

October Newsletter

1st October 2019

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This week, Nightingale Class has reported a fantastic amount of real-life learning about our local environment, rivers and fieldwork skills whilst on their trip to Holmebrook Valley. Darwin will be going on Friday. Please do make sure they have a waterproof coat and wellington boots if possible.

Individual and Group School Photographs

These will take place on Monday 14th October. If you have a child who is not at the junior school and you would like a family group photograph with them, please come from 8.30am and stay with your children in the hall. This can involve some waiting so you may prefer to bring something to keep little ones busy. Sibling photographs of children at the juniors will take place once the individual photographs during the day have finished. If you DO NOT wish your child / siblings to have their photograph taken please let the School Office know before **Monday 14th October**.

Year 4 Class Assembly

Year 4 children will soon be looking forward to sharing some of their learning with you in their class assembly. Sharman Class with Mrs Everitt and Turing Class with Mr Baker will share their work with you at **9.15am on THURSDAY 17th October.** Parents and Carers of Year 4 children are welcome to attend. Tickets are not issued. Please remember that any photographs are for your personal use only. We anticipate that you will not post images of other children to your social media. Please come through the main entrance for a 9.15am start. It will last about 30minutes.

Governing Body Matters

I'd like to take this opportunity to inform you that Mr Martin Fielder has joined our Governing Body as a co-opted governor. Mr Fielder has expertise in computing and technical infrastructure. At the meeting on 30th September, Mr Wall was appointed as Chair of our Governing Body. As part of planned succession, we would like parents to begin to consider joining the governing body as a parent governor. This process is likely to take place after Christmas. Governors are currently evaluating their skills across the board, but if you have skills and knowledge in child development, legal or education – please do consider yourself for nomination. If you'd like more informal information about the role, please do get in touch.

Live Theatre in School

Years 3, 4 and 5 experienced live theatre in school last Friday watching 'Pinocchio'. Responding to the drama, many have written about the character of Pinocchio and how he felt when he told the truth. Honesty is one of our five school values and the children are brilliant at showing honesty in school even though it can be hard if we've made a mistake. A great show that we've learned so much from.



HARVEST FESTIVAL 2019



THANK YOU so much for so many generous donations for the food bank collection. We will still be collecting until the end of the week.

Children are preparing some super songs to celebrate the harvest and give thanks for all the wonderful things that grow.

Children in Year 4 have been learning about community and understanding how this food will help. Thank you again for your generosity.

School Councillors

Children across the school have been thinking about what they may be able to offer as a School Councillor. Many are children who set a great example to others modelling respect and responsibility. Lots have ideas that they will suggest and work with staff in school to realise. One example of this is the request to plant a chestnut tree in the grounds. Class elections are taking place. Once elected, their first task is to review our anti-bullying charter, promote friendship and plan our Friendhip (anti-bullying) Week 2019.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations are due to take place in the week beginning Monday 21st October. Letters have been sent home. As Mrs Everitt will be training to become a Forest School Level 3 Practitioner during that week, the meetings for Sharman Class are being held the previous week. Mrs Crutchley and Miss Holmes will be teaching Sharman Class during that week. Do get in touch if you haven't received a letter. We very much hope that you can come.

Clubs

Jumping Clay – Tuesday – all year groups to 4.30pm www.jumpingclay.co.uk Choir – Wednesday to 4.15pm (Y5 and Y6) Breakfast Club – each morning from 8am After School Club to 5.30pm Football Club – Fridays to 4.30pm all year groups Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 1st October Year 5 & 6 Girls Football Festival

Wednesday 2nd October Y5/6 Racketfest

Wednesday 11th October Y3&4 Girls Football Festival

Monday 14thOctober Photographs

Thursday 10th October Harvest Festival (children)

Year 4 Class Assembly 9.15am Thursday 17th October

Friday 18th October WEAR IT PINK COFFEE AFTERNOON 2pm

School Closes Friday 25th^h October 3.25pm. Children return Monday 4th November.



www.onceaweektakeapeek.c
om has some great advice on
head lice management.
Watch the animation that's
available and parents can go

www.facebook.com/onceaw eektakeapeek for more

Online Resources Reminder & Home Support

Getting the amount of 'homework' right is always debateable with some parents wanting more and some wanting less. We aim to provide a range of suggestions for learning at home but appreciate children take different amounts of time to complete tasks. Do talk to us if you'd like any advice or help with homework. Here's a summary of some of the options available.

