



Pottery News December News 2019

e-mail: info@pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

website: www.pottery.derbyshire.sch.uk

Extended Services: www.connectbelper.co.uk

What's happened/ What is happening

Children in Need: raised £462, many thanks.

Clerk to Governors Vacancy (approximately £1,000 per year) We are looking for a clerk to our Board of Governors. Our Governors tend to meet on a Monday evening 6/6.30pm and there are between 10-15 meetings over the year. If you are interested please contact the school office.

Digital Leaders:

Following a recruitment and interview process our digital leaders for this year are:

AL/CH: Harry J and Olivia W

MK: Eve E and Leila S

RP: Poppy F and William S

AS: Olivia B and Lily-Rose T

AI: Ruth D and Phoebe T

Junior Sports Leaders:

Following a half day training at Alfreton Leisure Centre our sports leaders, who will teach others new games are:

Harry B, Grace B, Isaac E, Emma F, Nathan H and Hannah O.

Admissions to School Applications for reception places for 2020/2021 have opened. Applications at: www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions or phone 'Call Derbyshire' on 08456 058 058.

Closing Date: Midnight 15th January 2020

Bad Weather / Alert to school closure

In recent years due to particularly atrocious weather school had to close for 2 - 3 days over the winter period. We cannot open the school unless we can safely accommodate pupils with both staffing levels and safe egress around the site. The decision to close is usually made as early as possible and between 7 and 8am. The text messaging service is not 100% reliable if many schools are using it across the country on the same day so please check our website in very bad weather. We also notify the County Council if we are closing and they are then responsible for ensuring local radio stations issue alerts. You should be able to access a list of school closures from www.derbyshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures and on smartphones by typing m.derbyshire.gov.uk into internet browser.

Book Appeal

Our new library (between A and B block) should open early spring term. We would like some new books:

The Sun newspaper has started book tokens 23rd Nov until 18th January. We need 3500 tokens for their free £600 worth of books. Please send to the office.

The Book People will donate £1 for every £10 spent to Pottery if you nominate us.

Diary for December

Thursday 5th December is our flu immunization day (for those who signed their child up online as per the email sent earlier this term by ParentPay).

Friday 6th December PSA Winter Fair 5 - 8pm. Come along and join us for present buying and to see Santa.

The PSA are in need of donations of chocolate items and bottles of wine for the fair.

Infant Christmas Performances: Wed 11th am/pm, Thurs 12th am/pm and Fri 13th am. **ALL ABOVE PLAY TICKETS HAVE GONE ON SALE ALREADY AND ARE ADULTS ONLY.**

Photographs and video footage - historically these have been allowed on the condition that **no images whatsoever are uploaded onto the web**. Photographs are only to be taken at the end of the production when staff will stage the children in groups. We have a number of children in school whose parent does not allow photographs and these children will be removed first.

If any parent objects to video footage then it will be a blanket no to any videoing. **Please ensure we have any objections by Monday 9th December 9am.**

Monday 16th December Choir are leaving school at 1pm to sing at Babington Hospital at 1.30 and then Heritage Court at 2.15pm. We are seeking adults to accompany them.

Tuesday 17th December 6.30pm is our CHRISTMAS SERVICE at St Peter's church. All children will be invited to take part but a seat to sit with their teacher and take part is only reserved if you have returned the slip to say they are taking part. Parking is pretty dreadful but the Coppice Car Park off the market place is large and free.

Friday 20th December school closes at the end of the day and re-opens on Monday 6th January 2020.

Reception

Are in need of bulbs, vegetable seeds, garden ornaments and a mini-trampoline for their outdoor areas. If anyone can donate any of these please send to the school office.

Homework

The older children have asked through school council to re-introduce topic homework (which ceased some 4 years ago). This will be introduced in January for those children wishing to take part (usually a creative task linked to their topic e.g. make a model of a building you would see in London). We then share these at the end of the term and invite the school community in.

