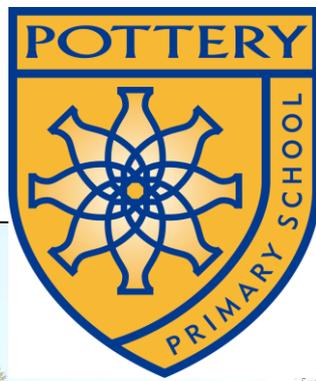


Pottery Primary School

Celebration News



July 2018

Editorial



This July marks something of an end of an era for our family. Our son George started at Pottery in September 2008 and our daughter Clara leaves this month, so a ten-year association with the school is coming to an end. Both children have had a great time here and we will always be grateful for the part which Pottery has played in their educational journey. Particular thanks must go to their Y6 teachers, Mr Hartley and Mrs Nicholson respectively, for having prepared them so well for their 'Next Big Step.'

As both children will be in secondary education from September I am also stepping down as a parent governor after four years, so this will be my last year editing *Celebration News*. As ever it's been a real privilege to help put the booklet together and to read about all the many good things that go on in the school. My thanks to Mrs Hutton and all the staff, pupils and fellow governors who have contributed words and pictures.

Paul Linford, Parent Governor 2014-18

From the Headteacher



It has been another very busy and successful year. In September we formulated a 'Belper Schools Collaboration' with the following schools: Ambergate Primary, Belper School, Herbert Strutt Primary, Long Row Primary, Milford Primary and St John's C of E Primary. We are all local authority schools who are rated as 'good' by Ofsted.

Our vision is to work together to provide an excellent education for the children of Belper and the surrounding villages who make up the Belper Cluster. We aim to achieve this through strengthening leadership and providing high quality educational opportunities and experiences which enable children to achieve their potential.

So far this year, we have collaborated on staff training by having joint training events and by staff visiting each other's schools to share good practice. We have also shared children's work across the cluster so that we are in agreement as to what is 'age expected' or 'exceeding age expected.' Our staff teams work collaboratively to share good practice, for example our Special Educational Needs Leaders have met termly as have our early year's staff. You can read more about the BCC - Belper Cluster Collaboration on our website.

In March we had our Ofsted inspection and the letter reported that we were a good school. We were very pleased with the report itself which can be accessed on our website; here is just one of the quotes:

'You are fully committed to ensuring that your pupils become lifelong learners through their enjoyment of learning. Pupils told me how much they enjoy their lessons, particularly those in which they learn about different things through topic. Pupils are proud of their school and feel they are making good progress. This was very evident when a group of pupils showed me the 'Pink Book'.

We can all be proud of this report as learning is a joint venture between home and school; we work together to foster children's curiosity and engagement with learning. If you want to have a look at our learning journeys (or pink books as they have become known to the children) they can be found in the office foyer.

Our school would not be the wonderful place it is to work at, and learn in, were it not for the tireless work of: Governors, Parents, Staff, our PSA and of course our fabulous children. Many thanks.

Gill Hutton, Headteacher

From the Chair of Governors



This year, as always, has been very busy for everyone at Pottery School. Staff continue to display their dedication by ensuring every pupil receives a consistent, nurturing and well-rounded education. Not only do we have great results but the health and wellbeing of pupils is a key priority.

When I am within school, I am continually struck by the pupil's behaviour and what a well-mannered and caring bunch they all are.

A great asset to the school which re-enforces the school's ethos and values, and something we can all be very proud of.

Our Head Teacher, Gill Hutton, working with the Board of Governors and the Senior Leadership Team has once again managed a very tight ship resulting in a balanced budget for the school. Something of which is no mean feat with current uncertainty in relation to continual changes to the budget formula.

I would also like to thank the PSA for their continued hard work with the different fundraising events run over the year. A few dedicated parents give a vast amount of their spare time in organising these events and the results are phenomenal.

This year has been consistent for the Board of Governors. We took a decision earlier in the year to increase the board by one extra member and target skills in relation to teaching and learning including curriculum and data. In March, we subsequently welcomed Martin Fotheringham onto the board. As a Primary School teacher, his experience gave exactly the skills the board was looking for.

The first part of the year continued to be very frustrating in relation to the new build but finally the green light was given and a firm commencement date of third week in July was agreed. The Board and the Mrs Hutton recognises the huge amount of disruption the work will create over the coming 18 months but assure parents that every phase of the work will be co-ordinated and parents will be kept fully informed of any change in arrangements on a regular basis. Please bear with us during this period as I can guarantee the finished results will give a fabulous place for the children to continue their education.

I would like to reiterate the fantastic Ofsted result from our inspection in March. A combination of a great deal of hard work from all parties within the school. This would have not been possible if it was not for the efforts of everyone including the Board, the Senior Leadership Team, staff, parents and of course the children!

Lastly, all that is left for me to say is I hope you have a fabulous summer holiday and good luck to year 6 children starting their new adventure in September.

Jane Bate

Reception Classes - Mr Boardman and Mrs Campbell

This year in Reception we have had a great time sharing experiences and learning new skills through exploration and play. Here is a selection of some of the activities and adventures we have been on:

A Christmas Recipe - Our Christmas Production

Over Christmas the children performed a very different version of the Nativity - "A Christmas Recipe".



There were lines to learn, stage directions to remember and songs to sing. They enjoyed showcasing their acting and singing skills to family and friends. We were all very proud of how hard they worked and they definitely deserved the Christmas break.



Exploring Our World

This year one of the biggest things we have done in Reception is to hatch and look after chicks. It was very exciting to see how much the chicks grew but it took ages for them to hatch. We were very patient and eventually we all got to feed them and give them a stroke.





We have also had lots of chances to bake which included making bread with Mrs Marriot in the kitchen, baking cakes and making a pizza for a dinosaur. We decided it was best that we ate them instead of feeding them to a dinosaur.



In Reception we love to learn outside and there has been lots of opportunities to do that with all sorts of different activities including making shelters, using bikes, getting creative, and exploring the natural world around us.



Whistlestop Centre



We took a trip to the Whistlestop Centre run by the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust in Matlock Bath. We walked to Belper to catch the train and talked about all of the



things we needed to do in order to keep safe on the roads and by the railway lines.



When we got there we followed a trail based on the Owl Babies story. We had to follow the feathers to find all of the Owls. We used our noses to make a smelly potion, our ears



to hear all of the sounds in the woods, our eyes to spot different coloured worms and our fingers to feel what the different trees felt like.



