



November News 2021



Hi everyone,

It's great to be back in school after a well earned half term break. This term is such a colourful term and already in school, the children have been learning about the celebration of Diwali, finding out about Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot and taking part in a whole school silence for Remembrance Day. Next week is out Anti Bullying Week and after that, we will begin to think about getting ready for Christmas.

COVID Update

We currently have a few positive cases in school. Thank you to all parents and carers for supporting the school and community by continuing to be cautious, contacting the school when a child is unwell and testing when necessary. Please keep children at home if they have any of the symptoms of COVID.

We continue to remind the children about hands, face, space. Please continue to help keep our staff, children and each other safe at the end of the day by:



- Continuing to wear a mask when entering school.
- Using the space available to wait for your child at the end of the day.
- Leaving the school site promptly once you have collected your child so there is space for the next year group to go out.
- please could parents of high school children ask them to come onto the playground to meet younger siblings on their own, whilst their friends wait in a space outside the gate.

Children in Need

Friday November 19th. Mrs Marriott and the catering team are going to make Pudsey bear biscuits for all the children in school and the children are going to ice and decorate them in class.

This should be a lovely end to our anti-bullying work around 'One Kind Word'.

If you would like to send a donation of a £1 (optional), school will send the donation to Children in Need.



Y1/2 morning drop off

When it was drizzly on Wednesday morning, the year 1/2 children went straight into class rather than playing on the playground (apologies for the confusion for some children). This proved to work really well and the younger children were able to come in, and get organised for a much prompter start to the school day. Staff also appreciated the extra time for reading with the children. As the weather turns colder and wetter, it seems to make sense for the children to go inside as soon as possible. From **MONDAY**, the children will go straight into class rather than wait in the playground. EYFS will continue to be collected at the gate and taken round to base by a member of staff.

TEAMS

During the school closure, the junior children used Microsoft Teams as a platform for home learning and live lessons. Whilst we hope we will not have to go back to home learning, we would like to start and use Microsoft Teams again as a platform for links to the websites we use regularly in school and a way of keeping you informed about what is happening in your child's year group.



Look out for a letter via Parent Pay on **Monday 15th November**, which will show you how you can access your child's class Teams site. The children will also be bringing home their usernames and logins on Monday. Usernames and logins will be kept in the back of your child's reading record. On the Teams platform, you will see announcements from your child's class teacher and information about Reading, Writing and Topic. You will also find useful links to our Accelerated Reader site and TT Rockstar, Tapestry (for Reception).

Reading

Hopefully, this week, you will have received information about Reading at Pottery Primary School, Accelerated Reader and how to quiz at home. We are working hard in school to develop a love of reading and continue to develop class reading areas so children want to go and read.

Please continue to help your child practise their reading book at home, sign in your child's reading book and keep sharing stories together.

Look out for our '**GET READING**' newsletter which will start in December.



Anti-Bullying Week - Monday 15th - 19th November

This year's theme is - One Kind Word
November 15th - Odd socks day. Wear your odd socks to school as we start our week learning about the importance of friendship, kindness and acceptance of others.



Christmas Sing

We have thought long and hard about how we can bring a little bit of Christmas back to Pottery. We have made the decision not to sing in Church again this year and instead have an outdoor Christmas Sing. The children in years 1-6 have been involved in a singing project which has been organised and delivered by a singing teacher from The Derbyshire Music Partnership. Classes have been really busy learning some amazing songs and we would like to share them with you (as well as a few Christmas songs).

It won't quite be the same as we have done in the past but is a step towards sharing some of the great work we are very proud of.

We are hoping that, as this will be an outdoor event, staff, parents and children can continue to feel safe and be able to find a space to share our singing.

We have set 2 dates aside - **Monday 13th December at 2.30pm** and, in case of severe rain / snow / very cold weather, the **20th December at 2.30pm**.

As you can imagine, there are still quite a few things to organise before we are ready and more details about our Christmas Sing will follow.



Enterprise week

Our School enterprise week will take place between the 13th and 17th December. Each year group will come up with a product to sell. They will start with £10 to buy necessary materials and see how much profit they can make.

Hopefully, they can come up with a saleable product and you will support their efforts. All profit goes directly back to the class for a purchase of their choice.

How will our young entrepreneurs do?

Look out for information on your child's class enterprise on their Teams Class page after the 15th November

Christmas Cards

This year, we would like to do the same with Christmas cards as last year. If the children would like to send cards to their friends at Christmas, we are asking the children to write their cards for children within the year group (reception, year 1/2, year 3/4 or year 5/6) and give them to their class teacher by the 10th December. The class teachers will then leave the cards over the weekend, sort out the cards and give them to the children the following week.

Things to look forward to this term

11th November - Remembrance Day

15th - 19th November - Anti Bullying week

15th November - Odd socks day

15th November - Handball competition for Y1/2 at Belper Leisure Centre

19th November - Children in Need day (Children icing Pudsey bear biscuits in class £1 donation toward Children in need optional)

22nd November - Year 5/6 Basket ball competition at Belper Leisure Centre

25th November - Y5/6 Derbyshire County football final at Shirebrook Academy

29th November - Y3/4 Handball at Belper Leisure Centre

3rd December - Year 3/4 visit to Creswell Craggs (return to school for 4.30pm)

10th December - Deadline for Christmas cards coming into school (Children can wear party clothes)

13th December - Christmas Sing 2.30pm (weather permitting)

16th December - Y3/4 Christmas Party Day (Children can wear party clothes)

17th December - Y5/6 Christmas Party Day (Children can wear party clothes)

17th December - School Christmas Dinner

20th December - EYFS/Y1/Y2 Christmas Day (Children can wear party clothes)

(reserve day for Christmas sing in case of bad weather the week before)

Tuesday 21st December - Last day of term

Monday 10th January - New term starts

A few reminders

- Please make sure all clothing is named (including coats / hats / scarves / gloves)
- For Health and Safety reasons, we have a no jewellery policy in school. If your child has pierced ears, please use the plastic retainers rather than earrings when coming to school.
- Our uniform for PE is - Plain Navy shorts / joggers, white tee shirt, plain navy top and trainers

As always, please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher or the school office if there is anything we can do to support with your child's learning or well being

Very many thanks

L. Nicholson (Assistant Head Teacher)

