



Thursday 22nd March 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

What a busy term! Don't forget to keep looking on the school web site – class pages – for up to date news about your child's class and what learning is taking place. The school calendar is also full of dates for the year.



IMAGINEERING CLUB

The Imagineers have been busy this term, making a variety of complex models and engineering feats.

These included a car powered by a deflating balloon, which had its complications. The main issue was making sure the wheel nuts weren't too tight, or the wheels would just not go around! We raced them in the corridor, and most of them were speedy and impressive.

We created aeroplanes which used the potential energy stored in a tightly wound elastic band, to turn the propeller. The height which the aeroplanes reached varied, depending on the accuracy of the building of the plane itself. Many of them reached the very high ceilings in Kestrels' classroom! Well

done!

Another item made was a micrometre, which the children not only had to build, but also had to calibrate. Most children's micrometres were fairly accurate, but it highlighted the challenge that Rolls Royce engineers face – how do we know we are measuring accurately? Our thanks go out to Mrs Hendriksen, Mrs Silvester and other RR engineers who have made this club possible for many years now. They do an amazing job! If your child is in Y5/6 and is interested in joining the Imagineering Club, please pop and chat to Mrs Dawson about it.



NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS WEEK (APRIL)

Week 23rd April – 27th April : During this week, we are looking to further raise children's awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorders, gain understanding, inclusion and acceptance.



We feel that it is important for the children to understand that we are all individuals and realise that somebody with Autism will understand the world in a different way. To help raise awareness, we are going to be spending some time during this week looking at Autism and how it affects how a person thinks, feels and learns. The children will be watching videos and doing some fun games and activities to help them understand what being Autistic may be like and that it is "okay to be different."

During this week, one of the activities is a **competition** by Teaching Personnel to help engage children in a conversation about Autism and how to be better friends to





children with Autism. This competition will be completed in school and children will draw a scene which depicts 'something that makes you happy' – the deadline for all entries will be **27th April 2018** and the winners will be announced shortly after. Thank you for your continued support in raising children's awareness.

PRIZES include:

1st Place – will have their image turned into a real jigsaw puzzle and the school will receive a box of sensory toys.

2nd Place – A box of sensory toys and a selection of Autism friendly children's books.

3rd – A box of sensory toys

For further information, follow this link:

<http://www.autism-society.org/get-involved/national-autism-awareness-month/>



On Friday 27th April it will be "Silly Sock Day" to mark the end of Autism Awareness Month. Children can wear their silliest socks to school!

KS1 OPEN FAITH CENTRE ENRICHMENT VISIT

What a fantastic day KS1 had at The Open Faith Centre. It is certainly the highlight of the year to be able to visit the centre and surrounding area where the children can become immersed in cultures and traditions that are different to their own and yet experience so much that is similar to their own daily lives. Thank you to all parents/carers that supported this enriching experience. The day focused, in particular, on some of our STARFISH values: **Respect, Friendship, Truthfulness** which are so important in today's society where we value **Tolerance** highly. We are looking forward to the KS2 visits later in the summer term.



KS1 started the day learning about Arabic. The children were able to write their own names in Arabic and were encouraged to remember to write from right to left. To help the children remember the Arabic alphabet they played snap games with all the Arabic letters and wrote them in sand for their partners to guess. They learnt about how Muslim children learn the Arabic alphabet and often attend Arabic lessons after school.



To understand more about the Islamic faith the children visited a Mosque. It was very beautiful inside and out with Arabic writing around the walls, domes on the roof and a huge red carpet. Once we were inside, they removed their shoes and cover their heads as a **sign of respect**. The children then visited a prayer room and learnt lots about the Mosque. They learnt that all the carpets faced towards Mecca and that the final prophet sent by Allah was





Muhammad (peace be upon him). It was very interesting find out about how Muslim's worship.

After lunch, the children were able to walk around Normanton. There are many religious buildings around the area churches, Hindu temples and the Mosque, which they looked out for and learnt about them as we walked around the area. They also noticed Arabic writing in some of the shop windows, which meant that Halal meat is sold there. The whole key stage had a great time on the trip and have learnt many new things about Islam, Arabic and the Mosque. A big thank you to all the adults that were able to help on the visit.