We then ate our lunch by the pond and talked about the different creatures that might live in there. After lunch we made shelters for fairies and came up with our own story



about why the fairy houses had been broken. After a tiring train ride back we met our adults at the train station for the journey home - what a day!

We have had lots of fun in Reception this year and have learned lots along the way. We are all ready and raring to go into year one to start our next adventure.

Year 1/2: Classes of Mrs Roberts/Mrs Hawkins, Miss Dale and Miss Bradley

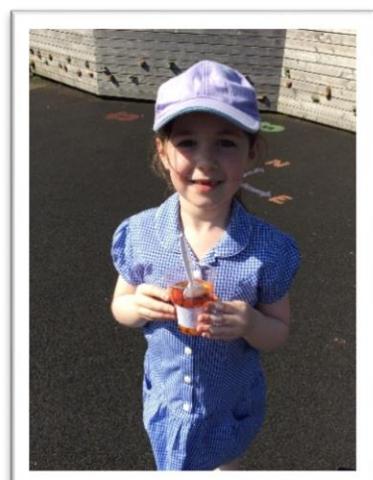
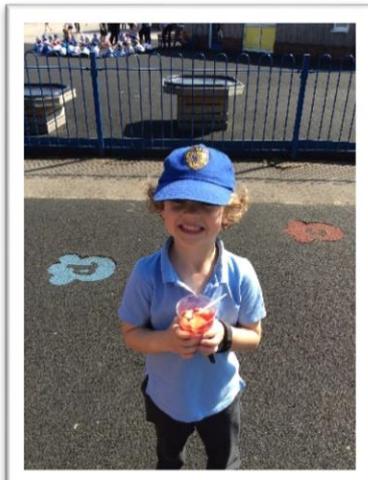
Green Fingers

Within our topic 'How Does Your Garden Grow' we have been learning about what plants need to survive. We went into the garden to take a closer look at the flowers and trees and then had a go at growing our own sunflower seeds.



Fruity Jelly

During geography we discovered where different fruits come from. We found out which fruits grow below the ground and which grow above. Then we designed our own jelly using our favourite fruits - and some we hadn't tried before! We chopped, squeezed and mashed our fruit and mixed it with flavoured jelly. The best part of course was the taste test!



Faberge Eggs

During art week, we investigated the Faberge egg taking inspiration from the artist Romero Britto for our decoration. First, we used a balloon for the basic shape, using a paper maché technique to cover the balloon with several layers of glue and paper to create a hard egg shape. After this, we designed the pattern for our egg using simple pop art patterns in the style of Romero Britto. With great care we then sketched this design onto the egg before getting messy and painting over the design.



We really enjoyed decorating the eggs with sparkly jewels and glitter as well as getting very messy!

The Christmas Magic Box

Our Christmas production focused on exploring the traditions celebrated at Christmas throughout time. We discovered where the first Christmas trees came from, the delicious foods that we eat and the reason we give presents.



I loved getting dressed up in my costume! The singing and dancing was the best!



Fairy World



In February some fairies came to class and we designed houses for them. Then we used clay to make them a fancy new front door.



We made sure the doors were decorated with details the fairies would like.

Magical Music



Music day gave us lots of exciting opportunities to be creative. We learnt how to sing a song in French and made up actions to fit with our dance. We discovered that when we make music using the pentatonic scale it all blends together nicely. Our final piece of dragon music was fabulous. Finally, we listened to a variety of musical pieces to see how they affected our mood.

Year 3/4: Classes of Mrs Kanigowski, Mr Harrison/Mrs Hodgins and Miss Slack



In the Autumn Term, Year 3 and 4 had a 'Greek day' as part of the topic 'It's All Greek to me'. The children were able to dress as an Ancient Greek and took part in Greek dancing, acting out a Greek Myth, researching facts about Greece and made [Tzatziki](#) and Hummus to try with pitta breads, olives and feta cheese.

During our Enterprise week we designed, costed, made and packaged 'Truffles'. We carried out market research to decide on the shape, colour and flavour of our products (each class had a different flavour). We then worked in groups to follow our design and make our 'Truffles'. Some of us then volunteered to sell the products at the PSA 'Winter Fair', we helped raise nearly £300!



Just before Christmas we had our annual 'Book Cafe' where we could bring in our favourite books and share them with our friends. We were able to enjoy reading all different types of books from fiction to non-fiction and poems with our friends and share snacks at the same time. We compared authors and composed a list of books we'd like to read at some point on a bookmark.



In the Spring Term, we had our 'Year 3 and 4 Healthy Day'. Rob and Phil came in from Amber Valley School Sports Partnership to work with us on looking at how much sugar is in lots of different drinks and we played a guessing game with sugar cubes. We were shocked to find that orange juice had 9 sugar cubes in it!



We also made our healthy soup using just vegetables which each class had voted for, and made a fruit salad in the afternoon. Rob stayed with us in the afternoon to do a fitness session with us.



We were very lucky to have the chance to go to the Belper Hockey Club for a whole day of coaching in the Spring Term. We learnt all the important skills in the morning during lots of different games and then had some



team matches in the afternoon. It was a brilliant day and we all learnt so much that we then took back into school to use during our Intra-sport competitions in Hockey.



During this term we also had 'World Book Day' where we had the chance to dress up as a character from a book. We did lots of great activities during the day including comparing books and looking at the differences between different characters and authors.



The school held a 'Gambia Day' to support the Amber Valley School Sports Partnership who have a strong link with schools in The Gambia. We all dressed in the colours of the Gambian flag and did lots of activities based around Gambia throughout the day. We made a fact book about Gambia using facts and photos and we did some problem solving in maths using different coloured shapes from the colours of the Gambian flag. We had such a great day and raised lots of money for people in The Gambia and Phil came in during the Summer term to show us how our money had helped.



Just before we broke up, we had our 'Art week' which each year group team had a different focus for. Year 3/4 were basing their work on Antony Gormley who is most famous for the 'Angel of the North'. We chose to use clay to make sculptures in the style of Antony Gormley who often creates identical sculptures but getting bigger/smaller each time. Each class had a different Easter theme. Mrs Kanigowski's class made rabbits, Mrs Hodgins' made sheep and Miss Slack's made Easter eggs. At the end of the week, the parents came to look at our work in classrooms.



