



Happy Half Term Holiday



We made it!

A huge thank you to all the children, staff, parents and wider community for working together this half term to get the children at Pottery Primary back into school again. We have so much to be proud of and deserve a well earned rest this autumn half term holiday.

Parents evening

Thank you for being available and taking the time to talk with your child's class teacher. Teachers continue to be available for you to contact via their email. If you have further questions or need support with home work or home learning, teachers will get back to you. The office staff are always happy to take calls.

Tapestry

In reception, staff keep in touch with parents and carers via a programme called Tapestry. The year 1 children will be very familiar with this and it was used very successfully last year as a way of communicating between home and school. We are now extending our use of tapestry across key stage 1 as we continue to try and improve our lines of communication. In key stage 2, all children will soon have their own email address which will enable them take part in live lessons in the future.

During conversations with staff, parents indicated challenges being faced by the new online learning programmes and we continue to work hard to ensure all our school community has some access to technology at home. Please let us know if there are ways we can support with home learning, especially if we have to close bubbles or face local or national closures.

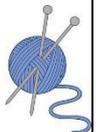
Fund Raising

During lockdown, staff supported the Great Daffodil Appeal and raised £288.81 to support Marie Curie. This term, we have supported Macmillan Cancer. Coffee and cakes always go down well in the staff room!



Supporting the homeless

Mrs Marriott and her family are currently knitting squares to provide blankets for the homeless in the local area. Any donations of wool would be very gratefully received.



Anti-Bullying Week - Monday 16th November

All Unique - All Different

November 16th - Odd socks day. Wear your odd socks to school as we start our week learning about the importance of friendship, kindness and acceptance of others.



Poppy Appeal

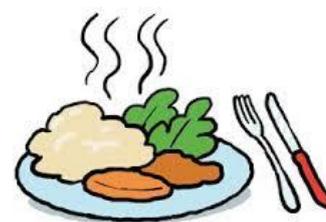
We have decided not to sell poppies in school, however, if children wish to wear a poppy they can bring one from home.



We will still have a 2-minute silence on the playground on the 11th and will continue to learn about Remembrance Day in school and will be making poppies in class.

School meals

Today, Mrs Marriott, the school cook and her team, have prepared a harvest meal for the children to enhance learning which has been going on in the classrooms. Children will be able to try roast chicken / Quorn, roast parsnips, cauliflower cheese, roast potatoes, carrots, cabbage, Yorkshire puddings and gravy followed by apple and almond cake - yummy! We feel very lucky at Pottery to have been able to continue to provide children with a freshly prepared, hot meal every day this half term. Mrs Marriott and her team have worked hard to cater for the changes we have had to put in place to make our meal times safe for the children. Meal times now start at 11.30am and the last children are served at 12.45pm. We continue to clean in between bubbles coming in for lunch and the kitchen have continued to adapt to the needs of the children. The older children have a larger portion and have access to extras if needed. They also have a snack provided in the afternoon to keep them going. For the younger children, Mrs Marriott has adapted menus, providing familiar, healthy foods which are popular for all children. After the half term holiday, reception, who have been served their meal this half term, will be learning how to collect their own trays and going through the server and choosing different foods to try. Next term, we have a bonfire lunch and a Christmas dinner to look forward to. A huge thank you to our catering team.



Buildings

We are almost at the end of our building work now. The last few bits of maintenance and gardening are due to take place over the half term holiday. Our new caretaker, Rob has been invaluable this half term in our efforts to make sure school is as safe as possible for children and staff. He is a great addition to the team here at Pottery and has lots of ideas about how we can continue to improve things around the school. Many thanks Rob.

Diabetes Award



We are very proud to have been awarded with an award for the care we provide for our children with type 1 diabetes. We aim to do the best for all our children and their families and feel very privileged to have received this award. The link below is from Diabetes UK to say thank you to everyone for supporting children with diabetes in school.
<https://youtu.be/ZbsNfjrosXc>

Class Topics for Autumn 2

Reception

Light up the world



Year 1 / 2

The Big Freeze



Year 3 / 4

Invaders and Settlers



Year 5 / 6

Volcanoes, Earthquakes and Mountains - Extreme Earth



Enterprise week

We will continue with our school enterprise week. Each class/ bubble will come up with a product to sell. They will start with £10 to buy necessary materials and see how much profit they can make. This year, they are going to have to be very creative as there will be no winter fair to sell products at and we are adding the additional challenge of no food products! Hopefully, they can come up with a saleable product and you will support their efforts. All profit goes directly back to the class for a purchase of their choice. How will our young entrepreneurs do?

Things to look forward to next term

4th November - Flu immunisation
5th November - Bonfire Night school dinner
6th November - Year 5 / 6 zoom with Pauline Latham (MP for Mid Derbyshire)
11th November - Remembrance Day
16th November - odd socks day
16th - 20th November - Anti Bullying week
11th December - Christmas Dinner
12th December - Deadline for Christmas cards coming into school
14th December - Reception Christmas Day
15th December - Y3/4 Christmas Day
16th December - Y1/2 Christmas Day
17th December - Y5 / 6 Christmas Day
18th December - Last day of term
4th January - New term starts

A few reminders

- Please make sure all clothing is named (including coats / hats / scarves / gloves)
- If you use breakfast club, please do not park in the school car park when dropping off in a morning because of the delivery lorries and staff arriving at school at this time. Parking in the school carpark is allowed after 5.00pm when picking up from POSS
- In school, we continue to talk about hands, face, space. Please continue to respect others and their space when collecting and dropping off at school

Christmas Cards

We have thought long and hard about Christmas cards (in case you are starting to think about getting organised over half term). If the children would like to send cards to their friends at Christmas, we are asking the children to write their cards for children in their own class only and give them to their class teacher by the 12th December. The class teachers will then leave the cards over the weekend, sort out the cards, leave them for 3 days, and put them in a plastic wallet for the children to bring home at the end of the week.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact your class teacher or the school office if there is anything we can do to support with your child's learning or well being.