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**Key dates:**

World Book Day  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March



**Message from the Headteacher**

Welcome back following the half term holidays. The children have been working hard over the last half term. Our theme has been ‘Habitats’ and the classes have been exploring our local habitat as well as others across the world.

We are thrilled to introduce the new app for parents ‘Marvellous Me’ which will enable your child’s class team to send home photos and videos of your child’s work, activities they have taken part in and wage slips. Please respond with a ‘hi-five!’ if you like what you see!

Lots of exciting events are happening over the next few weeks- including World Book Day on 7<sup>th</sup> March (see below for details).

As the weather improves we look forward to taking part in more outdoor learning- so please make sure your child has appropriate outdoor wear where required.

Mrs Trish Turner

**School News**

**World Book Day and Comic Relief SMSC event: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**



This year we will be celebrating World Book day and Comic Relief on the same day.

This will be Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. The theme is:

**Myths, Legends and sharing stories with kindness**

Pupils can come in fancy dress and bring in a copy of their favourite myth or legend to share with friends.

The day will be as follows:

Lesson 1	Normal lesson	Provide routine for all classes
Lesson 2	Mythical creature creation	Class teams create life size mixed media mythical creature (2D)
Lesson 3	Class sharing time	Classes team up and share a story experience together
Lesson 4	Normal lessons	Research historic Comic Relief projects
Lesson 5	Visit mythical creature gallery	Each class visits the creature gallery and vote for a winner
Lesson 6	Assemblies	Award pride to winning class

We do not require a contribution from pupils as we will be focusing on the kindness of Comic Relief projects and aim to share stories with kindness.

### Sensory rooms



We have a visit from a school governor recently. A pupil gave her a tour of our sensory rooms and how the different features worked. We are using our sensory rooms all through the school day.



### Help keep your children safe online



Following Safer Internet day on the 6<sup>th</sup> February please find a link to a parent's guide to give you the information and advice you will need to keep your child/ren safe online.

The constantly evolving digital world means a steady influx of new apps and games forever changing and it can be hard to keep up. The link will provide you with advice and guidance around parental controls, share aware information and talking to your child/ren about keeping safe online.

**0808 8005002** is a Freephone number you can ring to get expert advice around online safety.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>

### Marvellous Me



Please ensure you sign up to Marvellous Me to see your children's hard work and be up to date with school information. For more information please contact your class teacher.

### Future Newsletters:

For your information all future newsletters will be uploaded to the school website, Marvellous Me and parents/carers will receive a text when it is available to read. However, if you would like a hard copy, please let your child's class team know and they will organise this for you.

### Class update

**Take a look at what we have been doing over the past few weeks:**

#### Communicate Pathway

#### **Willow**

This term we have been looking at a variety of habitats, the animals which live there and different climates around the world. Willow class especially enjoyed learning about the jungle and all the animals which dwell there. We have been enjoying a fruit or vegetable of the day and our favourite was lettuce, to all the staffs' surprise. As part of life skill lessons we have been learning how to play a variety of games in small groups and duos; this has worked really well and we have seen some lovely friendships form. In literacy we have been writing about all the different climates and environments on our planet trying to use capital letters and full stops. In numeracy

we have been looking at how we measure objects, liquid and time. Another really great term for all in the Willow class. Well done guys!



### **Yew**

Yew class have settled back into the term really well and been enjoying lots more activities with letters, numbers and music. Children have been enjoying continuing focussed 1:1 sessions and lots more small group activities.

We've been enjoying many more activities in the sensory room too and yummy snack making on a Friday to round off the week.

### **Acorns**



Acorns class have looked at homes and habitats of animals in the sea, the north pole and bugs that live under ground. we have enjoyed sensory stories, messy play and making bird feeders.

## **Comprehend Pathway**

### **Elm**

Elm pupils have continued to work hard in lessons. Pupils enjoyed going on a minibeast hunt looking at different micro habitats around our school. They found spiders, slugs and snails in the sensory garden. As part of our independent living lessons we learnt about crossing a road using traffic lights. We went on a walk around the school area and used a traffic light crossing to practise crossing a road safely. In English lessons we read the book 'The Gruffalo' and pupils described what the Gruffalo looked like using knowledge from the story. In Good Health lessons we have been learning about different emotions and discussed times we have felt different emotions. For Chinese New Year we ordered animals in the order of the race and enjoyed tasting spring rolls and prawn crackers.



### **Ash**

In Ash class, we have been enjoying cricket coaching lessons and developing our skills. We were then invited to enter the Lord's Taverners Table Cricket Competition against another school and won! Congratulations to the team! In English lessons, pupils are engaging with a story about an endangered rhino, which has tested pupils' comprehension and creative writing skills. In maths we have challenged Ash to interpret times in both analogue and digital times, to varying degrees of difficulty, with great success. Renewable and non-renewable

energy has been the theme in science lessons, and students completed a survey around the school to discover where the brightest place would be to put solar panels. Ash visited the Erewash Museum, and learnt all about Chinese New Year. We learned how to write in Chinese symbols, created festive lanterns, and explored the museum's exhibitions. This term Ash will be developing their skills in ICT, learning how to correctly compose emails and send attachments, taking into consideration internet safety.

### **Conkers**



Conkers class really enjoyed turning into Africa for the day! Thanks to Mr Hardy and Oak class bringing in lots of African artifacts, clothing and drums. We listened to African music as we made bowls from clay and masks from papier mache. We all loved trying exotic African fruits. In English we have studied the Jungle Book and have each learned a poetry verse.