During the summer term, we had a 'Stone Age Day' where we came dressed as children from the Stone Age. In the morning we tried nettle tea and prepared bannock bread and sweetened apples ready to be cooked on the fire in the afternoon. During the afternoon, we went down to the field took part in three activities: tool making, Stone Age games and cooking our food on the fire. Mr Boardman led the afternoon,

teaching us about how to light fires and how to stay safe when using a fire to cook food.

Our final trip of the year was to the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, linked with our topic 'Green Fingers'. As part of the day, we took part in a taught session which involved the opportunity to handle lots of different animals. We also spent time finding out about the different plants that grow in different greenhouses.

Years 5/6: Classes of Mr Hartley, Miss Illingworth and Mrs Nicholson:

Abracadabra!

Our first topic this year was Abracadabra where we looked at The Stuarts and also some cracking inventions. We started off with Macbeth, written by William Shakespeare, and really enjoyed hearing about the witches on the heath and even getting to be them through role play and dance. We learnt all about the Great Fire of London and pretended to be news reporters by creating our own newspapers. November came and we used Talk for Writing to recite the Gunpowder Plot and retell the events that happened leading up to the Guy Fawkes' infamous act. We then began looking at some of history's greatest inventions and for our enterprise project designed, created, packaged, evaluated and sold our very own soaps. Our classrooms smelt lovely for weeks!



Left: Our final soaps all boxed up and ready to sell.

Right: Having fun choosing our colour and scent.



Spring Term

We took a journey back in time for our spring term topic and found ourselves in 1939 at the start of World War II. Mrs Nix's Mum, Mrs Rhodes, started our topic by telling us all about her experiences as a young child during the war. We were fascinated by the stories she told and began to understand what a difficult time it must have been for everyone. On our World War II day, we were fortunate enough to welcome Mr Parkin into school who told us about how Belper was affected by the war.

One of the highlights to the term was our visit to Beaumanor Hall. We arrived dressed as evacuees and spent the day learning about what it might have been like to have been evacuated. Aspects of the day were really scary - especially the air raid shelter!

Make Do and Mend not only taught us valuable skills about sewing, but also how we could adapt our old clothes to make new fashion. We finished our technology project with an entertaining fashion show, accompanied by 1940's music and dancing.

We finished the spring term with an amazing art project based on the work of Georgia O'Keefe. The children enjoyed showing off their art skills to parents who they invited to come and visit their galleries.



Inside the air raid shelter at Beaumanor Hall.



Art work inspired by Georgia O'Keefe.



Summer Term



What a full on term this has been for the Year 5's and 6's. For the Year 6's there was of course their SATs. Not too bad when you start the day with a breakfast prepared by Karen - the cook.

No sooner had SAT's finished than we were preparing for Prince Harry's wedding day on 19th May. There were activities and celebrations in the morning and partying in the afternoon.

Intra School Tournament - Rounders

This terms intra- school tournament was rounders. All the Year 5's and 6's took part in this competition. It was a closely fought contest with all players working together in batting and fielding. When the final scores were added up Red won for the Year 5's and the Year 6's was won by the Blue team.



Right: Katy hitting out in rounders

Quad Kids

Year 5's and 6's took part in this Primary school competition. There were over 100 children and some 15 teams competing. Pottery pupils really tried hard and thanks to their regular distance run training they performed exceptionally well in the tournament, coming an impressive second place.

Egyptian Day



We had another of our popular theme days with the children and staff dressing up in a variety of Egyptian costumes. There was some particularly scary mummies! The children took part in a number of activities including movie making, cooking and model making.

Forest School Activity Day

Year 5's took part in Forest School activities, which involved them rope making, erecting tents and creating homes for hedgehogs before finally lighting fires to cook marshmallows and sing campfire songs. A great time was had by all! Pictured (right) is Emily den building.



Lea Green

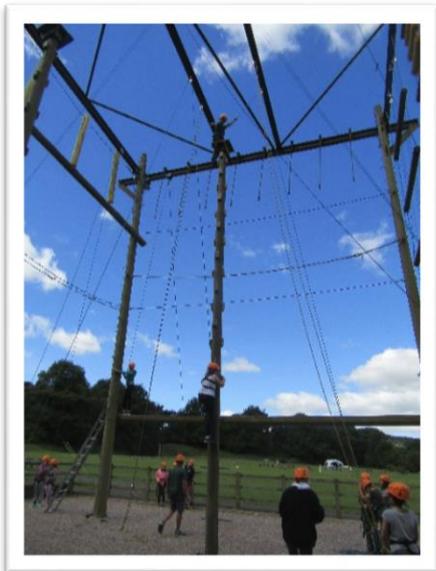
A 3-day residential and 47 children, what a combination! The Year 6's really made the most of their time at Lea Green - stretching themselves and developing their skills.



Activities included a steam scramble, low ropes and an assault course. There was also the challenge of the high ropes and the shelter building exercise. The weather was great, the activities were exciting and some people even managed to get a few hours' sleep. The only disappointment was that it wasn't for longer!

Left: Evening walk - a quiet moment!

Below and right: Year 6 challenging themselves on the high ropes!



Art Week

This year Art Week took place from the 19th March therefore as Easter was approaching we chose "New Life" as the theme for our work. Each Key Stage had an artist to study and then utilising their work as inspiration created our own pieces. To display our work we created an art gallery around the school to give the opportunity to appreciate other people's work, as well as investigate what they had learned.

Reception

In art week, we looked at Picasso- how he uses animals and people to inspire colourful artwork. First, we drew a picture of ourselves and copied this again. Using as many colours as possible, we coloured both portraits so they looked different. Using a ruler, we drew lines in randomly. After this we cut along these lines to create jigsaw pieces. To finish the picture we stuck pieces from both faces together to create a mix of colours and features. It was great and they all looked funny! I loved sticking the pieces



together to create a different picture.



Year 1 and 2

We investigated Romero Britto and his pop art themed work. We then designed an easter egg using his simple yet colourful style giving us a template for our Faberge egg. To create the 3D egg we blew up a balloon then covered this with paper and glue several times in a method known as papier mache- it was very messy! Once the egg shape had been formed we could draw on our design (which was very tricky with it being round!) To complete our eggs we used bright and eye-catching colours to paint our design and using the traditional theme, we sprinkled glitters and sequins on to give them the "luxurious" effect of a real Faberge egg.



