

January Newsletter



Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas break. The children have settled back into school extremely well and have enjoyed many wonderful learning opportunities over the last month.

Given the snow this month, we were lucky to have an INSET day on the 4th January! We heard all about the exciting sledging and fun that the children had on this day, whilst staff were in school completing training!

Values

We started January by launching the new school values. The children are super excited about earning their Truly Trusted Badges and Mrs Levers can't wait to announce the names of the first children to achieve this in assembly over the next few weeks. Watch this space!



Kings and Queens Day (Y1)



Year 1 had a wonderful day dressing up as Kings and Queens as part of our history topic 'Marvellous Monarchs'. They learnt about the life of Queen Elizabeth II and Queen Victoria. They talked about our current king, King Charles III and made crowns. They listened to royal music and did some royal dancing.

Everyone in school thought Year 1 looked amazing!

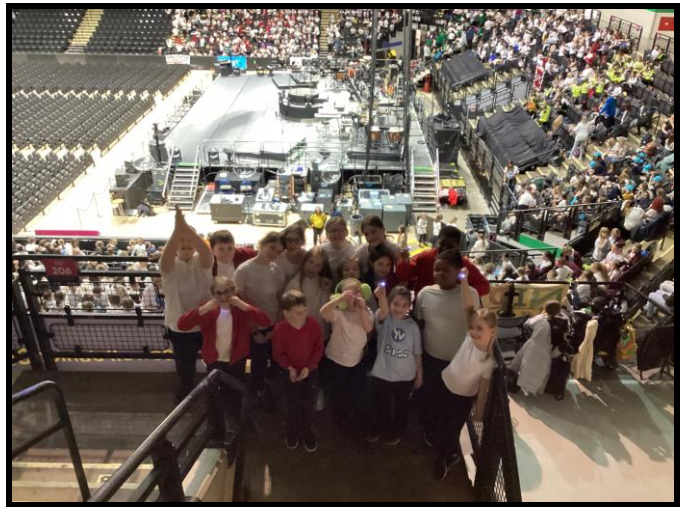
Girls Football Morning



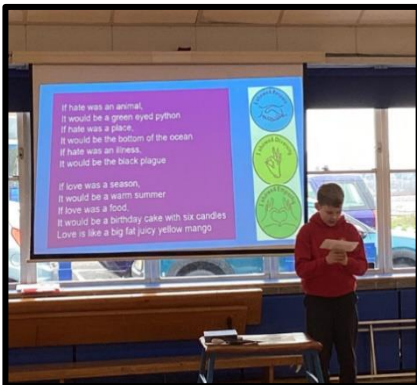
The Year 3 - Year 6 girls enjoyed a girls football morning, provided by the Bolsover Sports Partnership. They had so much fun!

Young Voices

As part of our curriculum plus offer, Mrs Siddall has been leading a singing group after school. The children who attended had the opportunity to go to Young Voices at the Sheffield Arena. The children had great time and it was a pleasure to take them.



Holocaust Memorial Day



It was great to work with Derbyshire County Council Wider Policy Team on a Holocaust Memorial Event. The children decorated stones and have taken these home to place into the community.

You can find out more about Holocaust Memorial Day online at <http://hmd.org.uk>

Congratulations

A huge well done to our Duckmanton Dodgers, who came second in their Basketball competition. Thank you to our supporters who came and cheered them on.



Supporting Personal Development



Following a report of community crime, we invited our PCSO's into school to talk with KS2 children about community safety. PCSO Parker and PCSO Vaughan came into school and enjoyed chatting with the children over lunchtime, delivering workshops to the KS2 classes following this.

They are regularly in school and are happy to discuss any concerns with parents.

Earrings Policy

Our school policy is that earrings can be worn, however they must be small, plain studs. Lessons (predominately PE) are very active and earrings can be easily ripped out of ears, causing injury. Therefore, they must be removed for PE lessons or covered with a plaster. Plasters should be provided from home and children should be able to put the plaster on themselves. Usually, children in EYFS and KS1 are unable to apply plasters themselves, so we ask that they do not wear them on PE days.

Please help us by following this guidance. We really appreciate your support.

Thank you

Mrs Donna Bowley has been the Chairperson of the school PFA for many years. She has done a wonderful job of chairing and leading the group; giving hours of her own time to organising events, attending and minuting minutes.

Her youngest son left our school last year; however she has continued to chair the group until now. We are sad to say that she has decided to resign from her position and the PFA meeting on Thursday 27th February will be her last.

We wish her the very best.

Announcement

Toby Perkins, the Member of Parliament for Chesterfield has been in touch. He would like parents who have had experience of the SEND system to submit any experiences that they have had via email attoby.perkins.mp@parliament.uk or post to

The Office of Toby Perkins MP,

113 Saltergate,

Chesterfield.

S40 1NF

This will be used as evidence to address the SEND crisis in our schools, identified as increased waiting times and pressure on schools and local authorities



School Car Parking

In order to keep our school community safe, parents should not enter the school car park between 8.15am and 4.15pm, unless you have a pre booked meeting or it has been agreed with the Headteacher.

We are also witnessing parents pulling over / parking in the entrance to the school car park, causing a hazard. Please do not park here.

Attendance


Our attendance target for this academic year is 96%+

Key

Attendance is at or above the school target of 96%

Attendance is between 92 – 96%, below school target and being monitored

Attendance is below 92% and significantly below the school target of 97%. Action to improve attendance needed

<u>Class</u>	<u>Attendance for January</u>	<u>WINNING CLASS</u>
NEST & Nursery – Mrs Orme	90.76%	WELL DONE Year 5 
Reception – Mrs Pickering	90.51%	
Year 1 Miss Smyth	96.03%	
Year 2 Mrs Daysh	95.98%	
Year 3 Mrs Siddall	97.80%	
Year 4 Mrs Wright / Draper	91.51%	
Year 5 Miss King / Miss Hill	99.22%	
Year 6 Mr Beeden / Miss Hill	96.06%	
Whole School	94.79%	

Holiday requests during term time

Any requests should be an official school Leave of Absence Request form which is available on the school website or collectable from the school office. This should be handed into the school office for consideration prior to any holiday/leave arrangements being made.

In September 2013 the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2013 came into force. The regulations make it clear that Headteachers should not grant approval for any leave of absence during term time, including holidays unless there are exceptional circumstances. These regulations also state that holidays cannot be authorised retrospectively.

You may be issued with a Penalty Notice should leave be taken which is not authorised. If unpaid, this could lead to prosecution under section 444(1) of The Education Act 1996.

Upcoming Key Dates

Monday 3rd February All day-National Storytelling week

Thursday 6th February All day- Year 3 Egyptian Workshop

Friday 7th February All day- NSPCC Number Day

Tuesday 11th February All day- Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 12th February am- Reception Active Story Telling Session

Wednesday 12th February @ 3.15-4.15pm- Valentine's Disco (Reception to Y6)

Thursday 13th February All day- Final day of school

Friday 14th February All day- Inset day

Monday 24th February All day- Return to School

Tuesday 25th February am- Y5 Wellbeing event

Thursday 27th February @3.20pm-PFA meeting

Governors of Duckmanton Primary School

Miss S Scarborough Chair of Governors/ LA Governor

Mr C Martin Co-opted Governor

Mrs E Levers Headteacher

Mr J Beeden Staff Governor

Mrs M Lane Co-opted Governor

Mr D Barlow Parent Governor

Mr M Copestake Parent Governor

Contact: Miss S Scarborough

Duckmanton Primary School, West Crescent, Duckmanton, Chesterfield S44 5HD.