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Key dates

End of term:

Friday 19th July 2019 the school day will finish at 12.10pm.

Inset days

(closed to pupils):

Monday 22nd July 2019
Monday 2nd Sept 2019
Tuesday 3rd Sept 2019

First day of next term:

Wednesday 4th Sept 2019

Sports day:

Friday 19th July 2019
start 10:30am

The annual open afternoon, BBQ and Fayre, outdoor cinema:
Thursday 11th July 2019
Open afternoon 1.15pm
BBQ and Fayre 2.30pm
Outdoor cinema 5.00pm

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back from the half term break. The second half of the summer term is an exciting time here at Brackenfield. We Are transitioning to new classes as of week commencing 10th June. New pupils to our school will also transition during this period. Your child will be assigned a key worker (a member of your child's class team) who will contact you throughout this time to support the transition. Post cards have been sent home at the end of last half term to inform you of your child's class team. As always, if you have any queries or concerns, please contact us through the usual channels. Also, if you haven't done so already, please ensure you download the Marvellous Me App on your phone or smart device. We will be using Marvellous Me more and more to support communication (as well as sending home documents such as newsletters!)

As we are expanding our school and making better use of our spaces, we are also moving to a 10-class model and are delighted to welcome two new teachers. Ms Eleanor Hodgkin will be the Willow class teacher and Mrs Lindsay Hitchcock will be joining us in September as Beech class teacher. I would also like to welcome back Ms Chloe Lawrence the Comprehend Pathway Lead who has joined us back from maternity leave and congratulate Mr Peter Cszimadia who is taking over from Mrs Christina Wright as Decode Pathway Lead as she moves to part time working. A massive thankyou to Mrs Wright for all her hard work as Pathway Lead over the past 3 years.

The summer term also brings some fond farewells with it. Our year 11 students will be leaving us on Friday 28th June 2019 and moving onto Post 16. All pupils have secured places for next year and our staff have been working to support their transition. Saying goodbye is always a sad time, some of the Y11's have been with us since they were 4 years old. However, we are excited to see them start the next chapter of their lives and education and our doors are always open for them (and their families!) to come and visit.

Don't forget the other events coming up this half term. We will be having our annual BBQ and fayre - this year the theme is 'At the Beach'. This will include an open afternoon - to give parents/carers and grandparents the opportunity to spend time with their child's new class. We would like volunteers to help run stalls and donate items - please let us know if you can help. After last year's success we will also be holding Sport/Fun Day on the last day of term.

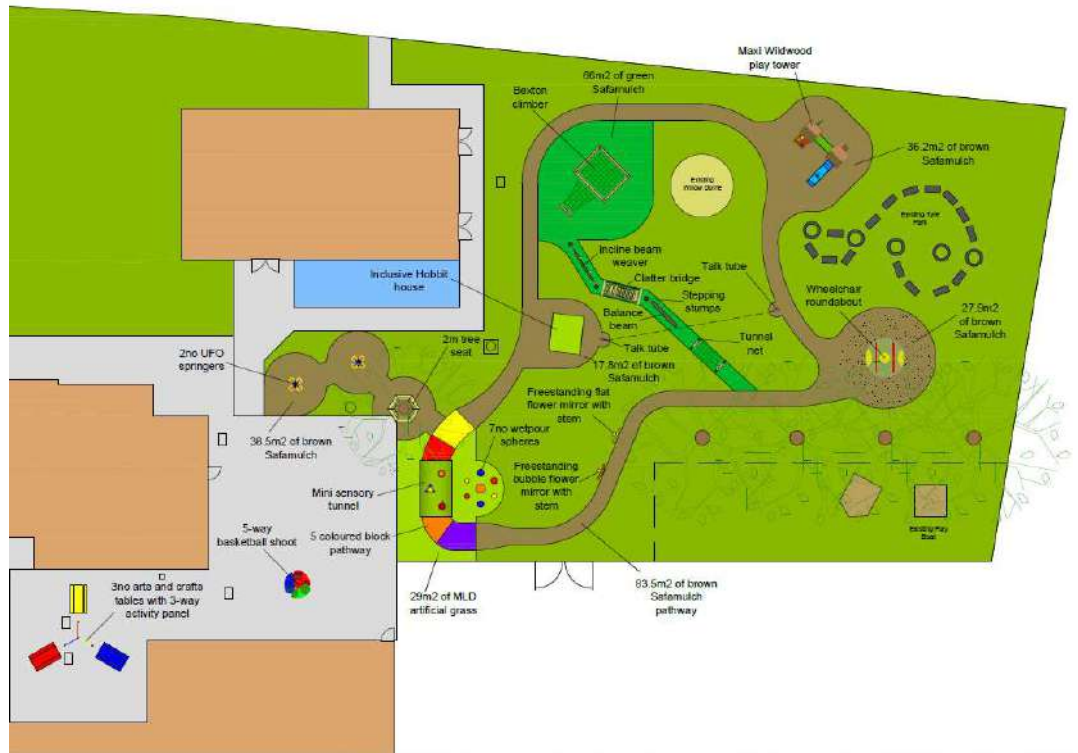
There are also some exciting developments happening over the summer. We have finalised designs for our playground spaces (photos below) - to include sensory regulation equipment on the smaller playground and a bike/scooter track on the larger playground. This is essential to support our children's learning and wellbeing- providing spaces for them to regulate as well as learn key skills such as road safety in a safe environment prior to doing travel training. We are liaising with the designers and hope to start the development over the Summer holiday break. The space in the Acorns