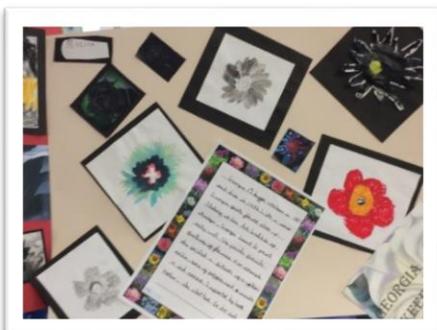
Year 3 and 4

Anthony Gormley was the artist we investigated throughout the week. As an artist he is famous for his sculptures including the famous angel of the north. Gormley also enjoyed using clay to sculpt many miniature figures with little features visible. To utilise the new life theme we decided to create three countryside scenes featuring rabbits, sheep and eggs. First, we explored the different tools used to manipulate the clay, using them to sculpt a 3-D model of the chosen object. We then used natural materials such as pebbles, sticks, feathers to create the scene in which we displayed our clay works developing Anthony Gormley's style further.



Year 5 and 6

Following the "new life" theme we chose to focus on flowers representing the beauty of living. Georgia O'keefe was an artist best known for her flower-inspired work using oils to create bright and intense colours. Throughout the week we investigated Georgia O'Keefe, discovering important facts about her life and her journey on becoming an artist. First, we sketched out the flowers shape and features using sketching pencils. Using oil pastels we completed our sketches, replicating the vibrant colours of Georgia O'Keefe's work. We then adapted Georgia O' Keefe's original techniques and used different materials and other skills to create different styles of flower.

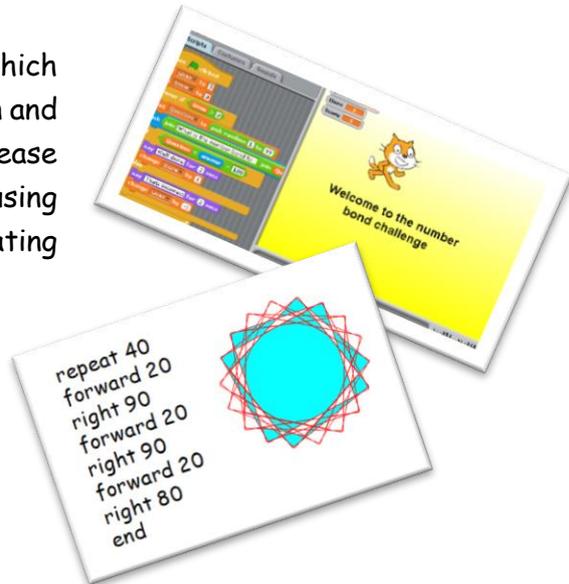
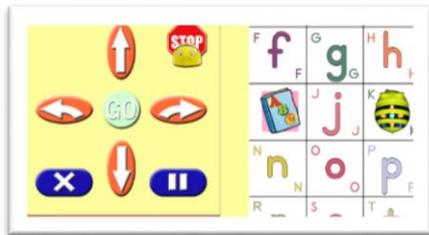


Computing

ICT has gone portable

Computing/ICT is used daily in all classes, gone have the days of sitting for hours on end behind a computer screen. Technology is used in all areas of the curriculum by using apps and equipment that support everything from speaking and listening to surfing...the world wide web not the sea!

We have developed our programming skills which have progressed from using a bee-bot both on and off a computer, writing instructions in textease turtle to create wonderful patterns then using Scratch to make an object move to creating number bond game to 100.



We have entered into the spirit of the world cup by entering a competition where KS1 have designed a football shirt, lower KS2 designed a game and Upper KS2 have created 3d models of trophies!!



On a weekly basis all children in KS2 practise keyboard and typing skills, it can be challenging to use all fingers when typing, but for those of us who type with only one or two fingers know all too well that those who touch type complete their work in shorter time...bonus!

A variety of technology was used to help us celebrate the royal wedding!

We used the internet on i-pads and computers to research the royal family and word processing skills to create reports and type up our research. We also used cameras, tablets and i-pads to take photographs and videos of the memorable event.

Digital Leaders

This year has seen the first full year of Digital Leaders which is a lunch time club for key stage 2 children. The children applied for their post and had an interview where they had to explain why they would be a good representative for their class.

Throughout the year they have been involved in lots of computing projects and helping teachers to troubleshoot any issues in the classrooms.

The Digital Leaders have worked very hard and even taught their classes part of the curriculum for online safety where they created and delivered a PowerPoint with questions in an interactive lesson.

Here are a few quotes of some of the things they really enjoyed over the year..

"I liked when we helped at open day"

"I liked when we opened a computer and looked inside"

"I liked talking about different and new gadgets"

It has been a great year and we have learned lots together as a team that we will now carry forward and use to help with computing in our next classes.



French

This academic year, Years 3 and 4 have been learning how to present themselves in French. We place importance on learning both the question and appropriate answers so that children are able to hold a conversation-exchanging name, age, where they live and when their birthday is.



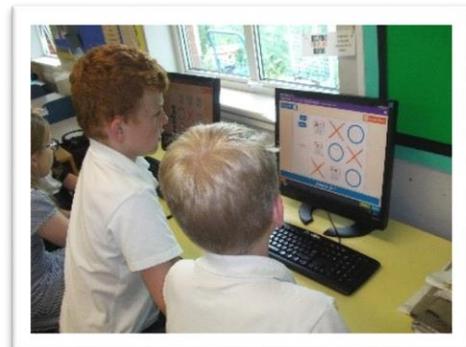
This term we are working on the weather. These photos show them conducting a survey, 'Quel temps fait-il?' and playing a vocabulary game practising weather.



Throughout the year, the 'Salut' computer software has enabled children to consolidate their learning by playing vocabulary games and listening to songs and stories. The challenge of 'Noughts and Crosses' or 'Beat the Bee' offers enjoyment and stimulation to



complement whole class teaching and learning.



Years 5 and 6 have learnt about 'Clothes,' and 'School' and are presently learning about places in a town and finding the way. We studied photos of different towns and cities in France and considered what facilities and interesting features can be found there and then presented it, in French, to the class. In the unit about school, we looked at differences and similarities between British and French education, the uniform and likes and dislikes of subjects.



Literacy

Reading Café

We have continued to organise Reading Café days for the children to encourage a 'love of reading' and to ask the children to sample books that they may not normally choose. They all have the opportunity to try out different styles / genres of books, whilst having a snack. The children are encouraged to make a booklist of books they would like to read from the choices that are either out for them to choose from or recommendations from other peers.



