

Newsletter: **SPRING** Term 1 2022



A happy new year to you all. We have been very busy since coming back to school and we are excited to share all of the fabulous learning the children have been involved in.

Reception:



This term we have jumped into a collection of "Once Upon a Time" fairy tale stories. We have tried porridge with Goldilocks and the 3 bears, we built houses using different materials with the 3 little pigs and even designed a cape for Little Red Riding Hood so she could stay dry in the rain. We have been so busy. We made the most delicious gingerbread men which we ate as our Friday treat and to round it all off we

are going to the Ritz Cinema to watch Cinderella. We have had a



magical half term exploring different stories. We also learnt about Chinese New Year in which we did some dragon



dancing and tried some yummy noodles. Next half term we will be investigating Spring, discovering what plants need to grow and looking after our own plants and vegetables. If you have any seeds to donate, we would be really grateful to help with our learning and outdoor area.

Year 1&2:

This half term we have been learning all about castles and dragons. We have been looking at all of the different parts of a castle, we particularly liked learning about the dungeons.

We have been learning lots of interesting facts about Queen Elizabeth II and Queen Victoria. We know that this year is a special year for Queen Elizabeth as she has been our queen for 70 years. We are looking forward to celebrating the jubilee later in the year.





We have been caring for our dragon eggs and are waiting patiently for them to hatch. We will keep you posted.

Our big design project this half term is to make a moving dragon head, that is why we have been asking for any old boxes. We will spend some time designing them and then use pneumatics to make them move.



In science, we are learning about materials and the Year 2s have made their very own Materials Monster, he eats anything to do with materials.



We were very proud of our Year 1 and 2 dodgeball team. They played really well and did us all proud.

Year 3&4:



This half term in Year 3 and 4 we have started our brand-new topic; Our World, Your Future! We have been going on a journey around the world and have been exploring what it's like in different places. We have also been looking at some of the problems in these parts of the world and what we can do to help. So far, we have visited the Polar Regions and learnt all about Shackleton's expedition to Antarctica. We did an experiment to investigate why melting ice caps is a world problem and what we can do to help. Our next



stop, was under the sea where we read the story *Nen and the Lonely Fisherman* and then wrote our own creative stories based on the plot of *Nen* - they were brilliant! We produced some fantastic artwork after learning all about the different ocean layers and the animals that live in each. We are learning about the UK and have so far been looking at different landmarks and plotting them on our UK map. It has certainly been a very busy half term indeed!



Year 5&6:

We are enjoying our new topic 'What was it like to live through the Blitz?' focusing on World War Two. We started our topic with a trip to Beaumanor Hall in January.



We took part in three activities: Coding, Rationing and the Air Raid Shelter.



In the coding activity, we went into the Y station at Beaumanor, which used to be a coding station during WW2 and was disguised to look like a cottage, and took it in turns to listen to coded messages, write them down and then de-code them in groups. We really enjoyed it!

For the rationing activity, we went into an old school classroom and created our own ID cards, wrote postcards to people back home and then looked at the ingredients we would need for making a recipe during WW2. We learnt about lots of foods that were rationed and visited the shop to buy our ingredients. We then fed them to our teacher!



The air raid shelter was a shelter in the building at Beaumanor Hall. We learnt about the different types of gas masks, shelters and experienced an air raid by having the lights out and the siren with

the bombs in the background - it was quite scary! We then had a 'sing-song' with some of the WW2 songs, as the children would have done to keep themselves entertained back then.



Our topic in science is 'Light' and we have been doing some work on shadows as well as making our own periscopes from an old cereal box! This was good fun!



This week has been our 'Safety week' and we have had a focus on 'growing together' (supporting each other and helping to encourage each other) linking to mental health week, as well as looking at Internet Safety and also a workshop on Road Safety! We've had a busy week!

We are also looking forward to our Y5/6 Dodgeball tournament next week at Belper Leisure Centre!



Holly C in Year 1 has achieved her stage 2 swimming certificate. Well done Holly for being so brave!

Ben W in Year 5 was recently involved in a serious road traffic accident. Ben showed incredible bravery, helping his sister and grandma and is set to receive an award from the police. Ben you are amazing, well done!

Esmee W in Year 1 has recently passed Stage 1 in swimming and her 5m Puffin Award. A super achievement Esmee, well done!

Ruby V in Year 3 has passed her Stage 10 Swim England award. Well done, what a super achievement!

Braden D received his first badge from scouts for completing the chilly challenge (overnight camping in the cold) last weekend. Well done for braving the cold, Braden!

Children in year 4 will begin swimming after half term on a Friday afternoon (start date to be confirmed). If you are willing to support as a swimming 'spotter' please let the Year 3&4 teachers know. Also, if anyone is a qualified swimming teacher and can help, please get in touch.



Creative ways to...

We would like the children to get creative with their reading over half term, ready for World Book Day. Please send photographs of your child reading in creative ways via email to their class teachers by **Thursday 3rd March** so that these can be shared within school.



Mrs Marriott our cook is running a **World Book Day competition** for all children who have school dinners or sandwiches. All you need to do to take part is to draw a picture of Peter Pan, Peter Rabbit, The Princess and the Pea or The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Thursday 3rd March. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place will be judged by Mrs Peach.

Events coming up:

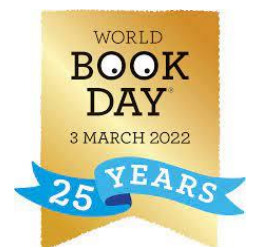
World Book Day will be Thursday 3rd March - children are asked to come into school on this day dressed as a book character and bring their favourite book too. We will be having a fun-packed day, including a masked reader challenge!

Friday 11th March: School photographs for classes and for Y6 leavers

Friday 18th March: Red Nose Day children can wear something red to celebrate and bring in £1 to raise money for the charity.

Monday 21st March: National Poetry Day children can bring in their favourite poems to share.

Monday 28th March: Bikeability for Year 4 children. More details will follow from class teachers.



Wednesday 30th March: Bikeability for Year 5 children. More details will follow from class teachers.

Wednesday 30th March: KS2 Cross Country at Eyes Meadow after school. Letters for the team will go nearer to the time with more details.