classroom has also been prepped by our builders- ready for the installation of a third hi-tech sensory room in this space which will also be installed over the Summer break.

Upper playground plans:



Lower playground plans:



- Kindness
- Resilience
- Cooperation
- Determination
- Honesty
- Curiosity
- Courage

This is for Lower playground:



Acorns Sensory Room:





A reminder as the weather improves to send in your child with sun cream in a labelled bottle and a hat. Please refer to our uniform dress code for appropriate school uniform as we continue to strive to maintain high standards across the school.

The school uniform consists of:

- Grey or black trousers or skirts
- A white or light blue polo shirt
- A plain white sleeved shirt
- In the summer grey or black shorts may be worn but they must be tailored shorts as opposed to sports shorts. There is also the option of a gingham blue dress.
- Black school shoes
- Dark blue sweatshirt (this must not have a hood). If your child already has a royal blue sweatshirt this does not need to be changed. When your child has grown out of the royal blue sweatshirt please then replace with a navy-blue sweatshirt.

PE Kit:

- Trainers or Pumps
- A white or blue t-shirt or polo shirt
- Blue shorts / jogging bottoms / tracksuit bottoms
- A dark blue sweatshirt or a zipped hooded sweatshirt. Please note that if your child does not want to wear a zipped hooded sweatshirt, we only allow the Brackenfield hooded sweatshirts which are available from Simply First. A hooded top must only be worn for PE.

Jewellery and nails:

- Single stud earrings – 1 per ear. Earrings must be removed for PE.
- Nails should be a short length (not extending over the tip of the finger) and only neutral colours of nail varnish are allowed

Uniform with the embroidered school logo can be purchased from either Simply First in Stapleford or Tesco F&F Embroidered Uniforms.

Trish Turner
Head Teacher

School News

School newsletter photos

We have a number of pupils who we have received permissions for photos in our newsletter. The newsletter also goes on our school website. We will be sending out a new permissions form. Please indicate clearly whether you are happy for your child's photo to go on the newsletter as it is a celebration for the pupils too and we want to ensure all pupils can be involved where possible.

School building updates

In Yew class we have had our new space dividers delivered, these have been specially made to carve up our classroom space to help with our learning, we now have a circle time area and a calm area. The children have responded so well to the new spaces and we are excited to see the impact on their learning!



**Annual open afternoon, BBQ and fayre and..... OUTDOOR CINEMA!!!!
Thursday 11th July 2019 from 1.15pm**



We will be holding our annual barbecue on Thursday 11th July and this year the theme will be 'on the beach!'



We would love for you to come and take part in lots of beach themed activities as well as a family cinema (hopefully outdoors) screening of Moana. We will be inviting other local community members to our event and we would love it if you would join us to.



If you have any beach themed ideas or resources you would be able to share with us, please give the school office a call. We greatly appreciate your support! As we say, we are hoping to have an outdoor cinema to screen Moana! **If anybody has a large screen we can borrow or knows anyone**

who does, please give the school office a call!



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

Yew Class



During this month Yew class have been exploring the school community and using different parts of the school for different activities. We have been mark making with different equipment and paint. We have been playing with each other in our classroom, using the parachute together and interacting with our Immersive classroom space. We are looking forward to our new classes and our next topic at the seaside!



Willow Class

Willow Class had a lovely month enjoying the sunshine at the park and developing their independent living skills as the shop. We have made some lovely pizzas and even managed the washing up.

Willow have loved "Bucket" sessions with Miss Somerfield and their ability to take turns, listen and pay attention have greatly improved. Willow have shown their friendship skills by welcoming different pupils into the class for sessions and playing with Beech, Acorns and Yew class. Well done Willow on a fantastic month.