World Book Day

World Book Day this year was celebrated on Thursday 1st March. Children were asked to dress as their favourite book characters and bring in their books to go with their outfits. The children really enjoyed becoming characters from their books for the day and it was a great opportunity for the children to share with the rest of their class why the books they had brought in were their favourites.



Free Write Day

Free write days have been organised at various points in the year across the school. These days give the children the chance to plan and write about anything they are interested in. The variety of subjects chosen varies greatly from one class to another and it is great to see how engaged and enthusiastic the children are to be writers of their chosen subjects for the day! We are quite often asked 'when is our next free write going to be?'



M Kanigowski English coordinator

Mathematics

There has been a real push this year to develop reasoning (problem solving) skills in our children, with teachers creating opportunities for pupils to apply their knowledge and understanding. Our maths lessons teach Pottery pupils to be confident problem solvers. A major part of our classroom practice is designed to encourage pupils to think for themselves. The aim of each lessons is to probe their understanding and requires them to justify how they have arrived at a given answer.



Year 6 pupils are pictured explaining their work to other pupils.

Year's 1 - 5 are all using the Maths No Problem scheme. This scheme, along with the teachers bespoke planning further develops the reasoning skills of our pupils.

We create an ethos with our learners, that mistakes are a positive step towards gaining a greater understanding. At Pottery we refer to this as creating "turbulence". Our aim is to get them to work confidently through challenging questions, drawing on what they know and relating the question to ideas and experiences they have already encountered.

Don't take my word for it!

Ofsted

It was great to get the recognition for all the hard work the pupils, staff and parents have made in developing the standard of maths at Pottery.

Ofsted commented on the fact that:

"pupils of all abilities were equally challenged. This was also evident when we looked at the work in pupils' books, which shows that pupils of different abilities are making good progress. In mathematics, there is evidence that pupils are developing their reasoning and problem-solving skills."



Mathematical activity as part of our Escape Room open evening

Ofsted weren't our only visitors this year. We have had visits from other local Head Teachers and secondary maths teachers from Belper School. In the spring term Mrs Nicholson and I had the opportunity of working with the Maths and English teachers at Belper School with the year 7 and 8 pupils. Close links with our main secondary school are so important in ensuring our Year 6 hit the ground running when they start the secondary phase of their education.



Year 6 pupils involved in a maths investigation

G Hartley Maths Co-ordinator

Physical Education

PE throughout the school

This year we have worked hard to continue to improve Physical Education throughout the school.

In the early years, children have the opportunity to develop their basic skills through physical play and through structured PE lessons. They develop their confidence and begin to apply skills in dance, gymnastics and games.

Key stage 1 have been coached by a variety of Premier Sport coaches as well as their class teachers. They have acquired and improved their skills in dance, gymnastics, athletics and a variety of team games. Lots of children have also represented the school this year in local competitions such as end ball and football.

Key stage 2 have been further developing their skills and learning to apply them within game situations. They have also had specialist coaches come in to teach them a specific sport using their expertise. Year 6 have also enjoyed their 3 day residential at Lea Green.

Competitions

Throughout the year, we have entered into many competitions offered to us which are run by the Amber Valley School Sports Partnership. Children thoroughly enjoy taking part in these competitions as it gives them a chance to put skills learnt during lessons to use and play against different groups of children within the Borough.



In the Autumn term, we took some children from year 3/ 4 to Sportshall Athletics where they competed in standing long jump, chest push and speed bounce individually and then as a team took part in obstacle relay, hurdle relay and flat relay. They worked really well as a team, it was a great start to the competitions! We also took part in mini basketball, handball and mini tennis.

We are proud to announce that this year our year 2 handball team became Mini Handball Champions winning their competition and bringing home a new trophy for our school cabinet. The children were also given a handmade medal featuring our favourite character Ozzy the Octopus, made entirely from sand!



In the Spring term, we took Year 3/4 to a dodgeball competition. This was great fun and gave the children an opportunity to use some different skills in order to catch the other team out!

We also entered into the Y3/4 mini tennis, this was new to the children as they weren't due to start learning tennis during PE lessons until the Summer term. However, they had a great go and won the tournament! Later that term we attended the Borough finals at Ecclesbourne School to play against the final four schools. Well done!



During this term, we also took Year 5/6 to High 5 Netball, and took KS1 to Football at Belper Leisure Centre where we came 2nd!

In the Summer term, it was a very busy term for PE, with lots of competitions,

PE days and Sports day! We entered into Y5/6 Quad Kids and Y5/6 Swimming Gala.



Key Stage 2 'Tough Runner'!

For the first time, we organised AVSSP to bring in their 'Tough Runner' course, which is like a huge obstacle course which they set up and run on the field all day. We thought this'd be a great opportunity to get all of Key Stage 2 involved in something different whilst staying active and having lots of fun.

PE days

Both KS1 and KS2 had a specific PE day similar to last year where the children took part in three or more different activities with other teachers in the school and had the chance to try different things not always experienced in PE lessons.

The infants enjoyed a range of activities which required a wide range of skills. From parachute games and yoga to circuits and dance, the children enjoyed a fun filled active day. Lots of pupils felt inspired after watching videos of professional athletes performing their skills, so they even had a go filming each other using the iPad.



Year 3 and 4 organised three activities including yoga, circuits and gymnastics using the iPads to improve their technique. They particularly enjoyed the yoga and said it made them feel really relaxed! This is something most of the children hadn't experienced before. Year 5 and 6 had an athletics afternoon and took part in competitive races, jumps and throws.

Specialist days

During the year, we have been lucky enough to organise our extra sports funding to have some specialist coaches in for specific sports in Key Stage 2. Year 3/4 had a day at the Hockey Club in Belper and were coached by two experts for the entire day. They spent the morning learning techniques and skills and then put these to practise in a few games during the afternoon. They had a fantastic time and had



the opportunity to use these skills further during their intra-school competition later in the term.

Year 5/6 had a specialist cricket coach in for coaching once a week for 6 weeks. This was done on the field and allowed the children chance to see what sort of activities are done during special coaching clubs outside of school and see if they were interested in joining.

Intra-school competitions

Throughout the year, the whole school has taken part in intra-school competitions. This gives year groups the chance to participate and compete for their house colour in team games such as football, hockey and rounders, utilising skills that children have been practising in PE lessons.

