

Friday 17th July 2015

Dear Parents / Carers,

Only a week to go until the summer holidays! We can't believe how fast this year has gone. Looking back, it has been full of activity and enrichment for the children. Thank you for all your support during this year and we are looking forward to 2015-16 already (after a good rest first of course!). I'm sure you all had lots of suggestions on your child's school report as to what you could do over the summer to help your child. Please have a relaxing summer with your family.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND WOWS THE AUDIENCE!



Year 5 and 6 children have been practicing hard for their end of year show and succeed in wowing the rest of the school and parents with their word perfect performance. The singing was superb – what a lot of songs the children had to learn! Thank you to all parents / carers who helped with costumes and must have spent hours helping their child to learn lines – we couldn't have done it with

you. I wonder what they will do next year...



MATHS CHALLENGE at JPS

On the 7th July, 8 children from Etwall Primary School went to a John Port Maths Challenge. They split into 2 teams: Etwall Rangers (James, Jacob, Chloe and Finley) and Etwall Rovers (Jack, Brandon, Rosie and Jeremy). The two teams were against 8 other teams including Silverhill, Church Broughton and many more.



The first round was a team round where each team got 20 questions to do in 45 minutes, which were extremely hard. Both teams did well, picking up many points. Next up was the logic round, both teams found this rather easy and finished well inside the time limit. After that was the shuttle round. Rangers were pessimistic about their chances as one half of the team had to do a question then the other half did one more, something the teams agreed wasn't one of their strengths but the teams got through, collecting a few points. The fourth round was following the base of the first round but with

less questions and less time to do them. Rangers and Rovers both did well and completed most question. Round 5 was the final round where you had 10 questions. You had a number that was your target number and had to make that number using other select numbers and the operations $+$ \times \div $-$ and $()$. We had 2 minutes to do each question. Both teams did very well.

At the end everyone was seated and ready for the winners to be announced. ***The winners were Etwall rangers who jumped up in excitement. They won a trophy and were congratulated by the whole school.***

By James and Jacob - Ospreys Y6





EPS PIGEON NEWS!



Miss Walton is getting regular updates on our school racing pigeon "Dash". If you remember we asked Mr Smedley to breed and rear our pigeon until it is ready to be taken to the RPRA's loft at Birtsmorton, near Tewksbury. Dash is now there and is being trained and raced along with many other pigeons. Dash had the last training race on July 9th and raced against 561 other birds. Here is Dash's result which can also be seen on the link below. We will keep you updated in the Autumn.

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<http://rpraoneloft.org/southern/2015/07/09/12-miles-liberated-at-11am-light-nw-wind-first-560-back/>

SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE: RAINBOWS HOSPICE.



Each class has been very busy this term organising their class event to raise funds for the children's chosen charity – Rainbow Hospice. We are very proud of the children, as they yet again, have really taken this charity to their heart and have worked so hard to do their best for the children supported by Rainbow Hospice. **A final figure will be announced before the end of term!** *Thank you for your tremendous support.*

Eagles : Rainbows Hospice event

To raise money for Rainbows Hospice, Eagles class ran sponsored laps of the playground. The children all put in a tremendous effort, running as many laps as they could in 20 minutes. Their determination to do well was an inspiration to see! I am delighted to announce that Eagles managed to raise £744.70 for this very worthy cause. Well done to the children for their efforts and for doing their best to raise money for this wonderful charity. Thank you also to all family and friends who have offered their support by sponsoring the children.

Robins Disney Day and money snake

Robins had a great time on their dressing up day in aid of the Rainbow Hospice. They brought in loose change and we made a 'Money Snake' that stretched from our classroom door to the traversing wall! Well done Robins a super effort! ***Please see class pages on the school web site for other updates.***

KS1 CONKERS!

The visit was fantastic! The children found lots of minibeasts in their natural habitats and the rangers were very good at drawing out of the children what they already knew and then building on it. The



children were most excited when they found a newt hidden under a log! This visit really reinforced habitat work that the children were doing in school and gave them chance to explore a wider range of minibeasts environments. Our children set a very good example. They listened carefully, behaved well and were sensible - we are really proud of them all. There were lots of comments about how much they had enjoyed the day. Thank you to the KS1 team and to parents who came to help the children – much appreciated.