EYFS NEWS

This half term we have been learning about people who help us. We have had lots of visitors many of them parents come into school and talk to the children about how they help people in their job.

The children have met a postman, physiotherapist, paramedics, a bank manager, a fire crew and dental nurse. We have enjoyed finding out about

what people wear, do and travel in. They have seen how to use crutches, clean teeth, been inside an ambulance, save money, post letters and spray water using a fire hose.

Reception children and staff would like to say a **HUGE thank you** to all those who gave up time to come into school and make learning fun.



KS2 INFERENCE WORKSHOP

Thank you to parents and grandparents who showed their support during our KS2 inference workshop on Thursday 8th March. It was honestly more fun than it sounded! Across the key stage children were putting into practise vital inference skills needed to help them to gain understanding from the books that they read. This is one of the harder skills to teach the children, but it is key to helping them to become proficient readers. We hope the family members who attended enjoyed learning about how they can support their children at home when developing this skill. Bookmarks with questions to ask children when reading can be found on class pages on the school website.



WORLD BOOK WEEK

WBW was fantastic! The children really enjoyed reading maths themed books to help them not only with their reading skills, but also with their maths skills. Due to the snow closure days, theme day had to be postponed until the following week, but we were not disappointed by the enthusiasm with which the children approached the day, as always. We were blown away by the vast array of super costumes and delighted to see how much children are inspired by the characters they read about in





their books. Thank you to parents/grandparents and other family members for the effort that was put into children's costumes.

The winning costume from each class is on the picture on the previous page. A special thank you also to the Hawk and Buckle, who kindly donated £84 to put towards costume prizes and the maths themed reading books that we used during Book Week.

SCHOOL SPORT / FUNDING ROUND-UP

It's been a busy time for sports since Christmas, with children participating in a wide variety of events. The Year 5/6 football team put up a good defence of our EFL Kids Cup title and were unlucky not to qualify for the next phase of the competition. We have also had teams taking part in the Year 5 and 6 basketball finals, Year 5 and 6 goalball (a kind of blindfolded handball), EYFS and Year 1 Early Racers (racing on balance bikes), all of whom represented the school in an exceptional manner.



Further to this, we have also sent teams to an indoor athletics tournament - where Year 3 and 4 finished runners up, the indoor cricket finals - where the Year 5 and 6 team finished runners up - the A League football finals where the Year 5 and 6 team was knocked out in the semi-finals on penalties and the South Derbyshire swimming gala, which we won - retaining our title from last year!

As well as the events organised for us by South Derbyshire Active Sports Partnership, we have also entered our girl's football teams into the annual Derby County Ladies tournament. Despite not having played a match before, the Year 3 and 4 team finished third in their group, with Daisy scoring 9 goals in 5 games.

We still have the Year 5 and 6 girls tournament, Year 5 and 6 hockey and Year 5 and 6 tag rugby to come before the end of term, so we will update you on those in the next newsletter.

Sporting Dates for the Summer Term

Below is a list of competitive sports events we have got coming up in the Summer Term, should your child wish to try out for the squads:

Event	Date	Time	Venue
KS1 All Stars Cricket Festival	Wednesday 18th April	4:00 - 5:30	Hartshorne CC
East Midlands Swimming Finals	Friday 20 th April	6:00 - 8:00	Meridian Leisure Centre, Louth
Primary Orienteering	Tuesday 24th April	4:00 - 5:30	Granville
High5 Netball Finals	Thursday 26th April	1:00 - 4:00	John Port
Mixed Kwik Cricket QF2	Tuesday 1st May	4:00 - 6:30	Etwall CC
Girls Kwik Cricket Finals	Wednesday 23rd May	1:00 - 4:30	Ticknall CC



