



Newsletter Spring Term 2

5 March 2018

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term, although last week, felt more like midwinter than Spring!

Thank you for your understanding over the circumstances last week I know many children were disappointed that they missed World Book Day on Thursday so we are holding our Book day this Thursday instead.

Children are asked to come to school as their favourite magical book character. Parents are invited to come into school at 2.30 pm when there will be exciting, magic displays in the entrance showing a collection of each class's work. Please come through the main entrance. We hope you will also read with your child from 2.30 to 3pm and please feel free to dress up as part of the book day celebrations!



Friday 23rd March – We are supporting **Sport Relief** with a dressing up day.

The theme is 'Whatever moves you! So please come dressed up as your favourite sports personality this may be Andy Murray or Sir Mo Farah? Throughout the day each class will have the opportunity to enjoy different sports activities lead by the school council. Stickers will be awarded by the school council to those who show sportsmanship playing fair and supporting one another.

We are asking if parents can donate buns and biscuits on the day. A couple of ideas; banana bread, fruity flapjack and fruity muffins. This will be on sale on for a suggested minimum donation of 50p. As usual, we are asking for a £2 donation to take part in all the activities and wear non-uniform.

A Sports Relief wristband will be on sale one week leading up to Sports Relief day the wrist bands are sold for £1.



DENBY DALE DRAGONS P.T.A.

Our first PTA meeting of 2018 will be held on Wednesday 7th March at 6pm in the school community room, the meeting should only last around an hour.

Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting, please come armed with fundraising ideas so we can get some events in the school diary. In particular it would be great to see some new faces from the younger year groups so the PTA can continue to grow in strength and numbers.

Spring Term Topics and Activities



Dragonflies will be looking at planting and growing. The children will have the opportunity to explore the soil and develop their gross motor skills with the use of tools. They will be planting their own seeds and observing their progress over the coming months. Alongside this we will be focusing on the Very Hungry Caterpillar which will involve a number of games and fruit tasting. On the run up to Easter we will be exploring printing to create Easter patterns and will have the opportunity to join in with baking activities.

Foundation Stage Unit we are straight back into 'Book Week' and are looking forward to sharing lots of stories together and of course dressing up for 'World Book Day'. We will then be learning about 'People Who Help Us' and hope to have lots of role-play experiences and small world play. We will also continue this into next half term and hope to have some special visitors. Towards Easter we will be exploring the topic of Spring and New Life including planting and growing. We have lots to do and keep us busy.

We are looking forward to the Annual Easter Bonnet Parade on Tuesday 27th March. We have found that the children really enjoy making their Easter hats with their families and appreciate your effort and support. At school we will be learning some songs to share at the parade and we look forward to seeing you there if possible. Times will be confirmed nearer to the date.



Year 1 will continue with our topic 'Toys'. They will be comparing games they play today with those from past times. As part of our RE curriculum we will be visiting Holy Trinity church in Denby Dale on the morning of Monday 12th March. We will be walking to the church and back so please ensure your child is wearing suitable clothing and footwear.



As the children in **Year 2** have really enjoyed learning about 'The Great Fire of London', we are carrying on with the topic in Spring 2. This half term, the children will be creating 3-D model houses similar to those during 1666. Within literacy, the children will focus on character descriptions which will link nicely to book week. In science we will look be looking at plants, observing and describing how bulbs and plants grow. Time will be the first focus in our maths lessons, then we will be revising place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division and fractions.

In **Year 3** this half term we will be continuing to study the Stone Age and 'Rocks and Fossils'. We will focus on fossils this half term and how they are formed. We will research Mary Anning, a famous fossil hunter and we will try and make our own fossils. When the weather improves, and spring has finally sprung, I am still aiming to go on a class walk around the village to look at uses of stone in the local area. I am also hoping for a visit from a fossil expert.





Year 4 children's learning will be inspired by the topic 'Rainforests'. We will be learning about a range of animals and their habitats. Focusing on South America and the UK, we will investigate the similarities and differences found in different parts of the world. In addition to this, we will be creating a range of databases during our computing lessons. In maths, we will look at fractions and decimals. Literacy will be linked to South America looking at stories from other cultures.