SPORTS MORNING AND PICNIC – WELL DONE TO BLUE TEAM!

Thank you to everyone who attended - we all had a fantastic time, and the weather for a change was really kind to us - not too hot, and not wet! We also had more supporters than we can remember before - thank you. It made a really nice atmosphere on the field for the morning. Both field and track events were enjoyed by all and the children were all very keen to get points for their team, with the lead changing throughout the morning! We still weren't sure who was going to win so the KS2 relays and the cannon race became very important. **A big WELL DONE to everyone!**

YEAR 6 ROLLS ROYCE DESIGN CHALLENGE SUCCESS

Two teams of four year 6 pupils went to a Rolls Royce Design Challenge at Ripley Junior School. There were lots of teams competing from other schools. When we first arrived we thought it would be easy but then when we got started we realised it would be hard! We worked as two teams to build a cable car, which we had to design ourselves. One of our teams won the judges award for design and the other team came second. We really enjoyed it and we would love to do it again. Thank you to Mrs Hendriksen for organising this for us and Mr Hanbury and Miss King for coming to help us too!
By Emilio and Sam (Eagles)



YEAR 6 GIRLS : ENGINEERING DAY AT JCB

Last month six year 6 girls went to a 'Women in Engineering' day at the JCB Academy. The first activity was called Egg Crash, where there was a little cart and we had to protect the egg using different materials, then put it in the cart. It went down a big slope and everybody's egg survived! The second thing we did was to think what engineering is and we wrote about it with our groups. Our final activity was to build a crane that could hold the most 100g blocks. It was really fun! At the end we were given a certificate for taking part. Thank you to Mrs Cheetham for going with us and Miss Dixey for organising this for us!
By Ofna and Trinity (Eagles).



LANGUAGES DAY

This is an annual event which we look forward to every year, when student teachers from Derby University come in to school and spend the day teaching the children about a different country. Throughout the day the children learn about the culture and language of another country, through fun activities, songs, games, books and more. By the end of the day the children are able to showcase the new phrases they have learnt in French, German or Spanish in our showcase assembly, and they are also more knowledgeable about the country that they have studied. We had a wonderful time this year, and we look forward to another Languages Day next year.



NEWSLETTER

YEAR 4 WOW US WITH UKULELE CONCERT!

We were so impressed with the Y4 Ukulele concert! Thank you to all parents who were able to join us for this event. Year 4 children have spent this last year working hard with the Derbyshire Music Partnership (Joe and Anna) and have successfully learnt to play the Ukulele. Please visit the school web site to view the video of the concert. You will be impressed! Next year's Y4 will also have the same opportunity and were at the concert to see what is in store for them.



SEND SPORTS DAY – ROSLISTON FORESTRY CENTRE

Mrs Giles took a group of children to our annual trip to Rosliston. A member of staff from John Port School kindly drove us in the school minibus and we all had great fun taking part in a variety of sports. This year we did curling, bocchia, archery, cycling and table tennis.

SUN AWARENESS – BE SUN SAFE

Thank you to all parents / carers who have returned the completed forms for their child/ren. Please could you return them as a matter of urgency if you have not already done so. Please request a 2nd copy if you have mislaid your letter/form. It is very good to see that many more children are routinely wearing their sun hat when outside, but we still have a way to go and we would really appreciate your help to achieve 100% sun safe children.



The sun cream dispensers are now around school for the children to use to top up their sun cream as needed. Please continue to put sun cream on your child before school each morning. If your child is not allowed to use the sun cream due to an allergy, then please ensure this is clear on the form you have returned and make sure that your child knows they can only use sun cream provided by yourselves (named). The children have to put the sun cream on for themselves so please ensure that you have taught them to do so as well as possible. **Please be aware that the commitment is that your child keeps a sun hat in school from March to October. Please encourage them to wear one out of school too – be Sun Safe this summer!**



Legionnaire sun hats (team colours) are now in school and any ordered have been sent home today. There are "extra" in school that can be purchased at the office for £2.50 in team colours. Please put your child's name in all clothing items including their sun hat. We can only return clothing directly to your child if it is named. Thank you.

STAFFING UPDATE



Miss Featherstone will be leaving us at the end of the term for new adventures in Scotland! She has been with us as an Apprentice Teaching Assistant (Age UK) for this year and we will be very sorry to see her go! She has worked extremely hard to gain her Level 2 TA qualification – well done! Miss Featherstone will also be getting married this summer and we all wish her every happiness for the future.