We have tried our hand at weaving with wool and made some rather spectacular Mod Rock animals. Conkers class really enjoyed visiting Twycross Zoo; in particular feeding nectar to the lorikeets.

We have seen brilliant progress in the swimming pool this term with some

students practising lengths in the deep end.

We are looking forward to the new topic of farming, and take this opportunity to thank parents for their support helping the children with the amazing farm sculptures over the holidays.

### **Decode Pathway**

#### **Beech**

Beech pupils have enjoyed visits to Asda café, Long Eaton Library, local parks and the Japanese Water Gardens to find out how we should care for pets.

Pupils have enjoyed PE sessions playing team games.

During English pupils have been working hard on letter writing and creative writing and in Maths sessions pupils have been solving worded maths problems and using their knowledge of multiplication and division.

#### **Rowan**

In Rowan pupils have enjoyed trips to the local parks and discussing how to do different sports safely. Pupils have enjoyed using the school bikes and scooters as well as playing badminton, basketball, pool, table football, curling and boccia.

We have been working on solving word problems, using multiplication and division. Pupils have really engaged in using the Prodigy maths game to show

what they have learnt as well as practise a range of maths skills. In English we have been discussing news articles as well as telling each other about our weekend news. Pupils have been exploring abstract art and using a range of techniques including digital, watercolours, collage and pencils. Pupils enjoyed making things for an assembly on Chinese New Year and tasting the foods including spring rolls, chicken skewers and dumplings.

### **Oak**

The Oak students continue to work hard at their Aim Award qualification. In English the students have been focussing on dictionary skills and reading for information and understanding. This has included the analysis of a range of different texts, including the enjoyment of a Michael Morpurgo novel; 'Why the Whales Came'.

In maths the class have been working on data handling. The students have enjoyed going around the school to conduct a range of surveys, tallying up the frequency and then presenting it in the form of bar graphs. They have also all been working on their interpretation of graphs.

We have been continuing our personal development topic on team building skills. The students have continued to really enjoy the challenges and are both working better together as a unit and focusing more on self-assessment and how to improve.

In art lessons, the students have been looking at Salvador Dali and the style of Surrealism. We have also focussed on dream like scenes and the students have created some interesting art forms.

As part of our work on Chinese New Year, we were lucky enough to have a Chinese visitor who arrived bearing goodies. As well as entralling the students with information about how the Chinese celebrate their New Year; the students were also able to show off their chop stick skills, eating a variety of dumplings and sweets!

### **External events and agency support**

**We are pleased to share some external events which may be appropriate for you and your family. For additional information, please contact the organisation directly.**

#### **External Events**

This is the link for up to date information from Derbyshire Autism Services.

<http://www.derbyshireautismservices.org/news>

March updates:

[https://www.derbyshireautismservices.org/files/ww/What\\_s%20on%202018-March%20to%20upload.pdf](https://www.derbyshireautismservices.org/files/ww/What_s%20on%202018-March%20to%20upload.pdf)

## External Agency Support



**AGAPE**

**STARTS 23 JANUARY 2019**

### Does your child have mental health issues?

**Come to our Support Group!**

Our children can experience:

ANXIETY • LOW MOOD • DEPRESSION • SELF HARM • EATING DISORDERS  
SLEEP PROBLEMS • SUICIDAL THOUGHTS • OBSESSIONS AND COMPULSIONS

We know how hard it can be for you too. Come and share your story, and listen to ours. There will be discussion topics, practical tips for coping, tea/coffee and chocolate and space to breathe.

This group is for parents or carers who are supporting a child or young person with emotional or mental health issues.

We meet the second and fourth Wednesday of every month  
Between 6.30pm and 8.30pm  
Big Kirk Hallam Community Centre Café  
Kenilworth Drive  
New Stanton, DE7 4EW



**For further information, please contact Ali on 07904 880381**  
**You are all welcome to come along – we hope to see you there!**





**AGAPE**

To join the Agape-e-network just send an email to: [alijeffries.agape@gmail.com](mailto:alijeffries.agape@gmail.com) and we will get you signed up.

 Agape Parent Support

## USEFUL CONTACTS

<p><b>Local Information</b></p> <p><b>Emotional Wellbeing Practitioner Service for Children and Young People</b> Suggested as the first port of call for low level symptoms such as anxiety and low mood. Telephone: Jaydine Breadon 07966 078720 Email: <a href="mailto:dhcft.emotionalwellbeing@nhs.net">dhcft.emotionalwellbeing@nhs.net</a></p> <p><b>CAMHS Erewash</b> Century House, 100 Nottingham Road, Long Eaton, NG10 2BZ Telephone: 0115 946 4568</p> <p><b>CAMHS Crisis Teams (24 hours, Monday to Sunday)</b> Please ask to be put through to the Crisis Resolution and Home Treatment Team. Derby City and South Derbyshire Telephone: 01332 623700 North Derbyshire Telephone: 01246 512831 / 01246 277271</p>	<p><b>National Information</b></p> <p><b>MindEd for Families</b> Emotional and mental health advice and information. <a href="http://www.minded.org.uk">www.minded.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>YoungMinds</b> National charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. Parent Helpline: 0800 802 5544 (free from mobiles and landlines) <a href="http://www.youngminds.org.uk">www.youngminds.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>HOPELINEUK</b> If you are concerned for a young person who might be having thoughts of suicide, contact HOPELINEUK for confidential support and practical advice. Telephone: 0800 068 4141 Email: <a href="mailto:pat@papyrus-uk.org">pat@papyrus-uk.org</a></p>
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**For further information, please contact Ali on 07904 880381**