Every child has enjoyed the opportunity to participate in these competitions and they have reinforced our teaching about sportsmanship and team values.



Fitness days

As well as our PE lessons, every child has taken part in a fitness day each term. Children are tested on their stamina by running as far as they can within a given time. We have been impressed by the improvement the children have shown over the year and in comparison with last year's scores but also the enthusiasm the children have to increase their levels of fitness and achieve a healthy life style. Targets for improvement are set for individuals and classes following each event.

Afterschool clubs

After school clubs have been offered to children in years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. There has been a large variety of clubs over the year both indoors and out including: gymnastics, dance, athletics, football, multi-skills, team games and new experiences such as archery.

The Government Sports Premium continues to be invaluable in providing additional and extended opportunities for the children whilst enhancing the skills of the children and the staff.

L Bradley and A Slack PE Co-ordinators

Science Day

On Monday the 25th of June key stage 2 had their science day based around water. We were lucky to have a visitor on the day, who worked with all classes in key stage 2. Richard from Severn Trent set up an activity called Water Street for us to complete and he spoke to us about how to save water and how we waste water.



During the rest of the day, we had a great time setting up an experiment, carrying out a fair test and recording our findings.



On Wednesday the 27th of June, key stage one had their science day. It was based around min-beasts. We took part in many fun activities over the day.



We went on a bug trail, where we had to match bugs to habitats and we went a bug hunt, where we searched for bugs in the school grounds. We had a hoop to give us a search area to check. It was very exciting using the magnifying glasses to look at bugs. Everyone had a fabulous day

School Council

Once again classes voted for a school councillor to represent their class at fortnightly school council meetings. The school dinner children also attend monthly meetings with Mrs Marriott (Karen) our school cook and Mrs Hutton (Head Teacher) to discuss menu choice and to provide feedback. This year the school council have been involved in organising and running the Bring and Buy Sale, deciding what to spend the money on, coming up with our new school mascots and for the first time running their very own stall at the Summer Fair.



Election Time

The school council always makes our school a better place by taking the children's ideas to meetings. Good school councillors are team players and share their own ideas as well as those of others. The school council election is a fair process where we all have the chance to stand and vote. It was really fun and I was very happy to win.

(Piece written by Lilia - school councillor)



Bring and Buy Sale

This year's bring and buy sale was a massive success. We managed to raise £440! There were toys, games and books donated, which the children could buy. The school councillors helped set up the night before then ran the stalls on the day. One by one, each class came into the hall to buy the item of their choice. They each had up to £3 to spend.

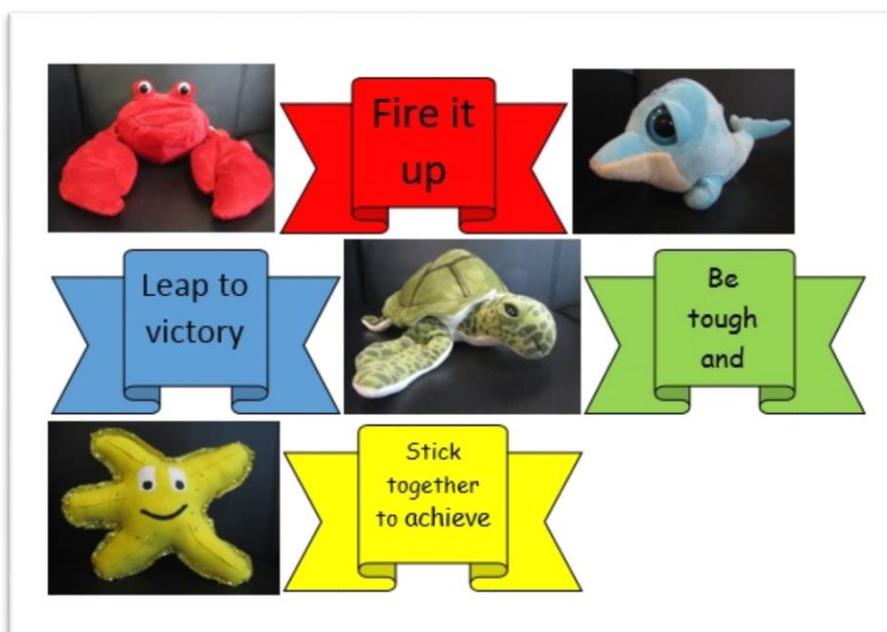
After counting all the money, each class had £40 to spend on something. Some classes bought books, playtime equipment, beanbag chairs; Years 3 and 4 put their money together to buy a craft box. All of the children really enjoyed themselves and it is an experience the councillors will never forget.

(Piece written by Sophie and Gracie - school councillors)



Mascots

This year has been full of changes, and one of these changes has been creating mascots for our house colours. The animals are under water themed. The animals for each colour



are; a crab for red, dolphin for blue, a turtle for green and a starfish for yellow. These mascots, along with a quote, aim to encourage and inspire the pupils to be the best they can be.

(Piece written by Caitlin - school councillor)

Summer Fair

The school council wanted to raise extra funds by having a stall at the summer fair. They decided to ask each class to make some cookies to sell and the flavours varied from plain shortbread to rocky road and gluten free caramel. They also created their own tin can alley game and made a piñata cake where you had to guess the amount of hidden sweets. The junior councillors then ran the stall and we raised around £100.



Year 6 memories of time spent at Pottery Primary

This year's school leavers on the memories that they will take with them on the next stage of their journey.....

