



Pottery News - APRIL NEWS 2022

www.pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

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Dear Parents/ Carers

Thank you for all your support this half term. It has been great to be back full time this half term (apart from another covid week!!) and I have really enjoyed seeing all of your lovely children.

I hope you all will have some time to relax over Easter and enjoy some time with your family.

Some sad news for us and happy news for Mr Hartley's family! Mr Hartley is retiring in July! Mr Hartley has been a year 6 teacher at Pottery for 16 years. He is looking forward to spending more time with his family and new baby grand-daughter.

And his bike will get some serious miles notched up!!

On behalf of the children, staff, parents and governors, I would like to thank Mr Hartley for all his hard work at Pottery. He will be greatly missed, but I'm hoping he will be tempted back for supply!

Thank you for all the completed parental questionnaires. The governors will be analysing them and will be working with the Leadership Team to address any issues raised. I have read most of them and they are overwhelmingly positive which is fantastic, seeing as the last two years have been so difficult for everyone. Communication and the web-site were mentioned many times. We are busy creating a new web-site which I feel will be much more user friendly for all. We will also be looking carefully at how to minimise communication methods so that it is clearer for everyone.

Thank you so much for the donations towards the Ukraine Appeal and Comic Relief, we raised over £200 for each cause which is amazing! Your support is always appreciated and the children always really enjoy a themed day. We are talking to the school council to organise more theme day Fridays.

The children have been working hard and here is a little information and some inspiring photos to share with you;

Reception

This term we have investigated life cycles and Spring. We have had our own caterpillars which we have watched as they formed a chrysalis and then turn into beautiful butterflies. We have been on a walk around our school environment searching for signs of Spring, finding new flowers growing and blossom on our own tree in the playground. We have enjoyed getting our hands dirty and helping to plant new seeds and bulbs ready to have a beautiful garden for Summer, so thank you for all your donations that have helped us to have such fun and make our playground a lovely place to be and learn. Our last week has been filled with Easter fun- hunting for phonics Easter eggs, sewing our own little eggs and tasting some Easter treats!



Years 1/2



In Key Stage 1 this month we have been learning about Belper. We have walked around our local area and thought about what we like about where we live and what we could improve. We have also had visitors from the Stutt's North Mill who taught us all about the history of the mill and what it was like to be a child working at the mill in the past. Then they taught us how to make our very own peg dolls!

In science we have been experimenting with cress seeds and finding out what plants need to grow. We really enjoyed our mindful day! We spent the morning on our MUGA doing lots of different activities including making friendship bracelets, playing with the sports equipment and creating beautiful artwork with chalk.



Years 3 and 4



In year 3 and 4, we have carried on this half term with our topic; Our World, Your Future and have continued our journey around the world. We started this half term with a stop in the world's forests and learnt all about

the 3 different types of forests. Did you know we lose the size of one football pitch in rainforests every 60 seconds?

We were completely shocked and even wrote letters to President Widodo of Indonesia when we heard he wanted to move his capital city to Borneo, the home of endangered orangutans!

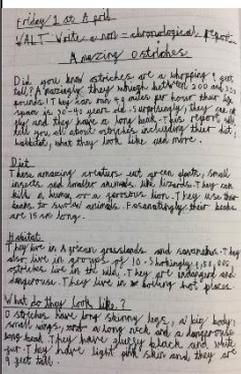
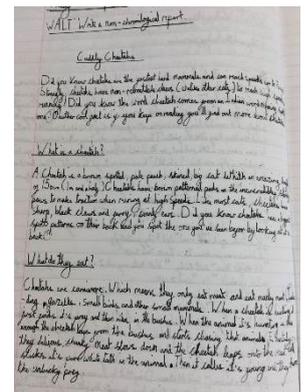
After this we then moved onto Africa and have learnt all about the amazing animals that live in this hot continent. We wrote some excellent non-chronological reports full of fascinating facts about our chosen animals.

Mindfulness day was a very relaxing day for us in year 3 and

4. We spent some of the day learning all about the artist

Gustav Klimt and had a go at recreating his tree of life. Take a look at our mood boards we produced - we think they are amazing!

This half term, the year 4's have also taken part in Bike-ability as well as starting their swimming lessons - they have certainly been very active indeed! We are all definitely looking forward to the Easter break!



Year 5/6

We have had another exciting term in Year 5/6.

We enjoyed 'World Book Day' and came dressed as a book character for the day! We also took part in a Book Café during the morning, looking at non fiction books all about our topic: World War II,



enjoying war poems and researching a recipe using rations, whilst having some treats - of course!

As our topic this term is World War II, our topic homework was to make a model of something from the war, this could be an Anderson Shelter in the garden, or a Spitfire plane, or even



a gas

mask! We LOVED bringing in our work to share with the other classes and really enjoyed seeing all the different ideas! It was great to see how families had worked together on the models and children had really enjoyed making them as well as sharing them.



shirts into bags, and headbands and show off all of our really enjoyed doing too!

We have really enjoyed taking part in some 'Make Do and Mend' this half term, which has involved bringing in some old clothes and either patching/fixing them up or making them into something completely new! We saw some fabulous ideas - some children turned t-

shorts into skirts! We also had some gloves! We then had a fashion parade to outfits before we took them home. We this and improved our sewing skills



As part of our Book



Café on World Book Day, we



researched different recipes that we would be able to make using rations (as they had during WW2). We decided to try out one of the recipes and see how nice they were! The



children all made some 'Carrot Cookies' and

despite initially not being impressed with the carrot in them, they really liked them!

In Science this half term, we have been looking at the circulatory system. As part of





this, we studied the heart and carried out an investigation to see how much our heart rate increased after 1 minute, 3 minutes and 5 minutes of exercise. We used the data loggers to do this and most children had the chance to measure their own heart rate to see the difference! It was a great science lesson!

Paceball

From Monday 25th of April we will be running Paceball for key stage 2 children. Have fun!

Monday 26th will be for Mr Hartley's class and Miss Scrowston /Mrs Illingworth's class.

Student Teachers in school

We are always very supportive of aspiring teachers and we have welcomed some new students in school to join us in Key Stage One They will be joining classes across school and gaining a huge amount of positive experiences to help them with their teaching journey!

Monday 25th April - two student teachers will begin their placement in Reception.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, Mrs Locker is saying "Goodbye" to Pottery. Fortunately the children will still see Mrs Locker on the 25th and 26th April, as part of a handover to the new teacher Mrs Walters.

Future events

Year 3/4 visit to Mount Cook - Thursday 28th or Friday 29th April (depending on the year group)

Tuesday 26th April - Parent Meeting Lea Green - Hall 5:00-6:00pm

Monday 9th - Thursday 12th May - Year 6 SATS (more information to follow)

Thursday 12th May - Wonderful on Tap (Severn Trent Education Team) coming to visit the children
09:00-12:00 Year 3/4

Monday 16th May - Cooking Event with Mrs Marriot all week - Year 6

Thursday 19th May (all day) & Friday 20th May (pm) - Summer Fitness Testing

Thursday 26th May - Year 3/4 - Roman day in school

Monday 23rd May - KS1 Football at Belper

Monday 6th June - INSET day

Tuesday 7th June - Tough Runner

Wednesday 8th June to Friday 10th June - Lea Green Residential

Covid Update

A huge thankyou for your support with Covid and for keeping your child off if they have tested positive. I do realise this is not compulsory but the staff have welcomed your support in this. The other Belper schools have given similar advice to parents.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I am usually on the front gate in the morning and after school.

My email address is

epeach@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

Have a great Easter everyone.

Mrs Peach