Reminders: We cannot accept items in school for medical purposes unless children have a medical care plan e.g. creams, throat lozenges, lip salve.

School Parties

On party day children may come to school in party dress but bear in mind the weather and ensure that children are warm and that they have a coat and shoes that are safe to run around in.

Parties as follows:

Monday 16th Reception - Miss Dale and Mrs Nicholson

Tuesday 17th Dec Y3 /4 - Mrs Kanigowski, Mrs Locker/Hodgins and Miss Payne

Wednesday 18th Dec Y1 /2 - Mr Boardman, Miss Bradley and Mrs Hawkins/Roberts

Thursday 19th Dec - Mr Hartley, Miss Illingworth and Miss Slack

Party Food

From Monday 9th December we will be collecting cakes (small individual), crisps (individual small packets) and juice (dilutable orange and blackcurrant) for parties to feed 318 children. Donations to the office please. (No biscuits or anything that needs cutting up!) Thank you.

If your child has allergies/special diet please provide the office with similar party food clearly named.

Christmas Post Boxes will be out now for posting cards to one another in school only. Unfortunately we are not a community/neighbourhood service, sorry!

If cards are for children in the same class a rubber band around these helps our older children to sort before delivery. Class teacher initials are as follows for the envelopes:

Reception or LN/CD, Y1 /2 DB, LB or MH/KR. Year 3 /4 are RP, MK or CH/AL. Y5/6 AI, AS or GHa.

Should you wish a **community post service** the Derby and District Scouts are running their annual 'Stamp and Deliver' service for 30p a card. Phone: 07930 760655 or www.stampanddeliver.com /

Facebook.com/StampAndDeliver

Santa

If your child is lucky enough to receive an i-pod touch, i-phone or i-pad then Santa may not have had time to install safety software! Search on the internet for your device and parental controls and each manufacturer will have posted guidance.

K9 web protection offers free downloads on these devices <http://www1.k9webprotection.com>

For any queries regarding e-safety including setting safety settings please contact us.

BE SAFE - NOT SORRY

School Council Bring and Buy Sale

When sorting over the festive period please keep any unwanted DVDs, toys and games as the school council are having a Bring and Buy sale in February. Please send all donations from now until 14th February to the school office. The children decide what they would like to buy for their class with any money made on the day of the sale.

Dear Parents/carers

School Buildings update

As we come towards the end of 2019, we can confirm that we are also coming to the end of the building work at the school. This will result in all the new classrooms and learning areas for the children being handed over for use in readiness for the children returning after the Christmas holiday.

The only remaining work to be undertaken to complete the transformation of our school is to demolish and remove E Block, which is the old wooden structure between the playground and the path to the MUGA/Sports Centre. This work will commence on 13th January and could take approximately 6 weeks to complete.

To ensure the safety of the children, parents, carers and staff during this period we will have to temporarily suspend the children from having access to the MUGA. **Access to the school site from the Sports Centre path will also be temporarily closed from end of day Friday 10th January 3.45pm.** We hope that you can fully understand the reasons for this and we ask you to bear with us for the next few weeks after which you will be able to see the 'new' Pottery School completed to a very high standard for the benefit of the current children and children in years to come.

We appreciate your patience, understanding and positive feedback during the building period and the fantastic way in which the children have embraced the development of their school.

There is one further development that we are delighted to announce: a result of the extremely hard work that the PSA undertake by way of raising funds, they have kindly donated a significant amount of money to enable the school to purchase and build an outdoor learning area which will be situated near to the MUGA. This will allow the children to experience different ways of learning. A picture of this new learning area is shown below.

Over the years the support of Pottery PSA has been invaluable to the school and we would like to thank them for this fantastic donation, only possible by your support at events. Weather permitting the outdoor learning classroom will be constructed early January.

Once again can we thank you all for your understanding during the period of transformation at Pottery School, we are sure that you will agree that it has all been worthwhile.

G Hutton Headteacher

J Bate Chair of Governors

