



Thursday 21st July 2016

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have a packed newsletter, so once again, settle down with a cuppa and have a good read. Firstly though, thank you to all parents/carers for your support again this year. It has been a very busy year and I am sure we will all be ready for a good rest, but...your support is really important to us and for your child's continued development in all areas. There are important suggestions on your child's school report as to how you might help your child over the summer and the library is running the Summer Challenge which we would love all children to participate in. There is also lots going on locally that you might like to do as a family – summer clubs, parks, bush crafts, swimming, archery, Carsington Water, Sherwood forest, Dove Dale, Matlock Bath (get the train there!), cycle trails...or just playing out with their friends. A summer of fun!

Have a look at what is happening at Rosliston <http://www.roslistonforestrycentre.co.uk/> and their Active in the Forest programme!

Best Kitchen in Derbyshire! (but we knew that anyway)

A very special mention to our fabulous kitchen staff, led by Mrs Sage. The team attended the Derbyshire catering awards evening and came away with a basket full of awards! BIG well done to Mrs Sage who was awarded Derbyshire's "Manager's Special Recognition Award" – aren't we lucky to have Mrs Sage in our school! The Kitchen was also awarded the GOLD catering award (we got Silver last year) and they also won two awards for exporting meals to Egginton Primary School and Kirk Ireton Primary School. VERY WELL DONE!



Eve Orton, Area Catering Supervisor presented the awards saying *"I have chosen this award to go to a team...that have shown exceptional team work...At school they dress up for every occasion...and have been known to sing and dance to entertain the children. They give their own time to support the school e.g. making Pudsey Bear cakes till late into the night. I know the school appreciate them as much as I do. This unit puts the meaning of team work into everything they achieve and that's why my special recognition award goes to Etwall Primary"* HOORAY FOR OUR KITCHEN TEAM!

Environmental Health also visited the school to inspect the kitchen recently and we were awarded 5* which is fantastic! They said we are the cleanest kitchen in the county ☺ Well done to Mrs Sage and her superb kitchen team. We look forward to more scrummy lunches in September.



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Outdoor learning open afternoon

We had a lovely afternoon showcasing our outdoor learning environment, much of which the PTFA have kindly paid for. Parents/carers/family members had a look around our beautiful school grounds including the pond, outdoor classroom and gardening areas and even joined in with some pond dipping. Thank you to all who came along and supported us, and saw the important work that the PTFA do for us.

Year 6 science lessons at John Port

Year 6 recently had some science lessons at John Port School. They had a great time in biology dissecting hearts, looking at lungs and learning



about habitats, and in environmental science they learned about the origins of different fruits and how oil pollutes the ocean. In chemistry they used bunsen burners and acid to change the colour of a flame. They are very much looking forward to Year 7 science! Thank you to Mr Swindell at John Port for organising these lessons.



Bikeability – ensuring Y5 keep safe.

Year 5 have had their cycling proficiency training this term. They learned how to look after their bikes, and learned how to cycle safely on the playground using appropriate signals and life saver looks. The children even ventured out to cycle in the village, putting their skills into practise. Well done to all for working hard, and becoming more proficient and safe cyclers!



Year 6 Primary Team Maths Challenge at John Port

The best mathematicians from across the primary feeder schools took part in the third annual Primary Team Maths Challenge. Fifty six students entered a challenging five hour marathon of head scratching problems and puzzles. The UK Mathematics Trust provided the resources for the competition which tests mathematical skills, team work and cooperation. Rounds included a group section in which pupils had fifteen questions to answer in just forty-five minutes, a cross number round - a numerical version of a crossword, and a logic round in which pupils had to

work out the surnames, pets, children, car colour and holidays of five different families. A relay round also combined exercise with maths and teams split up and answered questions against the clock.

After a very closely fought contest, Etwall Primary School lifted the trophy with Repton Primary School as runners up. John Port were delighted that so many young gifted mathematicians are 'rising to the challenge' and discovering their talents.





Both teams of Year 6 children did us proud by coming in first and third place! The children competed against children from many of the other local schools. Well done to Ronnie, Ben, Matt, Cameron, Tayla, Grace, Ciara and Ellen. We are very proud of you!

PENCIL CASES IN KS2

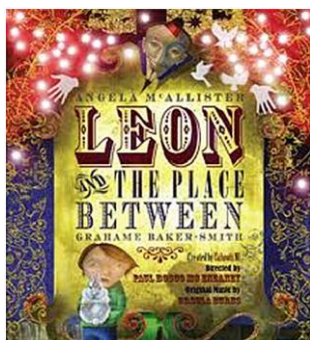
Class teachers have had a few unnecessary issues with children's pencil cases this year. Some children are bringing in many of the items provided by school eg pencils, rulers, protractors, pencil crayons, erasers etc. All these items are not needed in school as *all stationery that children need for school is provided for them in the classroom*. The size of pencil cases have also been a big issue as they do not fit in your child's tray and so are left on tables where they can be very distracting for the children when they are learning, and when things get lost, it creates a lot of upset.