NEWSLETTER



Miss King started her working life with us as an Apprentice TA (Age UK) 3 years ago and has been a permanent member of staff for the last year. We are very pleased that she continued with her qualifications and now has her Level 3! Well done Miss King.

Mrs Holmes has already been welcomed into the school on class changeover days and will be joining us for next year teaching in Sparrowhawks class whilst Miss Gale is on maternity leave over next year. We are looking forward to working with her full time from September.

Welcome

As you are aware, Miss Gale will be on maternity leave from early September. Miss Warburton will be Acting Deputy Headteacher for the duration of Miss Gale's maternity leave. She is currently a member of the Senior Management Team along with Miss Gale and Mrs Toynbee, who all work very closely with Miss Dixey.

SCHOOL ASSESMENTS 2015

We are very pleased with our assessment results this year and would like to thank you for the part that you, as parents, have played in securing such good results across the school. These have now been discussed with School Governors and also the Local Authority, both of which congratulated the school. A full set of results will be placed on the school web site in due course. We try very hard as a school to ensure that the children are relaxed about any external assessments they have to do and do not routinely discuss them with the children – it is what they do on a daily basis that we value and seek to develop in partnership with your child and yourselves. Thank you for supporting us in doing this.



Y5 BIKEABILITY

When we did Bikeability, we learned a variety of cycling skills and life skills such as a lifesaver look, an M-check and lots more. Before we started riding, we did the M-check (checking the front wheel, handlebars, pedals, saddle and the back wheel).

After practicing signals, U-turns and much more (left turn in, left turn out, right turn in, right turn out, positions 1,2 and 3), we set off on a bike ride around Etwall and used the things we learned during our period of time with the experienced and intelligent Bikeability instructors. We had a wonderful time during the amazing Bikeability.

By Ronnie and Cameron Y5

KS1 BEACH DAYS

This term, children in KS1 have been learning all about Victorian seaside holidays. To help us with our learning we have had 3 beach theme days. We were lucky enough to welcome a professional Punch and Judy show to visit Etwall Primary School. Not only did we get to see a fantastic traditional show, each class did a workshop with the puppeteer to learn all about the history of the Punch and Judy show and also to have a practise with some real puppets!



As part of our English lessons, we had a go at creating our own Punch and Judy play, complete with traditional characters and voices!





During the other beach days children had a fabulous time playing beach games, flying kites, and doing some fishing! They used wax resist to create a rock pool picture and wrote postcards home to tell you all about their adventures. As the weather was nice and hot children also made fruit mock-tails to enjoy outside, complete with mini paper umbrellas and straws! The kitchen staff very kindly put on a beach themed lunch, complete with fish, chips and mushy peas. For dessert children had an ice-cream cone served by Miss Cox and Miss Lynch. Miss Goodchild also got in on the act and put on a pool party for the children to enjoy! The children have had a great time doing all of the various beach themed activities!



WANT US TO EMAIL LETTERS TO YOU?



Please pop into the school office and let Mrs Collins or Mrs East know your email address – all letters can then be emailed to you. This is more environmentally friendly for the school. All letters are also put on the school web site, so please check there too. If you type the school name into a search engine it will come up for you. It is always on the top of school letters too.

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

PLEASE REFER TO THE SCHOOL WEB SITE CALENDAR – new dates for next year will be put on for September.

Just a reminder that the last day for children to be in school this academic year is Friday 24th July 2015 and the Summer Open Evening is Monday 20th July 3.45pm to 5.30pm.

Term Dates for next year, 2015- 16 are:

- Term 1: 7th September to 23rd October 2015
- Term 2 2nd November to 18th December 2015
- Term 3 4th January to 12th February 2016
- Term 4 22nd February to 24th March 2016 (Good Friday 25th March)
- Term5 11th April to 27th May 2016 (Bank Holiday May 2nd 2016)
- Term 6 6th June to 26th July 2016

INSET Days for 2015 -16

The following days have been set for 2015-16. Children **will not** be in school on these days.

Monday 7th September 2015
 Friday 18th September 2015
 Friday 27th May 2016
 Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th July 2016

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

Sally Dixey, Headteacher

