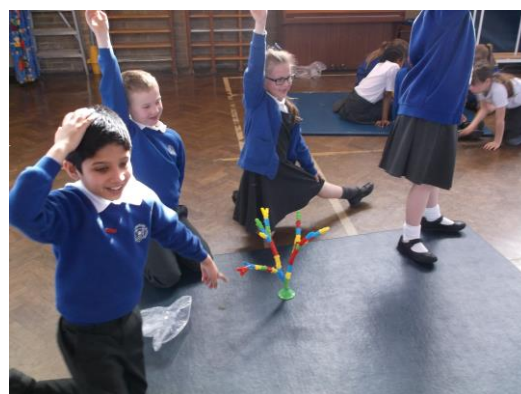


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assessments so we know how well your child is doing and are happy to share this with you. We sometimes ask for your support in developing particular skills or knowledge and ask that you ensure that your child does all set homework. All of this contributes to what your child achieves in these milestone assessments, so please don't worry. Just focus on ensuring that your child gets plenty of sleep, gets plenty of rest and relaxation, gets a good breakfast each morning and is in school on time.

### PUZZLE DAY

We all had a wonderful day with The Happy Puzzle company. Each class has had an hours workshop where we worked in teams to solve a range of different puzzles. Some of us were 'blind' fishing, some were trying to balance scales and some were trying to build a 'tree' which did not fall over. There were loads of other problems to solve too. We found the teams which showed the best communication skills and listened to each other were the most successful! Thank you to the PTFA for applying for this super experience. We really appreciate it.



### PTFA APPEAL

*Our PTFA is still looking for parents volunteers to take on a role in organising the school's summer fair. We have appealed a couple of times now but things are getting close to having to cancel it. It is such a lovely evening and enjoyed by staff, children and parents alike but the PTFA team are struggling to find people to organise things. If you are interested, please contact the Chair of the PTFA, Richard Davies or any of the committee members as a matter of urgency. Thank you.*

### CLASS ASSEMBLIES FOR THIS YEAR – start 9.05am

These will start after half term and dates are as follows. Please make a note of them on your family calendar:

Woodpecker class: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June

Robin class: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Little Owl class: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May

Kestrel Class: Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May

Eagle Class: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June

**Dates: please put up somewhere at home or in your diary.**

**PLEASE REFER TO THE SCHOOL WEB SITE CALENDAR – for key dates for 2016-17**

**INSET Days for 2016-17 :** The following days have been set. Children **will not** be in school on these further 2 days days: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017 and Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017

### APRIL

Fri 7 <sup>th</sup>	Break up for the Easter holidays
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup>	School re-opens for Summer Term 5
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup>	St. George's day activity in school
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup>	Yoga club starts!
Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup>	Ofsted report goes public on the Ofsted web site
Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup>	2.45pm KS2 Project Homework Showcase for parents/carers
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup>	EYFS Pirate day!





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Fri 28<sup>th</sup> School team to English Schools Swimming gala in Louth

### MAY

Mon 1<sup>st</sup> BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED  
Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> 5.15pm Full Governing Body Annex 1 school budget meeting  
Fri 5<sup>th</sup> May Book Swap Friday  
w/c 8<sup>th</sup> Y6 Assessment Week  
Fri 12<sup>th</sup> 9.05am Little Owls class assembly  
Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Derby University Language Day  
Thus 18<sup>th</sup> 9.05am Kestrels class assembly  
Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> 2.45pm KS2 Project Homework Showcase for parents/carers  
Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> 9.05am Robins class assembly  
Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Y3/4 residential visit to Lea Green (3 days)  
Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Y3/4 back from residential visit  
Fri 26<sup>th</sup> 2.45pm KS1 Project Homework Showcase for parents/carers  
Fri 26<sup>th</sup> End of Summer Term 5 (one week off school)

### JUNE

Mon 5<sup>th</sup> INSET DAY: school closed for children  
Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Children back in school  
Wed 7<sup>th</sup> PTFA 3.45pm KS1 summer disco and 5pm KS2 summer disco  
Fri 9<sup>th</sup> EYFS and KS1 Enrichment visits (letters to follow)  
Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Book Swap Friday

***Any changes in dates will be advertised well in advance and a text sent out. Please update us of any changes in phone numbers or email addresses as soon as they happen. Thank you***

***Please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher, Miss Dixey or Miss Warburton should you have any concerns or questions. Thank you.***

Sally Dixey  
Headteacher