We are therefore going to start the new school year with clear guidelines as to what the children are allowed to bring in school. KS1 children are not allowed to bring pencil cases into school – this will remain unchanged. KS2 will only be allowed to bring in small pencil cases that have to be able to fit into their tray. They will not be allowed to have them out on their desks and any pencil cases that are too big will be sent home. KS2 children are only allowed to bring in felt tips and/or pencil crayons for their personal use – ***nothing else will be allowed.*** ***Thank you for your support in this matter.***

Leon and the Place Between

In September the children will start off the school year with a whole school book called 'Leon and the Place Between', by Grahame Baker-Smith. All classes will be studying this book for the first two weeks of the Autumn term, and will be doing age-appropriate work around this theme. Look out for displays around school and entries on the school website relating to this work in the new term! On Monday 12th September we are being visited by a magician, who is going to do a history of magic assembly and visit classes throughout the day. Your child may come in fancy dress related to this theme on this day if they wish to, e.g. a magician/wizard/ magical theme so they can really get into the theme of the day. We look forward to starting the new school year off with an exciting theme.



Soccer Stars Tournament

Seven, Y5 children took part in a Soccer Stars tournament at Derby University. We all had a great day, and played lots of matches! Some great goals were scored by Leo, and some fantastic saves made by Maddie. The rest of the team played really well too. Thank you to Mr Wright for coming and supporting us, and for representing us in the teachers v coaches match. The teachers won! Thank you also to Miss Gale for taking the children and to JPS for transporting us.





Girls and Engineering Visit to JCB Academy

Five of our year 6 girls were welcomed by students of JCB Academy and had a chance to chat to some inspiring women in Engineering. In groups with other schools, the girls were given challenges to complete. The first was to design and make a carriage to carry an egg down a steep ramp, without breaking the egg! The second was to build a crane, strong enough to hold the most weight.



The girls did brilliantly, coming first in the Egg Crash Challenge.

They had a great afternoon, returning with a goody bag and feeling inspired by the young women they had met.

Thank you to Mrs Cheetham for accompanying the girls.



Olympic Sport Sponsored Event – Final Total

Following our very successful sports day, where the green team were crowned champions, I thought this would be an excellent opportunity to let you know the final total for our sponsored sport event back in February, when Olympic Hammer Thrower, Sarah Holt, joined us for the morning.

The total raised, which will go towards providing sports equipment and opportunities at Etwall Primary School, was a staggering **£1,299.60**. We would like to thank everyone who supported the children and the event this year and we look forward to following Sarah's progress as we reach 'Rio 2016' Once again a big THANK YOU! Ian Jowett - Sports Leader 2015-16

Netball 7 aside winners – South Derbyshire

Etwall netball squad are now the winners of the 7 aside league in South Derbyshire. After competing in the semi-finals a couple of weeks ago, the girls won every match and made it through to the finals. With adrenaline pumping and nerves kicking in, the first few minutes of the first game were fast paced. Once the first goal was scored, Etwall Primary School fell into a natural stride, demonstrating their exceptionally good skills. They scored goal after goal and left the other team standing. That first match set the standards for the rest of the games, with other teams knowing that Etwall were the team to try and beat. Scoring 15 goals in the first match, 8 goals in the next match and 7 goals in their final match, Etwall Primary School were unstoppable and the clear winners of the league, winning every single match. A huge well done for all the hard work they have put into practise this year, it has certainly paid off! *Thank you to Miss Cox and Mrs Draper for all their hard work over the year with weekly practices and organising games for the children.*





PTFA Roundup

The school would like to thank the PTFA for all their hard work over this year – they have raised thousands of pounds just in the last few weeks and this is down to the commitment of the committee, led by Richard Davies. This term alone, they have organised school discos, the summer fair and raffle, and the Etwall Music Festival (in conjunction with the cricket club) just this last weekend. They have funded numerous enrichment activities in school for the children and are committed next year to funding all transport costs for school visits together with the many visiting groups we have to the school. Our Y6 pupils will also receive a gift from the school funded by the PTFA at the end of this week. This all takes a lot of dedicated effort for which we are extremely grateful.

However, we are in danger of losing many of these events for the children if we do not manage to get more parents/carers interested in supporting the PTFA. Many of the PTFA members who led the organisation of key events this year will be leaving the school next school year as their children move on to JPS. Without parents/carers who are willing to step up and support the school through the PTFA, then events like the summer fair will not be happening next school year ☹️

The school PTFA needs more support – we need people who will help organise the regular events such as film night and discos but who are also prepared to take a part in organising our bigger events such as the summer fair and the raffle or even to being ideas for new events. Please help us and get involved even if it is only with one event – it's all for the benefit of your children. Please email the PTFA committee over the summer on etwallpta@gmail.com or come to the first PTFA

meeting in the autumn term on Wednesday 21st September at 6.30pm in the Spread Eagle. We look forward to seeing you.