We wish you all the best in your new classes after half term. Miss Simpson, Miss Lacey, Miss Somerfield, Mrs Boswell Miss Wrigley.

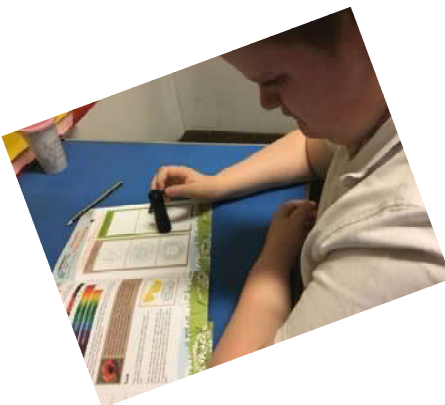


and

Comprehend Pathway

Conkers Class:

Continuing our research on the topic of the term "on the farm", we have researched Ancient Greece, in which we identified some similarities and difference between then and now. Following the Greece theme, we made some Greek food, including pita breads, and even made some Greek Pottery. We then had a fun breakfast morning, where we learned how to do some traditional Greek dancing, which all the learners really enjoyed.



We have also had a visit from a Bee Conservation Charity, which spoke to us about the importance of Bees. This helped us learn the differences between bees and that flowers have Ultraviolet markings, and even used a microscope to identify various pollen types.



We are looking forward to going to Derby Museum to celebrate cultural diversity, which continues to develop the theme of this term. In addition to this, we are looking forward to building our relationships as part of a team and having fun at The Leicester Outdoor Pursuits. Following the theme of equality and diversity, we have had a Paralympic Badminton player come in to inform us that our differences will not hold us back and that we are able.



Throughout the year, Conkers Class have made some great improvements in all areas, in which the Conkers Team are incredibly proud. Each learner has developed into more independent young ladies and gents, and we hope they continue this progression in the future.



Well done Conkers, we wish you all the best for the future in your new classes.

Beech Class:



This month Beech have continued to develop their swing and putting skills, we visited Breedon on the Hill for a lovely day in the sun.



Pupils also visited Escape to participate in the wider community. All pupils had to sign themselves in, pay and order their own dinners.

We have also been preparing the groundworks in the old sensory garden. Beech pupils have used various hand tools and the mower.





In the classroom, pupils have taken part in debates, discussed friendships and relationships, the role of a parent, we even had a special little visitor!



Elm:

Pupils in Elm have continued working hard on the topic 'On the Farm.' In Literacy they have enjoyed reading lots of different stories set on the farm or containing farm animals. In Expressive Arts and Design lessons Elm class have been doing farm animal yoga, different animal dance movements, making their own farms and acting out the three little pigs and the little red hen stories. In PE they have enjoyed



doing hoola hooping and playing basket ball and curling. As part of our Independent Living lessons we have been learning about healthy eating. They have been making their own fruit salads which they enjoyed eating! Elm class have enjoyed learning about everything related to the 'On the Farm' this term.



Decode Pathway

Ash Class:



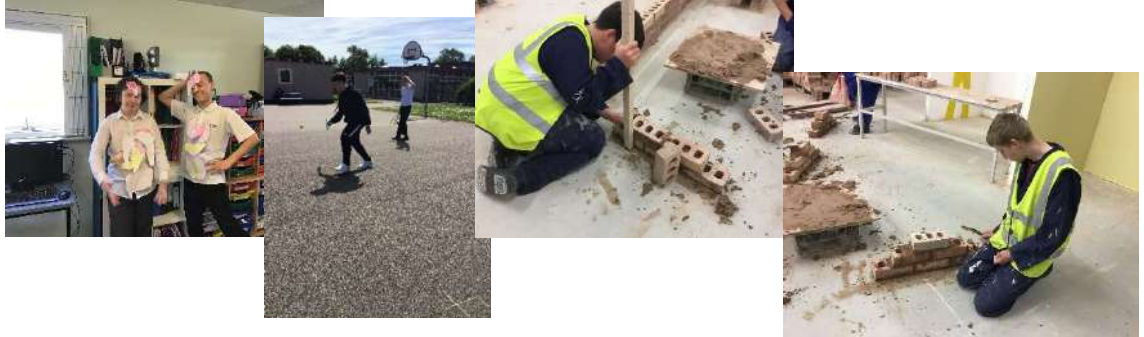
Climbing and exploring! Ash class certainly have had an exciting half term. It has been great to see the pupils represent the school so well on a range of activities. This term we have visited Derby museum and appreciated a range of artwork and artefacts. The students behaved very responsibly and showed great curiosity in the exhibits. We have also had the amazing opportunity to visit Clip n Climb, where we learned all about harnesses, climbing and safety. Many overcame their fears and managed to climb very high! It was great to see pupils communicating and pushing themselves. In the classroom, the students have been working on a range of topics including; 2D and 3D shapes, positional vocabulary in numeracy, engaging in discussion and debates on topics such as school uniform. We have explored different types of habitats in science and looked further in depth into garden habitats in our art lessons. Kahoot is currently all the rage in ICT classes, as pupils use the iPads and smartboard to answer questions. We have also had the chance to look at basic programming and developer skills.

