

# 19 October 2017 WEEKLY UPDATE



**This week:** KS1 classes have conducted **fair tests** in science, first hypothesising and then carrying out volcano experiments using different materials and observing the chemical reactions. Vinegar and bicarbonate of soda was definitely the most reactive.

- Reception children explored the world of the **hedgehog**, learning facts and making super artwork.
- **World Food Day:** We sampled foods from five different continents—looking at packaging, thinking about the places it was grown & how it can be used.

• All Y2 children had **School Council** and **Break-time Buddy** training. Our School Councillors next half term are **WI:** William, Erin, Liam, Amiee, Kieran and Layla, **CE:** Olivia, Anya, Deacon, Arthur, Jem and Isaac. All Year 2 children have opportunity to be a school councillor and Break-time Buddy at some point during the year. Each week the school councillors will meet with Mrs Poyser on school projects. Mrs Poyser was very proud of all the children during the training—they were a pleasure to work with.

- We've celebrated **Diwali** with some lovely learning and art projects related to the festival of light.

• **Mrs Blenkinsop and her Fleeting Feet of Fire!** Liz Blenkinsop is doing a fire walk on 28 October to raise money for the Air Ambulance and our schools. If you can sponsor her, please ask at either school office, or see Liz for more details. Thank you.

## Fantastic Fundraising

We raised more than £700 from our **SPONSORED HARVEST WALK**, and £145 commission from **CHRISTMAS CARD** orders. This is a super boost to school funds and we will be purchasing new instruments to support our music teaching. Thank you.

We'll hold a **DRESS DOWN DAY** at the end of each half term, so you can get uniform in the wash early!

If you can send in £1, please leave it with your teacher. Thanks for your support of today's event.

Our **PTFA AGM** is tonight—19 Oct, 7.30pm at CE school. All parents, teachers and friends are automatically members of this group, and any support you are able to give will be appreciated. We'd love to see you at this meeting, helping to plan activities and events for the rest of the year. If you'd like to know more, please ask at the office, or contact Emily Joyce, Chair of the Committee.

Watch this space for news of more events including Remembrance Day paint-a-pebble, Children in Need, Peter Pan panto trip, Christmas Fair, and a PTFA Christmas disco—all coming up after half term.

## After half term (ending 3 Nov)

**Mon 30:** Back to school. Sycamore class swim

**Tues 31:** Hearing screening - Reception children.

- Toy Library Stay & Play 9.30-11.30am at WI

**Thurs 2 Nov:** Deadline to return your photograph orders to school. (Proofs sent home today.)

- After school—Drama Club at CE.

**Fri 3:** Oak and Ask classes visit the fire station.

- Celebration assemblies in both schools at 2.30pm. Please join us if you can.

## Further ahead (more details will follow...):

**Tues 7:** Recyclables collection for the Starlight charity. Return filled bags to either school by 9am.

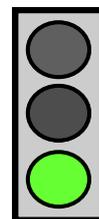
**Thurs 16:** Open Morning 9.30-11.30am. Do you know someone with a child who will start school Sept 2018? Please let them know they can drop in anytime during the morning to have a look round both our schools. Parents & children very welcome.

**Fri 17 Nov:** Children in Need Day

**Sat 9 Dec:** Christmas Fair 10-12 noon CE school

**Tues 19:** School closes for Christmas

**Attendance Matters:** Federation attendance for this half term is **96.62%**, which gives us a **GREEN** traffic light. **Amazing Attender** certificates have been sent home today to those children whose attendance has been greater than our target of 96.5%. Congratulations to **BEECH** class who've achieved a super **98.7%** attendance since September. A treat is on its way...



Parents whose child/ren have had more than 10% absence will receive a letter informing them of this. Please refer to your **Every Day Counts** leaflet for further information, and please continue to ensure your child is in school on time every day.

**National Stone Centre:** Hallowe'en Weekend 27-29 Oct 11am -3pm. Come along for Creepy crafts, Witchy Trail, face painting, etc. £5 for all activities.

**Bonfire Night:** Wirksworth Scouts present a firework extravaganza from 7pm, Sun 5 Nov on Wash Green. Bring a home-made Guy for the bonfire—prizes for the most creative! Advance tickets at TraidLinks £4/£12 family or £5/£15 on the night. Food stalls available.

**Don't Forget... Wirksworth Market consultation:** Add your views to Town Council proposals to re-design the Memorial Gardens to accommodate the Tuesday market. Go to <http://www.wirksworthtowncouncil.gov.uk/consultation.html> The closing date to make your comments on the plans is 27 Oct 2017.

Wishing you all a happy and peaceful half term break!

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