One of my best memories in year 5 was when I was school councillor. I was very happy when we did the election and I won. One of the most fun things I did as a school councillor was running a stall at the 'bring and buy'. I also ran a stall in the playground where people paid 50p to guess how many sweets were on a Pudsey cake, which Mrs Bridges made for Children in Need. **Lottie**

I remember the street party we had for the Queens 90th birthday party. We made our own party food and organised the tables like a real street party. We had music playing in the background and we danced. We had a huge birthday cake which was delicious. It was awesome. **Jasmine**

In year 4 we went on the train to the wildlife centre. I had a really good question and the lady gave me some stones. My final memory was bring in year 6 because I got one of the lead roles in the school play and my character was Lilia. Year 6 was the best year ever. **Lilia**

I vividly remember the day I faced my fear of performing for strangers. It was around Easter time and choir was doing a concert in which we had all practised very hard for. One song in particular was split into solos and duets but I did not take any of those parts because I was afraid. However, my friend Clara was doing a solo with somebody who had not managed to make it so I stepped in and once I had done it, I was beaming with pride. **Millie**

My most amazing memory was meeting my friends. They are Thomas, Connor, Joel, William, George and Joe. They are the best group of friends ever and the funniest. **Ben**

I can remember my first school pop party in reception feeling really excited but I spent the whole time dancing because I didn't know about the sweets. **Connor**

Getting my pen license is one of my memories. It made me very excited. **George**

My favourite memory was in year 3 when I had Mr Collyer as my teacher. This is my favourite memory because he used to call me Scar-Lottie, which I found really funny. My next memory was when I made mint sweets. This is also one of my favourite memories because I love baking. Also, I remember when I did my first play in reception too. I can remember when I flicked my shoe over a fence into someone's garden. I thought it was funny at the time but at home time my mum was really mad. **Scarlett**

*My first day at school; I clung onto my dad for about 20 minutes, until I went in and sat in the corner looking shy. **Jacob***

*In year four when we went to Lea Green we made a shelter and somehow it rained sideways, it was a guy with a bucket of water and we hadn't prepared for it... I'll leave you to figure out the rest. **Thomas P***

*In Year 1, I got my second scar. I had chickenpox and I had a massive one next to my right eye. We were doing hand writing (something I am still terrible at) when all of a sudden the scab just popped off!! I don't know why but I tried to find it to put it back on my eye. I couldn't so I was sad and now I have a deep scar next to my eye. P.S if you want to look for the scar it's on MY RIGHT EYE! Not your right, MY RIGHT! In year two I was friends with Erin because we were next to each other in the line. I had this wobbly tooth dangling from one root. My parents told me to pull it out but I was too chicken to do it. The thing that got it out was the mint Erin handed to me in the line. **Bea***

*Going up for dinner twice in year two because I went up for dinner early for Gardening Club but "forgot," so I went up for my dinner again with my friends. Running around the classroom pretending my purple pen was an aeroplane in Miss Illingworth class and Vinnie of all people, snitched on me in order to prevent WW3... GRR! **Dylan***

*In Year 1, when Ruby joined, she stole my pencil since she needed one, now we are best friends. **Hollie***

*I remember when I was very young, I was chosen to be in javelin for Sports Day. I threw the javelin not that far (around 10 feet) but it hit Alfie's mum. Hopefully this year will be better. **Daniel L***

*My favourite memory was when no one could find a ruler and so one by one I pulled 18 rules out of my drawer. **Joel***

*Around half way through reception, Mrs Birkinshaw's class were tidying up but I decided that I didn't want to. This ended in me being told off and put on the sad board (this meant I got no treasure). Then I said, "I don't care because I have my own toys!" **Ruben***

*My best memory is Forest Schools when everybody was playing hide and seek; Ella was it and it took her ten minutes to find one person and the funny part was everybody was spying on her in the bushes and there were so many places to hide. **William***

During my time at Pottery, one of my favourite memories was when it was our first break time and when all the other children went in I didn't, mainly because I wasn't paying attention. I'd also forgot where my classroom was, so I couldn't make my way back. I ended up being on the infant playground on my own. Another memory is when we went to

Cleethorpes. Daniel, Kailem and I made a sand castle and Rafe jumped on it and squished it. On the way back everyone was moaning that they had sand in their shoes. Vinnie.

I can remember a day in reception, it was near to the end of the first week and we were writing the names of the people in our family on a huge piece of paper and I was getting told off for writing down Sophie. She was a teddy and I was sure she was one of my living, breathing relatives and so I refused to cross her off the list. One day I lost Sophie and I was devastated. I was so sad, I remember it to this day. Ruby W

I remember when Amy, Maddie, Scarlet and I were playing a superhero game in Year 3 or 4 and Scarlet flicked her leg up and her shoe flew off and landed in an old man's garden. Ella

I remember my first green book, which was just a bunch of scribbles. That was funny because the teachers didn't know what it was about. Doing my SATS. I thought it was going to be bad but it turned out alright. Erin

Making a new friend in year three (Caitlin). She is my friend now. Getting my pen licence in year 3. Anon

In year 3 a solar eclipse happened and we couldn't go outside so I was sad. One of the most exciting things in year 3 was when we made bird boxes and did wildlife activities throughout the day. I was so proud in year 3 when I was finally awarded my pen license. When I was in reception I didn't have any friends because I was really shy, but now I have friends and gained some of my confidence with communication. I remember in reception a bread company taught us how to make bread and it was delicious. In addition to year three my best friend Lilly Edwards left school and we shared so many funny moments together. And even before she left she gave us chocolate chip cookie cup-cakes to the whole class. It was sad to see her leave. Later on in the year, she returned to see us. She said to me that she missed me the most. I thought she would return next year but she never did. Even to this day I still know she's my best friend. Sophia

Moving up to Year 3, I lost my earring back down the drain. I remember feeling really upset thinking I couldn't wear them again. When I got home, I thought my mum would be mad. However, she wasn't because we luckily had a spare one. Maddie

When I was in reception I met my two best friends, Ella and Maddie. This was one of my best memories. One of my funniest memories was back in Year 4, a teacher called Mr Collyer once dressed up as a fairy on Fun Day. Amy

When I met one of my friends, Ruby in Year 3. This is one of my best memories. When I was in the infants I actually remember (not sure who it was) 'face planted' into their food because they were being stroppy! Zoe

The first day of year 6 I was scared to go in. When I went to my line it was gone but Mrs. Nix was going in her classroom and she took me with her and she still helps me. I also love making calendars. I have all my calendars at home in my kitchen. I remember it says this is when I was younger so now I remember when I'm older. Caitlin D

In year 4 someone pushed me into a brick wall, I felt dizzy and had to go to the office. Eventually had to go home, and everyone said my forehead was in the shape of the brick. Charlie W

When I made best friends with Rafe. When we went swimming and I fell in the pool. In Year 6 we went to London, we set off back at 6:30pm and got stuck on the M1 for 5 hours. We eventually got back at 11:30pm then got the day off at school. Kailem

I will always remember in Year 3 when I had Mr. Collyer as a teacher, and every Friday he wore funky socks, I would always ask what socks he was wearing. My first memory at Pottery was when I met Katie (in Mrs. Birkinshaw's class) we played with the kitchen. I was very happy because I had made a friend quickly. Libby