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Mixed Kwik Cricket Finals	Friday 25 th May	1:00 – 4:00	Ticknall CC
SD School Games - KS1 Football	Wednesday 6 th June	1:00 - 3:30	MSP
SD School Games - Mini Tennis			
SD School Games - Go-ride Cycling			
KS1 Soccer Stars Football Tournament	Thursday 7 th June	1:00 - 3:00	Moor Farm, Oakwood
Dance in the Forest	Wednesday 13 th June	6:30 - 8:30	Rosliston FC
KS1 Mini Olympics	Thursday 21 st June	1:00 - 3:00	John Port
EYFS Change4Life Festival	Thursday 28 th June	1:00 - 3:00	Pennine Way
Girls 7-a-side Netball Cup	Thursday 5 th July	1:00 - 4:00	Pennine Way



On top of all that, don't forget sports day, which is Friday 15th June (with the reserve date being Tuesday 19th June (please note the change of date for the reserve event))

SCHOOL PREMISES ROUND UP

The school has recently upgraded lighting in Woodpecker classroom and it is amazing! Please pop and have a look. It has been long awaited so we thank the EYFS team for their patience.

Derbyshire County Council have now appointed an architect to plan the schools two new classrooms. This is due to the extensive housing developments in the local area for which DCC is given Section 106 funding by the builders which is in turn used to build additional schools/classrooms as needed. Etwall Primary have been allocated 2 new classrooms and also the promises that the staff room building and the Vic Hallam building, that houses Eagle class, will be refurbished. School Governors have received the first draft of the plans and school staff and governors will be providing feedback to the Local Authority this week. It is highly likely that they will be built onto the library/school carpark area of the school so as to not take away green areas within the school grounds. It is anticipated that these will be built in the next 2 years, with the Pupil admission Numbers (PAN) rising to 45 from 40 at the same time.



Swimming Pool Update As everyone is aware, our swimming pool has been out of action for several weeks now. This is regrettable, but has been completely out of our hands due to the nature of the repairs needed. The magnitude of the work that is required has necessitated getting in specialist contractors to quote for the work that is required (this has not been an easy task) and we are looking at repair costs of up to potentially £16,000 - this includes a new liner, filtration, steps, heating repairs and surround for the pool. The amount of money needed to get it back in service is not an inconsiderable sum, as you can well imagine, and we are waiting on funding streams (DCC IMP funding and Awards for All lottery funding) through a couple of channels to help us with these costs. We are also very grateful to the Etwall Parish Council who have generously donated £1000 towards this project via the PTFA. We thank Mrs Goodchild and Mrs Madden for all their hard work on behalf of the school.





We are hopeful that we can get the work ordered within the next month and can start the repairs to get the pool back into operation in this school year. Again, we apologise for the inconvenience of not having the pool in operation, but hope you can understand why this has been delayed.



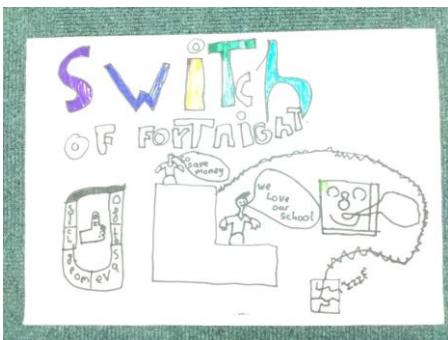
C.R.Y. CHOCOLATE BINGO EVENT

On Friday 16th March School Council held their annual Chocolate Bingo event in aid of our chosen charity C.R.Y (Cardiac Risk in the Young). The event was a fantastic success and there were many happy faces as LOTS of

chocolate was won! We would like to thank you all for your support with this event- whether you were able to attend the event or if you donated an egg- we couldn't have done it without you! We would also like to thank the PTFA for putting on a café for the evening and donating their profits to our chosen charity too! As well as having lots of fun we were raising lots of money for C.R.Y, we raised an incredible £610! This brings our current total raised to £946! This will be put towards funding more important heart screening vans for Etwell. Keep your eyes peeled for more fundraising events throughout the summer term! Thank you to Mrs Millward, the School Council and our lovely volunteers from the PTFA for organising the event.