Year 5 will be continuing our topic of 'Extreme Earth' this half term. We will continue to explore the diverse nature of the planet we live on and be writing a descriptive story opening that places us in the middle of a thunder snow storm. The children will be learning more about night and day as well the time zones that cover our planet. In Maths, we will be finishing off our work around fractions, decimals and percentages. The children will also be delving into the world of programming and using Scratch and Kodu to create their very own games for their friends to play. For book week, we will have a focus on 'Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them' where we will be creating our own fantastic beasts ready to add to Newt Scamander's collection.



Extra Curricular Activities this half term



Monday	3pm-4pm	Netball	Years 4 & 5
Tuesday	3pm-4pm	Hockey	Years 2, 3 & 4



Holiday Club

Holiday Club will be open to all age groups (2-5 years and 6-10 years) during the Easter break and booking forms can be obtained from the reception area. Places will be limited, so please ensure your form is returned no later than Friday 16th March.

General Reminder - PE Kit

Can you please make sure that your child has the correct Indoor and Outdoor kit in school.

STAY & PLAY

Sessions are running again this half term 9.15am-11.15am on Mondays and Fridays in the Community Room. On the run up to Easter, we will be decorating eggs, making bonnets and chocolate nests.

Yours sincerely

Miss J Wood
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 13 March
Wednesday 14 March
Tuesday 20 March
Wednesday 21 March
Friday 23 March
Tuesday 27 March
Tuesday 27 March
Wednesday 28 March
Wednesday 28 March
Thursday 29 March
3 April – 13 April
Monday 16 April
Monday 16 April – Wednesday 18 April
Wednesday 25 April

Year 1 Football Tournament at Scissett Middle
Year 5 - SPICED Evening
Year 2 Football Tournament at Shelley College
Class Photos – Reception – Year 5
Sports Relief Day
KS2 Girls Football at Scissett Middle
FSU Easter Bonnet Parade
KS2 Hockey Festival
Year 1 Class Assembly
School closes for Easter holidays
HOLIDAY CLUB
School re-opens for Summer Term
Year 5 Trip to Robinwood
Year 3 Class Trip

Summer Term:

School re-opens

Monday 16th April 2018

School and Dragonflies closed May Day Monday 7th May 2018

School closed for ½ term

Friday 25th May 2018

Dragonflies closed Bank Holiday

Monday 28th May 2018

*School and Dragonflies closed**

Monday 4th June 2018

School re-opens

Tuesday 5th June 2018

School closes

Friday 21st July 2018

*Dragonflies closed**

Monday 23rd July 2018

*Dragonflies closed**

Tuesday 24th July 2018

Dragonflies closed Bank Holiday

Monday 27th August 2018

* Please note: The above dates include 3 additional closure days for staff training.



2018 - 2019 Term Dates

Autumn Term:

School re-opens	Monday 3rd September 2018
School closes for ½ term	Friday 26th October 2018
Dragonflies Holiday Club	Monday 29 th October – Friday 2 November 2018
School re-opens	Monday 5th November 2018
School closes	Friday 21st December 2018

Spring Term:

Dragonflies Holiday Club	Wednesday 2 nd January – Friday 4 th January 2019
School re-opens	Monday 7 th January 2019
School closes for ½ term	Friday 15 th February 2019
Dragonflies Holiday Club	Monday 18 th February – Friday 22 nd February 2019

School re-opens	Monday 25 th February 2019
School closes	Friday 12th April 2019
Dragonflies Holiday Club	Monday 15 th April – Thursday 18 th April 2019
Dragonflies closed Good Friday	Friday 19th April 2019
Dragonflies closed Easter Monday	Monday 22nd April 2019
Dragonflies Holiday Club	Tuesday 23 rd April – Friday 26 th April 2019

Summer Term:

School re-opens	Monday 29 th April 2019
School and Dragonflies closed May Day	Monday 6th May 2019
School closes for ½ term	Friday 24 th May 2019
Dragonflies closed Bank Holiday	Monday 27th May 2019
Dragonflies Holiday Club	Tuesday 28th May – Friday 31 May 2019
School re-opens	Monday 3rd June 2019
School closes	Monday 22nd July 2019

Dragonflies Holiday Club	Tuesday 23rd July – Friday 30 th August 2019
Dragonflies closed Bank Holiday	Monday 26th August 2019

Note: The above dates do not include 5 additional closure days for staff training