



# Packington

Church of England Primary School

February 2017

# Newsletter

**DEAR ALL,**

It's been a good news February since our return from the half term break. First, we were really pleased to receive a letter from Nick Gibb MP, Secretary for Education Standards, congratulating us on being in the top 1% of primary schools in England for our results in reading and maths (The letter has been e mailed to parents). Then we heard the super news that Tesco had shortlisted us to be one of three projects to take part in their Tesco Bags of Help Scheme, guaranteeing us at least £1,000 for school. What a great start! Please do enjoy reading our news.

## NEW WEBSITE

We are pleased to announce that our new, upgraded website has gone live. Most information has now been moved over to the new site which has a brand new look and more modern design. Mrs Dyche and myself are currently checking everything is where it should be. There are a few buttons that still need activating but we hope to iron out any glitches over the next few weeks. As soon as this is done we will start adding new content so please do take a look.

And the good news is we are also currently designing an App which will mean you will find it easier to access the website on your phones and tablets. Plus, you will be able to get instant notifications about new items and messages. As soon as this is available we'll let you know.

## BEAUMANOR

Well done Owls we were really proud to get so many positive comments about your behaviour, listening skills and teamwork during your residential visit at Beaumanor. And of course thank you to all the marvellous helpers who gave up their time to make the visit possible.



## TESCO BAGS OF HELP

We are delighted that the bid we sent to the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme has been shortlisted to be voted for in store with 2 other projects. If we get the most votes we will be given £5000 for school, for 2nd place we will get £2000 and for 3rd place we will be awarded with £1000. So the great news is that we are guaranteed at least £1000 which is fantastic. The funds will go to our climbing frame/ reflection garden project.

Voting runs from 1st March to the end of April so we won't find out how much we will receive until the end of May. So please help the school and get voting and do spread the message across family and friends. Let's see if we can get the community behind us.

Please see below a list of stores taking part in the voting on your project. Feel free to share this list of stores amongst friends, family and work colleagues:

- ASHBY DE LA ZCH EXTRA LE65 1TE
- ASHBY DE LA ZCH EXTRA LE65 1TE
- BURTON ON TRENT DE14 3RJ
- CHADDES DEN EXPRESS DE21 6NA
- CHURCH GRESLEY EXP DE11 9NW
- DERBY ALVASTON EXP DE24 8QN
- DERBY HILTON EXPRESS DE65 5JR
- DERBY MICKLEOVER DE3 9NH
- DERBY MICKLEOVER DE3 9NH
- HEARTHCOT RD SWAD EXP DE11 9DU
- STAPENHILL BURTON EXP DE15 9GU
- WEST HALLAM EXP DE7 6GR
- MEASHAM EXPRESS DE12 7HR
- WOODVILLE EXPRESS DE11 7EA
- ALLESTREE DERBY EXP DE22 2GP
- DERBY METRO DE1 2AB
- DERBY STENSON RD EXP DE23 1HG
- CHELLASTN DRBY RD EXP DE73 6PY
- COPPER HRTH BRTN EXP DE15 9SF

To check the location of any of the above stores, please go to the Tesco website here: <http://www.tesco.com/store-locator/uk/>

If you are using self checkout or scan as you shop, please remember to ask for your token. All purchases are eligible.

## NEWS HEADLINES

**\*FOOD BANK CHALLENGE** ~ Thank you to everybody who has supported our February Food Bank Challenge. We will take the contributions to the Ashby Food Bank during the week beginning 6th March so we will keep the collection boxes in the entrance hall for one more week. So please have one final look at the back of your cupboards.

**\*E-SAFETY MEETING** ~ Mr Emery is trying to set up an E-Safety meeting for parents to provide support and advice. He hopes that PC Jason and Jake, our ICT Consultant will attend. However, we need to fit around PC Jason's shift patterns so please be aware that the notice for the meeting may be fairly short.

**\*TRUCKS AND CHILD SAFETY WORKSHOPS** ~ We are really excited that DHL have offered to organise a TACS workshop for every class in school on 16th March. We will have one of their trucks parked on the playground and trained DHL staff will take the pupils through a variety of activities to help them to stay safe around large vehicles. We would like to thank Mr Sharp for arranging this fabulous opportunity.

**\*PSA SMARTIE CHALLENGE** ~ Look out for the Smartie Challenge being set up by the PSA to raise funds towards the costs of replacing the climbing frame and establishing our Reflection Garden.

**\*THANK YOU** ~ We'd like to say a special thank you to Mr and Mrs Simkins who gave up their time over the holidays to help prune and tidy the pond area in preparation for work on our Reflection Garden. It's already made a great difference. Mr Beasley, from the garden centre has also offered help and this is great news as it means it will help us stretch the grant we received from the Alderman Newton Charity even further.

**\*OWLS CLASS ASSEMBLY** ~ The Owls Class Assembly will take place on Wednesday 8th March at 9.15 am in the hall. Parents are welcome to attend.

**\*CONGRATULATIONS TO BABELAKE** ~ Babelake are the winners of last half terms House competition. Mrs Rogers will organise their non-uniform and treat day so please look out for a text announcing the date.