SCIENCE WEEK

We started off science week with a bang, well technically a fizz! Miss Cox demonstrated in an assembly how to blow a balloon up using vinegar mixed with bicarbonate of soda. We also looked at how to make a lava lamp. In class a range of activities have been enjoyed, from searching for bugs and designing bug houses, to dissecting flowers. Although science week is now over you can still continue the fun at home, check out the information on the science week letter that was sent out for places to visit and experiments to try. There are also some links and ideas for science days out on the school face book page.



ECO COUNCIL SUCCESS

During the Autumn Term our Eco Councillors rallied the school to save energy during SWITCH OFF FORTNIGHT. With everyone's help we were able to make a visible saving in our electricity consumption during the two weeks of the campaign. Well done everyone.

Our next challenge will be 'WASTE WEEK'...

We will be thinking about how we can use less and recycle more.

SUMMERS ON THE WAY – HELP NEEDED PLEASE

With the lighter nights and longer days the children will soon be spending much more time outside exploring their environment. Our school grounds offer a wealth of different environments and ecosystems, all of which require some





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maintenance. If you could give a couple of hours of your time on **Saturday morning, April 21st**, to help paint the pergola, treat the traversing wall or renovate parts of the vegetable patch, then ***please contact Mr Jowett.***



SAFEGUARDING: Online Safety

Online Safety continues to be of paramount importance at Etwall Primary School. Miss Marriott has been sending out some tips on her Online Safety newsletter that started this term. The second one will be sent out with class newsletters after Easter, so please look out for it – there are some great tips. Mrs Dixey has also been putting tips on the school face book page around parental controls,

Keep Safe Committee

After Easter, we will be re-establishing the Keep Safe Committee. Our aim is that the group will have a wide representation from within the school and the wider community, and play an active role in the review and delivery of the teaching of **online safety** across the school, as well as reviewing and amending policies and the way we communicate information to parents and carers. A few parents have agreed to join the group, but we would appreciate the support from more. We are hoping to hold our first meeting in May and a date will be confirmed in due course. If you are interested in joining our group, please do not hesitate to speak to Miss Marriott (Online Safety Officer).

SCHOOL OFFICE NOTICES:

Please could you ensure that you use the office hatch / window if you need to see any of the office staff in the morning or after school. Parents/carers are not allowed into the school office.



SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL STILL NEEDED

The school is ***still looking*** for a crossing patrol. This very responsible post helps to safeguard our children. If you are interested, and would like further information, please contact Mick Draycott at Derbyshire County Council on 07796 997577. Thank you.

School Dinners

Reminder that **school dinners** should be paid for at the start of the week (or first day back following a holiday or absence). Dinners continue to be £2.00 per day, £10.00 per week and offer excellent value for money. There is a new dinner menu coming out for after the Easter Holiday. These will come home with your child or you can view via <http://www2.myschoollunch.co.uk/derbyshire/primary-schools/about-us/menu/> and look at the Main Menu for Spring/Summer 2018. For anyone wishing to pay for the next half term, in advance, the cost will be £68.00 (7 weeks, minus the May Day closure on Monday 7 May). We accept cash or cheques made payable to DCC. If cash, please send the money in a sealed envelope marked with your child's name and class.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT

Remember that if your child is absent, for any reason, please telephone the school office on 01283 732 301 or email enquiries@etwall.derbyshire.sch.uk to inform on the reason for your child's absence. The office is manned from 8.30 a.m. until 4.30 p.m. (4.00 p.m. on Friday). Absences should be followed up with a letter from parent/carer on the child's





return to school. We do have a 48-hr policy on diarrhoea and sickness bugs – to help contain the illness we ask that children DO NOT return to school until 48 hours after the last “episode”. Thank you for your support on this matter.

MEDICINE

We are aware of an increasing number of children whom we are asked to dispense medicines to. Please note that we will only do this if a Doctor has prescribed a medicine and is for four times a day. If any medicines are left in school and pass their use by date, unless they are collected, school will dispose of them.



HOMETIME ARRANGEMENTS

We are still experiencing many phone calls about end of day collection arrangements. If this is a permanent regular change, please let us have this in writing so we can update your child's end of day collection arrangements. This can be done via a letter or email to school. If you know at the start of a day about a change to collection arrangements, you only need speak to your child's class teacher in the morning – you do not have to call the office.



