



Newsletter Summer Term 1

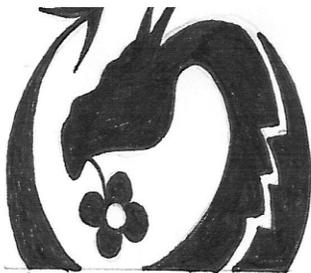
26 April 2017

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the Summer Term 2017. We hope you had an enjoyable Easter break and that the weather remains favourable as we head in to the Bank Holiday weekend.

Year 5 returned safely from their residential visit to Robin Wood Activity Centre in Todmorden. They had a fun packed 3 days of outdoor activities.

Thank you to all parents who were able to join us for our Easter bonnet parade. The children all looked fantastic in their Easter hats; designs were inspired and it was lovely to hear the children perform their Easter songs with enthusiasm. Thank you, also, to our PTA parents for serving refreshments in the community room beforehand.



DENBY DALE DRAGONS P.T.A.

The Easter bonnet parade raised a wonderful £47. Thank you to everybody who attended and donated cakes. We will be finalising a date shortly for our next meeting to discuss the upcoming Summer Fayre. We really need as many volunteers as possible at this meeting as it is an ambitious event.



We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers, please hand any vouchers in to the school office.

A final thank you for your support with our fund raising for Comic Relief. A total of £477.43 was raised!

Just Imagine Day

Thank you so much to everyone who has sent in resources for our 'Just Imagine' day on Wednesday 3rd May. The response has been fantastic! Hopefully we will have fine weather on the day and the children will create some inspirational story settings.

Summer Term Topics and Activities



Over the next half term the children in **Dragonflies** will be exploring the idea of change. Our initial focus story will be “The Very Hungry Caterpillar”. The children will have opportunities to enjoy this in our indoor magical story garden, where they can use finger puppets, small world figures and real fruit to enhance the story. Our target this half term is number and technology. We will be tying this into our focus story by using board games, jigsaws, sorting activities and our remote control mini beasts in the magical garden. We are also excited about the arrival of our caterpillars! The children can observe the process of our caterpillars changing into butterflies and enjoy the transformation as we release them into our flower gardens which will be developing in our outdoor space.



Over the coming weeks the **Nursery** and **Reception** children will be continuing to observe and care for the seeds we have planted and talk about the changes as they grow. We have some caterpillars and look forward to watching them grow and change into butterflies. The children will be able to observe the changes and learn about lifecycles first-hand.

We will also be learning about ‘People who help us’. We hope to have some special visitors to teach the children all about their important jobs. The children will have plenty of opportunities for dressing up and role-play as they learn about real life.



This half term the children in **Year 1** will be investigating plants within the school grounds and observing how they grow and change. We will go for a walk in the woods to identify different types of plants and look for similarities and differences. The date of the walk will depend on the weather, but we will place details on the VLE nearer the time. We will be retelling and reading Traditional Tales such as Jack and the Beanstalk and Little Red Riding Hood. We will be using adjectives to describe the characters.

In **Year 2** during the Summer term the children’s learning will be inspired by the book ‘Enchanted Wood by Enid Blyton’. We will be creating our own magical adventures at the top of the Faraway tree. We will look at Enid Blyton collections picking out the different grammar she uses to bring the stories alive.



Maths will be addition and subtraction followed by a measurement focus looking at measuring and comparing different lengths, weight and capacities using the correct measurement tools. In P.E we will be focusing on rounders and multiskills.



In the Summer Term **Year 3** will continue studying rocks and soils until our class trip to the National Coal Mining Museum. We will then move our topic to the 'Outdoor Classroom' including plants in science and looking at famous landscape artists and their techniques then applying it to our own landscape. In geography we will describe and understand the types of settlement and land use, the economic activity and the distribution of natural resources in the local area.



During this term, **Year 4** will be looking at the Amazon Rainforest, understanding what a rainforest is and exploring some of the many plants and animals that live there. We are also going to be looking at the people who live there, thinking about their life style, culture and beliefs. In literacy we are looking at the humour in books by David Walliams. In maths we are studying perimeter and length.