Abacus Mathematics and Wordsmith interactive reading books. Individual letters and log on details will be sent home. The school code is pr93. Look out for interactive spelling activities too. Do turn Pop Ups off in your settings to enable the games. There may be a compatibility problem between some browsers and Active Learn. Please get in touch if you need to discuss this.

www.interactive-resources.co.uk

User brockwell Password brockwell click RESOURCES

This is a great site for games. Have a go at: **Table Mountain**, Multiplying Monkeys, Splat, Ghost Numbers and lots more games to make learning maths fun. By the end of year four, children are expected to be able to recite tables to 12 X 12 confidently (1X2 is 2, 2X2 is 4 etc). Supporting your child and encouraging him/her with this at home is essential if children are to succeed. These games will help key arithmetic skills.

www.oxfordowl.co.uk

A super resource on which you can set up a home account: ebooks, maths games and lots more.

<u>www.readtheory.org</u> This is an excellent option for reading if your child enjoys non-fiction. Once you have completed the first few quizzes, it responds to your child's reading progress.

TTROCKSTARS – Currently Year 4 with Year 3 to sign up next term Times Tables Rock Stars is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times tables practice. Each week concentrates on a different times table, with a recommended consolidation week for rehearsing the tables that have recently been practised every third week or so. There's a competitive element too. The average score for our school can be compared with other schools taking part.

https://www.prodigygame.com/

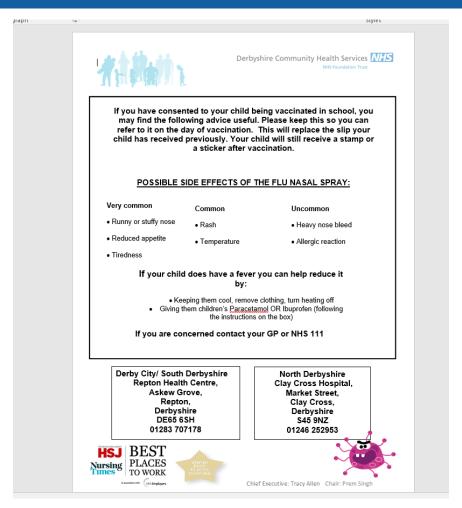
Some year groups are using Prodigy Maths to bring even more excitement to mathematics.

Digital Parenting – there are many online safety links on our website and an electronic copy of the 'Digital Parenting' magazine. Copies are available in the hall for you to collect during parent consultations if you are interested.

Spellings – Specific spellings for each year group in our national curriculum are listed in the learning pages of the school website. If you'd like to practise some of these statutory spelling words, please find them in our year group learning pages. Some classes are using **SPELLING SHED** and an app called **'Squeebles'** is excellent for motivating children to learn downloadable lists and lists you can create yourself.

Handwriting

Year 3 teachers are asked to teach children how to join their writing. A cursive, joined script supports the fluency of writing and can help children present their work legibly if letters are formed and joined accurately. I've included some example sheets for you to use at home should your child be asking for extra practice. Any child with an established, joined style will NOT be asked to change.



Safequarding and Family Support

We have been providing support for children and families proudly working in partnership with you over the years. This may be nurture work, accessing other agencies or family liaison. Mrs Graham champions our Pupil Premium Children in school and will support you with attendance matters. All schools now must ensure they are providing Early Help Support for families. Early Help support covers a wide range of areas such as child anxiety, self-esteem, bereavement, relationships, parenting support and attendance – and many more. In addition to our ongoing work, we now have Sarah Wilson working in school on Friday afternoons as a Family Support Worker.

The Local Authority still has a statutory responsibility for Safeguarding across the county. If we have concerns about a child, we refer to Starting Point which remains the same. Sarah will work very closely with parents and school staff to ensure she supports children and families in our school community as required. Sarah will be around school on Fridays at pick up, so she can get to know and meet everyone. If you would like to meet or contact Sarah, please call the school office.

Sarah has already proved to have had a positive and sensitive manner with children and parents who are benefitting from her work. Do come and speak to us if at any time you think you need signposting or advice.