My funniest and probably earliest memory is from reptiles; actually, I have 3 weird and wonderful memories from my time in reception. To start off I've got a random memory of my first portrait... it was a very bad stick figure with 2 dots for eyes and a wiggly line for a mouth, honestly it looked like it had too much to drink. I also remember being told off for drawing a circle and a line, which was supposed to be the sun and ground. At the same point a girl called Brii joined the school, I just stared at her because I couldn't remember her name. I still feel bad about that. Alice

On the field we were playing rounders and Alfie threw the ball and it skimmed off the top of the bat and the ball hit me in the face. In my first ever green book in reception I was meant to write my name (Joseph) but instead I wrote JOZ. On the bus journey home from London there was a traffic jam and someone needed the toilet so they went in with a bucket with a hole in. Half way through reception, Oscar, who was one of my best friends, went to live in Australia and I have never ever seen him since. Joseph N

In reception Briony and I were put in the same class and I went to get my first thing from the treasure box but Briony started to cry because I took the bouncy ball with an animal in that she wanted. Drew

In Year 6, I remember doing my SATs and biting into a cookie and my tooth came out on the last day. Anon

My first memory was talking in front of the class; then being shushed because I was talking. I started school halfway through reception. I was in jungle class with Miss Burgess. She asked me to stand up in front of the class and say who I was. I began my

speech but halfway through she said ok that's enough before I had finished. I guess I was talking quite a bit and rambling on (as usual) but, in my defence, she did ask me to talk! When I was in Year 1, I got myself locked in the toilet. Well, at least I thought I was stuck! I went to the loo, as you do, and was about to walk out but I couldn't open the door. I had unlocked it but it was obviously jammed. I panicked and shouted the person who was waiting to get the teacher. When they walked off to get the teacher I banged on the door but it wouldn't budge. Then the teacher came; I told her I was stuck. Before she told me what to do, I managed to open the door. The teacher walked off back to the class. I felt so embarrassed, because she thought I was faking it! Most of my favourite memories were held in the dining room. I remember when it was just Hollie, Libby and me. We used to chat so much that we were the last ones to leave. Because of this, we got seconds or thirds. That made us leave even later but it was totally worth it! **Maria**

On my first day of school (in Reception) my mum left me at home-time because she thought that I was at my babysitter's house so I was stuck at school for half an hour after school. But she did come for me in the end. **Lily M**

My favourite memory in Pottery was when we went to Cleethorpes. We (Vinnie, Dylan, Kailem and I) were making a large sand castle on the beach and when we went to see the lifeboats Rafe jumped on the sandcastle! Once the activity finished we came back to carry on but we were devastated. I remember the London journey home. Everything was meant to be perfectly timed. We got stuck in 7 hours of traffic! But we did get the morning off the next day while the other year-groups went to school. **Daniel O**

Unlike many others, I didn't start in reception. My memories are still about my first day. It was 12:35pm on school in the playground, the whole of the school swarmed around me. Everyone was asking questions about me, where I came from and if I was a native Singaporean (which I'll have you know doesn't even exist). I was going to London on a bus with school. My mother always comes along with me. We were stuck in traffic for hours and it just so happened that my mother brought about 40 packets of biscuits. As we waited my mum handed them out. For the first time ever, I was glad she came. In year 4, on sports day I was skipping and my hat slipped and I was skipping blinded. I still won though. **Caitlin L**

My favourite memory of primary school was playing with Ruby Harrison in year 2 as we used to be best friends. We used to pull funny faces in mirrors and she would come over to my house all the time. Also in year 2, we had a Victorian day at Shugborough Hall. That was when my real interest in the Victorians started and now I'm a massive fan of Hetty Feather. My third favourite memory was of course playing with my friends. In year 4 and 5, we set up this group called the play kids where we would make up plays and then we would perform them to school or brownies. I am looking forward to seeing what the last few weeks have to offer. **Clara**

Pottery School Association



This is my first year as Chairperson of the PSA though I've been helping out with the PSA since my daughter started school in 2014.

This year we have organised and held many events, some just for the children including the disco, pop party which raised in the region of £900 from both events, and some for the whole family, including the Summer & Winter fair, which raised a whopping £3,000 for the school.

In the Autumn term to help make the Christmas Panto trip more affordable for you all, the PSA contributed by paying for the coaches (almost £3000), which helped to keep the cost down at an already expensive time of year.

At the start of this year we were thrilled to be chosen as one of the charities supported by the Whitemoor Co-operative Community Fund during the year when we applied for help to create a better outdoor learning environment for the reception classes. Throughout the year 1% of everything spent in store on Co-op own brand products and services was donated to our charity...we were awarded a humungous £3744.46 which has been spent by Mrs Campbell and Mr Boardman on improving the outdoor area for Reception, we know the children enjoyed helping them choose what to buy.

This year at the request of the children, we saw the revival of 'Film Club' which is brought to us by 'Intofilm.org' ...this is open to all children in year 3 - 6 and we hold this straight after school in the hall for the children to watch a chosen film (voted for by the children). We provide hot dogs, popcorn, sweets and drinks. The children can write reviews about the film if they wish and this is entered into a prize draw with 'intofilm.' All monies raised from this particular event will go towards buying new books for the library over the coming months; the children are going to nominate their favourites to be added to the shelves. All of these events raise vital money for the school which allow us to buy things the children need to enhance their learning and their playtime at school.

We have recently purchased a new PA system to use at school events and a generator so that the PA system can be used on the school field where there is no electrical supply. We have also donated some money towards Mrs Bridge's gardening club, which takes place on Wednesday lunchtimes and we're providing new plants, containers, and tools for the children to use. Some parents also volunteer their time to support this club enabling more children to take part.

The PSA runs these events with the help and support of volunteers, school staff, parents, grandparents and carers of children at the school...we couldn't do it without you. Any help with the planning, preparation of events is always gratefully received and we thoroughly enjoy seeing the children having a good time. Seeing the difference our fund raising has made to the school shows that all the time and effort is worthwhile.

As I write this we are looking forward to our annual 'Fun Day'...the children get dressed up and take part in a parade and after parents have left, they play lots of games and activities throughout the day...the afternoon normally involves water, which they absolutely love as the helpers generally get a good soaking!

It's been another very busy but successful year for the PSA, many thanks to all.

Sally Taylor