1819 - 1901

Year 5's topic this half term promises to be an extremely busy yet exciting and memorable time. We will be exploring the 'Victorians', the children's literacy work will focus on developing their descriptive writing skills. They will be delving into the world of persuasive writing where they will have to use their powers of persuasion. If you have any resources that could help us with our Victorian topic then please send them in. During our numeracy work, we will be continuing to work at fractions, decimals and percentages as well as the use of the four operations to solve real life problems. The children will be working scientifically to describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals as well as describing the difference in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.

Extra Curricular Activities

Monday	3pm-4pm	Dance Club	Years 2, 3 and 4
Tuesday	3pm-3.45pm	Gardening Club	All Years
Tuesday	lunchtime	Table Tennis	Years 4 and 5
Tuesday	3pm-4pm	Tag Rugby	Years 3, 4 and 5
Wednesday	lunchtime	Chess	Years 3, 4 and 5
Wednesday	3pm-4pm	Rounders	Years 4 and 5
Thursday	lunchtime	Advanced Recorders	Years 3, 4 and 5
Thursday	lunchtime	Table Tennis	Years 4 and 5
Thursday	3pm-4pm	Cricket Club	Years 4 and 5



Holiday Club

Holiday club will be open to all age groups (2-5 years and 6-10 years) during Spring Bank half term and booking forms are available in the main entrance or by contacting the school office. Places will be limited, so please ensure your form is returned no later than Friday 12th May.

Outdoor Activities

As we head into the summer months, please make sure that children are sent with labelled sunhats and water bottles on those hot sunny days. We would advise that sunscreen is applied before the children come to school and, if necessary, that they bring in sun cream in a labelled bottle for lunchtimes, etc. However, as we are sure you will appreciate, it would be extremely time consuming for teachers to apply protection for every child in their class. We would prefer it if you could teach your child how to apply their own and also talk to them about the importance of staying in the shade during hot weather. However, if your child stays with us all day in the Nursery, we will re-apply their sun cream at lunchtime.

We will also be spending more time outside for PE and curriculum activities over the coming months and the older children will need both indoor and outdoor PE kit and water bottles in school throughout each week. Please can you also ensure all clothing is clearly labelled as cardigans, sweatshirts and jackets are often left outside.

30 hours Free Early Education and Care

You may be aware that the Government is introducing 30 hours free early education and care to eligible families from September 2017. We are currently working with the Local Authority on this matter and will let you know more information about how we can offer this entitlement to our families later this term.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jackie Wood'.

J Wood
Head Teacher

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 2 May	Gardening Club starts
Wednesday 10 May	Year 3 Coal Mining Museum Trip
Tuesday 2 May	Years R & 1 Cross Country at Highburton First
Tuesday 9 May	KS2 Cycling Event at Shelley College
Tuesday 16 May	KS1 Cycling Event at Scissett Middle School
Thursday 25 May	Year 4 Class Assembly
Tuesday 6 June	KS2 Kwik Cricket
Monday 12 June	Swimming Gala
Wednesday 14 June	KS2 Rounders
Tuesday 20 June	Year 3 Healthy & Happy Day
Tuesday 27 June	Year 4 Get Active Day
Wednesday 5 July	Year 5 Harry Potter Trip
Friday 14 July	Leavers Assembly
Monday 17 July	Transition Week in school & Year 5 at Scissett Middle School

School and Dragonflies closed May Day

School closes for ½ term

Dragonflies closed Bank Holiday

Dragonflies Holiday Club

School and Dragonflies closed

School re-opens

School closes

School and Dragonflies closed

Dragonflies Holiday Club

Dragonflies closed Bank Holiday

School and Dragonflies closed

School re-opens

Monday 1st May 2017

Friday 26th May 2017

Monday 29th May 2017

Tuesday 30th May-Friday 2nd June

Monday 5th June 2017

Tuesday 6th June 2017

Friday 21st July 2016, 3pm

Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th July 017

Wednesday 26th July to Friday 1st September 2017

Monday 28th August 2017

Monday 4th September 2017

Tuesday 5th September 2017