Oak Class:

These last few weeks in English, Oak have been planning in a range of different ways, including mind maps, chronological plans and diaries, to complete a variety of writing tasks. They have written job applications, summarized historical events and related a stay on a desert island. In maths the class have been working on measurement of length and weight. They have been using a range of equipment and different units to both estimate and accurately measure objects around them.

In Science, the students have continued their study of the human body and have focused on the Digestive System, particularly enjoying a video of the journey through the system and their own creation of the major organs, modelled by Ashlei and Tye!

In P.E. we have been enjoying our last few Gym sessions, where the students have been ferociously pounding the treadmill and pumping iron on the weights! We have also been enjoying the sun and playing a bit of tennis. The students have really enjoyed their introduction to bricklaying at Ilkeston College, with a couple of them, being identified as naturals right from day one, well done Harry and Tye.



Rowan Class:



Rowan class have been investigating mass, volume and capacity in maths and have worked well together to make measurements and comparisons. They have used rulers, scales and measuring cylinders and played a



variety of interactive games on the whiteboard show their increasing accuracy. In English they have been creating their own characters for writing a play and begun to develop their ideas for a script. We have enjoyed the recent good weather by looking at the ermine moth caterpillars in the school's front garden as well as helping Beech class in the sensory garden. Pupils had a lot of questions about butterflies and moths which we then researched. In art we have been focusing on using paper to create different art including 3D paper and card sculptures - they were very colourful and creative! We have also been learning about seasonal foods, making calendars and looking at prices in the local supermarket.



to



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.

Derbyshire Local Offer



This is a Derbyshire wide website with information for young people & children, families and professionals.

Link:

<https://localoffer.derbyshire.gov.uk>

Accessible Derbyshire

Derbyshire is a beautiful county. Its peaks, dales, woodland and waterways form one of the most breath-taking landscapes in the world, its stunning towns and villages are full to the brim with interesting places to visit and great things to do.

<http://www.accessiblederbyshire.org/>

Derbyshire Autism Services

The May issue of our "What's On" is now available on our website.

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

CROAK

Carers & Relatives Of Autistic Kids



Do you care for a child with ASD or ADHD?

Maybe you're just starting to suspect something because of certain behaviour?

We are a group of parents, relatives & carers who understand!

You don't need a diagnosis. If you need some support, a cuppa & somewhere to talk it out freely & not feel judged, then you have found the right place!

We have an active Facebook chat group called "CROAK! Chat group for carers & relatives of autistic kids" we ask three security questions when you join for members safety, please find us & join in the chat!

In the Cafe	Learning Support Department
Daytime 11 – 1pm	Evening 4.30 – 6.30pm
Big Kirk Hallam Community Centre	Kirk Hallam Community Academy
Kenilworth Drive	Godfrey Drive
Kirk Hallam	Kirk Hallam
Tuesday 8 th January	
Tuesday 22 nd January	Wed 13 th February
Tuesday 5 th February	
Tuesday 5 th March	Wed 13 th March
Tuesday 19 th March	
Tuesday 2 nd April	Wed 15 th May
Tuesday 30 th April	
Tuesday 14 th May	Wed 19 th June
Tuesday 11 th June	
Tuesday 25 th June	
Tuesday 9 th July	

Contact Liz for further details on 07568 196968

or email croak.ilkeston@gmail.com



LITTLE PEACOCKS PLAY GROUP

For Parents and Carers of Children with Autism
and other Additional Needs

Here at Long Eaton Children's centre we are starting a playgroup for parents/carers who support children with Autism and other additional needs. Formal diagnosis not needed to attend this play group.

It will be a place for parents/carers to meet other parents/carers who are going through similar issues, to share the good times and the not so good times. To support each other with advice and friendship, whilst being able to play with your child in a friendly non-judgemental environment.

Starting Wednesday 1st May 10 - 11.30 am every week

At Long Eaton Children's Centre

Lime Terrace

Long Eaton

Nottingham

NG10 4LF

Contact Amanda Lowdon on **01629532625** or

Amanda.lowdon@derbyshire.gov.uk

For more information,