**\*ZUMBA CLUB** ~ We have yet another new sports club happening at Packington with a brand new Zumba Club for KS2 pupils. The club starts on 28th February for 4 weeks.

**\*HOT OFF THE PRESS** ~ Plans are being made for Leicester City to bring the Premier League trophy to school on 21st March.

**TOGETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE MORE – with Jesus as our guiding light!**

## **SCHOOL HOLIDAY CONSULTATION**

Over the last few years schools in the Ashby Learning Partnership have made changes to the school holiday patterns and Governors at Packington agreed to adopt the Ashby pattern rather than the Local Authority pattern. This agreement was made up until July 2018. We therefore ask you to use the holiday dates published on the school website rather than the LCC website, particularly if you are planning holidays for the academic year 2017/18.

Holiday patterns for 2018/19 and 2019/20 are now being reviewed by the partnership and the plan is that schools in the Ashby Learning Partnership will consult with parents on these in the summer term. So please look out for details.

Although we don't yet have actual dates do please contact school if you need advice to plan a holiday beyond August 2018. Once the dates are available we will open a consultation so that all parents can comment and share their opinions with Governors.

## **Governor Corner**

Although February is a short month the Governors have been active in school. The Curriculum and Monitoring Committee have met to share strengths and areas for development identified from their monitoring. They noted strengths in strategies to teach phonics and literacy, assessment and marking to name a few areas. The committee also reviewed swimming

The Strategic Committee have also met. They reviewed progress data for the autumn term and considered a number of other areas including future staffing needs, behaviour and plans for creating more space in school.

**Governors be contacted via the office e mail.**

## **Funding Formula Consultation- UPDATE**

UNITY heads have now produced their letter about their concerns about funding for schools and the impact of the proposed funding formula on Leicestershire Small Schools. Under the proposals Packington would lose -2.3 % of our total budget. We would also have to find additional funds from that budget to pay for increased national Insurance and pension contributions, cost of living increments as well as the new apprenticeship levy which works out as 0.5% of our total staff budget. For small schools this is quite significant particularly as Leicestershire has been one of the lowest funded areas historically. As I said in my last newsletter this is a disappointment, particularly as the proposals are supposed to make funding fairer. The consultation is still open so if you wish to express your views please go to <https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/>

## **Breakfast Club to Start**

Thank you for all your expressions of interest for the breakfast club. Kids Cabin have decided to set up the club in the school hall starting from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March. They have arranged to host two meetings for parents to discuss arrangements and answer any questions. These will take place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March from 8.15am to 9:00am and on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March from 3:00pm to 3:45pm. Please do pop a long if interested.

## **RED NOSE DAY 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017** **SAVE the date for this years Red Nose Day.** **Details will be coming out shortly**

## **Pupils Get Their Heads Stuck in a Book!**

Pupils in the Owls and Eagles really enjoyed the opportunity to read some of the new reading books appearing on library shelves when Nicole Jordan from the Education Library Service came to run two 'Book Talk Sessions' in school. Nicole has left us with a selection of books and has asked the children to review them to help other readers.



## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- 28th Feb ~ Open the Book Visit  
House Time – Pancake Day Race
- 1<sup>st</sup> March ~ Rev Vivien Visit
- 2nd March ~ World Book Day
- 4th March ~ NWL Cross Country at Sir John Moore
- 7th March ~ Year 2 and Year 1 Tree Planting - TBC  
Kids Kabin meeting for parents
- 8th March ~ Owls Class Assembly
- 9th March ~ Kids Kabin meeting for parents
- 13<sup>th</sup>/ 14<sup>th</sup> March Parent Interviews
- 16th March ~ DHL – Truck and Child Safety Workshops
- 21<sup>st</sup> March ~ Open the Book Visit/  
Leicester City Premier League Trophy Visit
- 24<sup>th</sup> March ~ PSA Fish and Chip Bingo
- 28<sup>th</sup> March ~ Open the Book Visit
- 30th March ~ Seaside Workshops for KSI pupils  
School Clarinet Players perform at  
Loughborough Town Hall
- 31st March ~ Easter Creative Time
- 7<sup>th</sup> April ~ Easter Service in Church at 2 pm

**Internet Safety Day** - Internet Safety Day was a great success. PC Jason had a busy day in school but really left his mark – and it's been great to get feedback that pupils are 'teaching' parents about how to stay safe online!

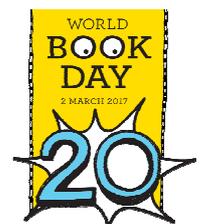


## **SHROVE TUESDAY HOUSE TIME**

We will be hosting a traditional Pancake Race between our Houses on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February to celebrate Shrove Tuesday. All pupils will have the opportunity to take part in the activity.

## **WORLD BOOK DAY - THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH**

A reminder to get your costumes ready to celebrate World Book Day. Pupils can come dressed as any book character.



Please remember we have an open door policy so should you have any concerns please contact your child's class teacher or myself. You can contact us either in school, by phone (01530 412425) or e-mail ([headteacher@packington.leics.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@packington.leics.sch.uk)). Remember if you are coming into school please report to the school office.