SCHOOL WEB SITE

Do not forget to regularly have a look at our school website – we update this with all the letters sent out on email or on paper. It is a good place to check if you think you may have missed something. To reduce our use of paper and reduce our printing costs, we try to encourage parents & carers to look at letters on email or via the website. If a reply is required, you do not necessarily have to print out the letter – you can just write your consent on a piece of paper and return to school. If you are not receiving emails from us and would like to, please let the office know your email address contact.

2018/19 Holiday & School Closure calendar.

We will be issuing our next academic year calendar in the Summer Term. However, for anyone wishing to book holidays, we do follow the Derbyshire County Council pattern



https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/term_dates_school_holidays/default.asp

We have set all five of the inset days for 2018-19 - 3rd and 4th September 2018, 15th October 2018, 21st June 2019 and 22nd July 2019.



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

PLEASE REFER TO THE SCHOOL WEB SITE CALENDAR – for key dates for 2017-18 and to the showcase/workshop list in this newsletter for next term.

INSET Days for 2017-18 : The following days have been set for 2017-18. Children **will not** be in school on this day : **Tuesday 10th July 2018**





Term	School dates Enrichment visits / visitors / days	Governor dates
Summer T5 2018	9/4 Celebrating Great Woman Week (DRESSING UP 10/4) 12/4 Kestrels parent consultation with Miss Gale 13/4 Class photos Day PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE 17/4 EYFS Maths workshop 9am 18/4 Language Day with Derby University 20/4 KS1 Maths Workshop 9am 20/4 Y5/6 STEM visit to Rolls Royce 25/4 PTFA meeting 27/4 Silly Socks Day (Autism Awareness) 30/4 Y6 Bikeability week 3/5 PACES day 14/5 Travel Smart week 16/5 Little Owl and Kingfisher classes Science showcase 2.45pm 17/5 Robin and Woodpecker classes Science showcase 2.45pm 19/20.5 Well dressing weekend 22/5 KS1 Crich Tramway Museum 24/5 Y3/4 Outdoor Day showcase 3pm 25/5 T5/6 Outdoor Day showcase 3pm 25/5 NEW PTFA dress down Recycle Day AND END OF SUM T5 TERM	1/5 Governing Body Budget + Resources mtg 5.15pm
Summer T6 2018	4/6 back to school 6/6 Imagineering enrichment visit to Land Rover Jaguar STEM 7/6 PTFA Summer Disco's 3.45pm Reception and KS1. 5pm KS2 11/6 Phonic check week 12/6 New Reception parents meeting 6-7pm 14/6 KS1 History showcase Old and new toys 2.45pm 15/6 Sports morning + picnic 19/6 Reserve Sports morning + picnic (please note NEW date) 20/6 Y3/4 enrichment visit to Open Faith Centre 21/6 Y5/6 enrichment visit to Open Faith Centre 21/6 World Music Day 27/6 PTFA meeting 3 /4.7 Changeover Days – all chn go to new classes, Y6 to JPS 6/7 PTFA Summer Fair 10/7 INSET curriculum day 12/7 2pm and 6pm KS2 end of year show 13/7 School reports out today and KS2 World Cup morning 15/7 PFTA Music Festival 16/7 Open Evening for parents 3.45-5.30pm 20/7 LAST DAY OF TERM	4/6 Governor Policy Committee 19/6 Full Governing Body mtg 5.15pm 17/7 Teaching & Learning Pupil progress mtg 5.15pm

Last but not least....**Mrs Millward**

Mrs Millward leaves us to start her maternity leave on Friday. We wish her all the very best wishes and look forward to the arrival of the new addition to the Millward family. This is Mrs Millward and husband, Dan's, first child and it is such an exciting time for them. We look forward to news after Easter and to meeting Baby Millward in the near future. Mrs Millward will be greatly missed but we look forward to welcoming her back in a years' time. Time to relax and enjoy her lovely new baby.



Mrs Dixey and Mr Ormiston

Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher / Co-Headteacher (Wednesdays)

