



What's happened?

We welcome everyone back to the new school term.

We welcome to our staffing Miss Payne who is joining the year 3 and 4 teaching team.

New Build

We were thrilled to take ownership of the new classrooms over the summer that house Mr Boardman and Miss Bradley's year 1 and 2 children. We will endeavor to keep you updated as necessary by email / text regarding developments that affect movement around site due to continued building works. The new library between A and B block is almost finished. The next major phase later this term/early spring will be the demolition of E block.

Website www.pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

Our website has a wealth of information so please look at this regularly. If you don't find what you need please contact the office staff. Your child's class page has already been created and shortly we will upload their timetable, topic web and other useful information so you can see what they are learning.

The annual calendar on our website has the key dates for the whole year including meetings with class teachers, parents evenings, sports days and performance days. You can find it under Key Information tab.

Statutory Tests

Have been confirmed by the Government as follows:

Year 6: The week starting Monday May 11th 2020 is SATS week. Routine appointments will not be authorised for year 6 pupils between the 11th and the 14th of May 2019.

Year 4: the statutory multiplication test is between the 8th and the 26th of June.

Year 2: have their statutory assessments during May.

Year 1: the statutory phonics test is the week starting 8th June.

Computer word processing In school we use 'clicker 7' which is a fantastic piece of software as it reads the children's writing back to them enabling them to correct errors in terms of grammar and spelling. All families received a license and information to download this at home in previous years.

Reception families new to the school will receive this in January 2020 when the children will have begun to write.

After School Clubs - a reminder that when collecting children only the main car park gate can be accessed (not the gate from the sports centre).

Jewellery A reminder that we operate a no jewellery policy at school, which includes NO earrings.

Glasses Please buy a sports band to hold on glasses during PE should your child need to wear glasses, £3.50 at your local opticians.

Appeal for spring bulbs for the children to plant around the site. Please send to the school office.

Diary for September

Tuesday 10th September is the PSA meeting at 'The Greyhound Inn' on Whitemoor Lane at 7pm. All are welcome.

Friday 20th September is the School Council manifesto day.

If your child wishes to be a school councillor this is their opportunity to tell the children in their class why. This can be by something they read, show or just say. There is a school councillor elected to every class. Miss Illingworth leads the school council with support from myself.

Friday 27th September is School Council election day.

Friday 27th September the PSA are holding a family quiz night at school. Look out for the PSA letter.

Coming Soon:

Friday 4th October is PSA film club. Look out for the PSA newsletter.

Friday 11th October is school photograph day - individual and siblings. Information will follow.

If you would like a special mention included for your child please email details or send a note to the school office.

For example:

Congratulations to Joe Bloggs year 3 for achieving bronze survival in swimming.

Message from Mrs Campbell (retired 31.08.19 as Assistant Headteacher):

As the new school year starts, I would just like to thank every one of you: parents, children, staff and governors for the very generous gifts and cards I received in July along with kind words and support.

It will feel rather strange not to be starting back to school with you all but I plan to pop along now and again from time to time to see how everyone is.

With the money that I received I bought a lovely (and quite large) garden ornament, Mole from 'Wind in the Willows' one of my favourite children's books. This will remind me of my time at Pottery and will make me smile each time I walk out of my front door.

Many thanks again and best wishes to you all.

Mrs Campbell.

Termly meetings in the hall 9am with class teachers:

- Last about 20 - 30 minutes.
- Pre-school children are welcome but please bring some quiet toys!
- Dates for all of these are on our annual calendar on the school website so check out spring and summer 2020 dates for your child/children.

For this term the dates are:

Year 3 and 4: Monday 9th September

Reception: Tuesday 10th September

Year 1 and 2: Wednesday 11th September

Year 5 and 6: Friday 13th September

Staff will produce a short leaflet for parents following the termly meeting, bullet pointing what has been discussed/shared. This will be put in children's book bags and will be uploaded to the class page of the website.

Homework (years 1 to 6):

Your child will start to bring home their homework book with relevant tasks to complete over the next week.

In order for homework to be signed off by teachers it is key that an adult at home has read regularly (at least 4 times a week) with the child and that spellings and other set tasks are completed.

Reading material, particularly when children have completed the school colour band scheme, can be wider than the school reading book but please annotate in the reading record what it is that you have read.

If you are sharing the school book please annotate the date, what pages you have read e.g. 25 - 32 and sign this. We would like you to share any comments with staff in the comment box e.g. read well, found exciting/ tricky.

Reading is key to learning across the curriculum. If you have any questions about homework or reading then please ask the relevant class teacher who will be more than happy to discuss this with you as we greatly value home/school support.

You will be able to find a summary of what it means to be 'age expected' in reading, writing and maths on the school website under class pages. The Government expect all children to have achieved age expected criteria by the end of each school year. We welcome your help and support in helping your child to achieve this through completing homework tasks regularly.

We award certificates and an end of term medal/trophy for homework that builds year on year from year 1 to year 6 so we ask for your continued support.