The final total for the summer fair is £1,540. Thank you to everyone who supported this event and especially to the PTFA members (past and present) who organised it and to those who ran stalls. A big thank you to also to school staff that helped at the event. A special thank you to Richard Davies who led his team splendidly and was seen racing about on the night making sure everything was running well – Thank you Richard.

Etwall Music Festival

A better day could not have been picked! Beautiful sun shine, fabulous music throughout the event and a real family atmosphere.



The music programme was packed and enjoyed by all. It was lovely to see so many family's having a great afternoon out and we hear the bar at the cricket club did rather well! Thank you for all your support and again to Richard and the PFTA for arranging such a great event.



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Woodpeckers and Robins – Save the Children Fundraiser

This is the last one of the year – thank you to all parents/carers for supporting the children's charity so well this year. We will have a final total for you in September when all monies have come in and have been added up. The children have had great fun planning and doing

the events. Woodpeckers and Robin reception children and staff raised money for *Save The Children* by coming to school in their PJ's. We had a fun and relaxing day and even decorated biscuits which were sold after school. **The children raised £ 82.55.** Ospreys all participated in a 45 minute activity, completely the children's idea, in which they had (In pairs) 15 minutes to discuss and invent a modern day invention for children, followed by 30 minutes of **silence** to record their ideas using diagrams, labels and captions. A successful activity and the **children raised £80.** The designs are currently displayed in classroom – please pop and have a look. Well done to everyone!

Assessment Roundup

You will have all received your child's school report by now and have had the opportunity to speak to the class teacher on Open Evening. Please could you remember to send your report slip back into school to acknowledge receipt of the report – you may wish to give feedback on the skip also. These are due in by Friday 22nd July. Thank you.

The school values the progress and development that each child makes in many areas – not just academic – and I hope this is communicated to you on a regular basis. We are working together to support your child in becoming a well-rounded, responsible citizen who values their education and lifelong learning, who feels part of the multi-faith and multi-cultural society in which we live and can show respect for others and have high standards for themselves. We are proud to be a school that warmly welcomes parents and children from around the world and we cherish the cultural enrichment that this brings to the school as a whole. We see this very much as a positive for our school and for the children in it. Central government will decide on the best course of action following the referendum regarding coming out of the EU, but we will continue to welcome and embraces diversity and inclusion at Etwall Primary School.

GOVERNOR CORNER

We are very proud of the schools end of year results and they have been celebrated in school by the children, staff and school governors. They compare extremely well with the published national figures which is very pleasing, especially as it has been a year of considerable change and disruption which Miss Dixey described in the information sent home with your child's school report. The governments headline figure of 53% was for Y6 pupils who had achieved a **combined** expected outcome in reading, writing and maths. This illustrates how difficult the tests were and also how much harder the Y6 curriculum now is. **Etwall Primary achieved a combined figure of 74% - 21% higher than the national figure.** The main area that some children did not meet Y6 expected in was writing – this is because the expectations on the children are dramatically different under the new national curriculum which they only started in September 2015.





Here are the highlights from across the school – they will very soon be on the school web site also.

Key Stage 1 end of year assessment results:

	Phonic Check	Reading	writing	maths	SPAG / GAPS
Year 1	88% (77% nationally in 2015)				
Year 2	90% of pupils passed overall	88%	63%	86%	100%

Writing is a whole school area for development in 2016-17 as we continue to address the higher expectations for each year group across the school. However, we are very proud of the children and await the national figures in comparison.

EYFS attainment was 71% of children reaching a good level of development (ie reached the Early Learning Goals) compared to 66% nationally in 2015. Well done to all the EYFS children!

Key Stage 2 end of year assessment results:

	Combined Re/Wr/Ma	Reading	writing	maths	SPAG / GAPS
Year 6	74%	89%	78%	86%	94%
	21% above national figure	23% above national figure	4% above national figure	16% above national figure	24% above national figure

The school was moderated in writing and no teacher assessments were changed – this is super as it confirms that we are assessing accurately against the new national curriculum expectations for year groups. We are very proud of our Y6 pupils as they have achieved in many different ways as they have come through the school – these results only show one way in which they have developed. Well done to Y6!

Other Governor news: We warmly welcome Susannah Leask to the Governing Body as a Local Authority Governor. Susannah attended her first FGB meeting this term and we are sure she will make a fantastic contribution to the school for the benefit of the children.



Our most sincere thanks to... Mrs Holmes and Miss Grindulis who have been with us this year in Sparrowhawks and Robins class. Mrs Holmes has been covering Miss Gale's maternity leave and Miss Grindulis has been covering for Miss Peel's sickness absence. Both teachers have made a great contribution to the school and we have really enjoyed having them as members of staff in school this year. We wish them every success as they move on to their next schools! Thank you.





SAFEGUARD UPDATES:

Miss Dixey and Jo Jones, Safeguard Governor, have recently completed the Annual Safeguard Audit and will be submitting the audit and an action plan to DCC before the end of term. Mrs Jones will report key actions to parents/carers in the September newsletter and keep you updated on Safeguard issues throughout next year.

Class / swimming Volunteers – new induction from September 2016

One of the agreed actions from the safeguarding audit is to further improve the induction of volunteers into school life. This means everyone who comes into school to help us who are not members of school staff. This will start in September 2016 and will mean that all volunteers will need to do the induction before starting to work with staff and children in school. The induction pack is to be completed by Miss Dixey over the summer and will be a check list of information you must read and understand plus a face to face meeting to go over school procedures and policies. Don't worry – it won't be too time consuming as I know that our volunteers just want to get into school and help as quickly as possible. Miss Dixey has a list of all current class and swimming volunteers and will be writing to you all over the summer to invite you to an induction session during the first week of the new term. If you would like to volunteer in school from September, please speak to Miss Dixey or the school office so that your induction can be arranged. Thank you for your continued support.

Summer Safeguarding

Most of us look forward to the summer break but for some young people of any school age it can be a time of anxiety, especially for those who rely on regular face to face contacts with their friends or who enjoy the security and structure provided by the school day. If you are concerned about any young person in respect of their emotional wellbeing or you feel that they are vulnerable to harm or abuse, you may wish to contact one of the agencies below:

- *Call Derbyshire (Derbyshire County Council Social Services) 01629 593 193*
- *First Contact (Derby City Council Social Services): 01332 641172*
- *First Response (Staffordshire County Council Social Services) 0800 1313 126 [Emergency out of hours: 0345 604 2886]*
- *Child Line 0800 1111*
- *Safe and Sound (for those at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation) 01332 362120*
- *24 Hour Anonymous Helpline Text or Call 116 000*
- *Police 101 (999 in an emergency)*
- *Crimestoppers UK 0800 555 111*

The relaxed atmosphere of a summer break can also lead to young people lowering their guard. Please continue to talk to the young people in your care about internet and social media safety and encourage them to share any concerns that they have about any contacts they receive.

SUN SAFE SCHOOLS AWARD

Miss Lynch continues to lead the school in this award. Even though each classroom now has a sun cream dispenser, please remember to apply sun cream to your child each morning and ensure that they have a sun hat in school. Please remember over the summer the 5 S's rule!





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SLIP, SLOP, SLAP, SLIDE, SHADE!

This means: SLIP on a t-shirt, SLOP on some sun-cream, SLAP on a hat, SLIDE on some sunglasses and find some SHADE. The children have been making good use of the shade in the recent hot weather and have been wearing their sun hats – **please support the school in ensuring that all children have a sun hat in school between March and November as part of your child's school uniform. These could be kept in your child's PE bag so it is always in school – thank you.**

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

PLEASE REFER TO THE SCHOOL WEB SITE CALENDAR in September for key dates.

INSET Days for 2016 -17: The following days have been set for 2016 -17 so far. Children **will not** be in school on these days. Two more dates are yet to be set and will be sent out in September.
Monday 5th September 2016, Friday 11th November 2016 and Friday May 26th 2017.

JULY 2016

Fri 22nd Children finish school for Summer Holidays.
Mon 25th School Closed
Tues 26th School Closed

SEPTEMBER

Mon 5th **INSET Day** – school closed for children
Tues 6th New school year starts for the children
Mon 12th Whole school Magician enrichment day funded by the PTFA
Tues 20th 5.15pm Governing Body AGM
Wed 21st PTFA Committee meeting at Spreadingeagle
Thurs 29th 30 chn to visit Toyota – science and engineering enrichment
Fri 30th School Council – MacMillan Coffee Morning 10.15-11.15am in school hall

More dates will follow in September's newsletter. Any changes in dates will be advertised well in advance and a text sent out.

We apologies for the length of the newsletter! We seem to have done a lot...at least you have all summer to read it all. We will endeavour to send more regular shorter ones in 2016-17. ☺

We look forward to welcoming you all back on Tuesday September 6th along with our new reception children, other new children across the school along with Mr Ormiston, Mrs Dawson (Falcons job share with Miss Gale), Mr Jowett (now a permanent member of staff) and Mrs Fisher-Jones for another year.



Please have a fun filled, enjoyable family summer and please stay safe!

**Sally Dixey,
Headteacher**

