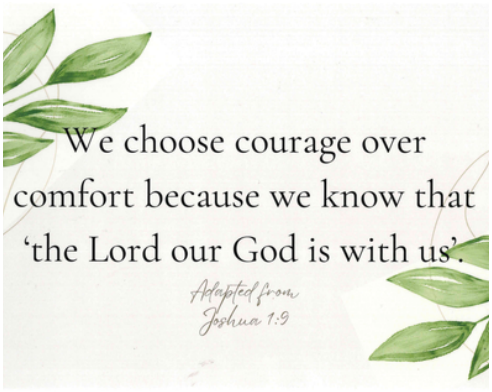
02.10.26

Issue #4

NEWSLETTER







Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,
This week, we have been reflecting on our school value of courage. Courage is not only about facing big challenges; it is also about trying something new, standing up for what is right, showing kindness when others need support, and persevering when learning feels difficult. Every day, I see examples of courage throughout our school, from children confidently sharing their ideas in class to supporting friends on the playground and embracing new experiences with enthusiasm.

Next week, our Key Stage 2 pupils will be visiting the Derby Multi Faith Centre. These visits provide a wonderful opportunity for children to broaden their understanding of different faiths and worldviews, encouraging respect, curiosity and thoughtful discussion. We know that our pupils will approach this experience with open minds and the courage to ask questions, learn from others and develop their understanding of the diverse world around them.

I would also like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who supported our recent Colour Run. We are absolutely delighted to share that together we raised over £1,000. This is a fantastic achievement and a wonderful example of what can be accomplished when our school community works together. The funds raised will help us continue to develop and enhance our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) provision, creating even more exciting opportunities for children to play, explore, collaborate and thrive during their outdoor experiences. The Colour Run was filled with energy, laughter and community spirit, and the generosity shown by families, friends and supporters will make a lasting difference to the experiences we can offer our children. Thank you for your continued support.

As we move into another busy week, let us continue to encourage our children to be courageous in their learning, relationships and choices, remembering that growth often comes when we step beyond our comfort zones.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing partnership and support.

Kind regards,

S Pearson

Sarah Pearson

Headteacher

School Dates for the Diary

07.10.26 - Open Evening Foundation Starters 2027-2028 **07.10.26 -** First Aid Sessions in School for KS1 and KS2
08.10.26 - Harvest Festival led by Y5
12.10.26 - Y3/4 Derby Faith Centre visit
15.09.26 - Y5/6 Derby Faith Centre visit
19.10.26 - Half term
02.11.26 - Children return to school
03.11.26 - Year 4 Trent Lock trip
06.11.26 - Year 3 Yorkshire Sculpture Park trip
12.11.26 - Year 6 Bletchley Park trip
19.11.26 - Year 2 The Deep trip
23.11.26 - Individual and Sibling Photographs (please note change in date)
24.11.26. Whole School Pantomime Trip



YR - Miss Martin

It has been another busy week in Reception! In Math's, we have been exploring length, height, and capacity. The children have loved putting their learning into practice in our outdoor math's and water areas, comparing objects, measuring and investigating how much different containers can hold. The sandpit has also been particularly popular this week, with children showing great engagement in their learning as they experimented with scooping, pouring and filling using a variety of equipment. It has been wonderful to see them exploring capacity independently and applying their mathematical understanding through play across the different areas within our classroom. In English, we have continued exploring our focus book, Owl Babies. This week, we created wanted posters to help the owl babies find their lost mummy. They carefully thought about what Mother Owl looks like and included lots of important information to help bring her home safely! We have also been busy practicing our letter formation during phonics sessions and developing our pencil control through a range of fine motor activities each day. We were also very excited to welcome Kitty for her first visit to foundation on Monday afternoon. The children thoroughly enjoyed listening and engaging, and we are already looking forward to Kitty's next visit!



Reception practising their phonics

Year 1 - Miss Owen

We have had another busy and exciting week in Year One! We started our week with our English hook, as we began our narrative writing based on our novel of the term, Gorilla. The children have been having lots of fun acting out scenes from the story, pretending to be Hannah as she goes on a journey with Gorilla. We have also been writing our own sentences inspired by the story and exploring a variety of exciting story openers. In Art, we have been focusing on the artist Christiane Spansberg, particularly looking at her use of line work. The children created their own line-work drawings and have been experimenting with different colours to bring their artwork to life. We have loved seeing the creativity and individuality in each piece! I am incredibly proud of Year One this week. They have shown fantastic focus, enthusiasm and creativity throughout all of their learning. Well done, Year One!



Reception enjoying their writing provision

Y2 - Mrs Marshall and Mrs Turvey

Year 2 have had a fantastic week of learning! In English, we have started our exciting new narrative topic based on Little Red. To begin, we created our own imaginary communities, thinking carefully about the people, places and features that make them special. We have also explored story language and have been amazed by the fantastic vocabulary and descriptive phrases the children have used in their writing. In Maths, we have been learning about greater than, less than, and equal to, as well as comparing and ordering numbers. The children have shown great confidence with this learning and are becoming experts at explaining their mathematical thinking. In PE, we have enjoyed our dance lessons, where we have worked together to create and perform our own routines. It has been wonderful to see the children's creativity and enthusiasm shine through. In DT, we have been designing our own healthy picnic menus. The children thought carefully about the foods they would include and why. Next week, we are excited to bring our designs to life and make our picnics!

Y3 - Miss Bower

This week in Year 3, we have been busy with lots of exciting learning across the curriculum! In English, we have started writing a character description of Hogarth from The Iron Giant. We began by focusing on his appearance and thinking carefully about how to use interesting adjectives and descriptive language to help bring the character to life. In Maths, we have been learning how to add tens and ones to a number. The children have been using their place value knowledge to solve problems and explain their reasoning. In RE, we explored the story of The Good Samaritan. We discussed the actions of the different characters and ranked them from those who followed Jesus' teachings most closely to those who followed them the least. This led to some thoughtful discussions about kindness, compassion and helping others. In DT, the children have enjoyed making their own catapults. They have shown great creativity and resilience while constructing and testing their designs. In Science, we carried out an experiment to investigate how the size of a parachute affects the speed at which an object falls. The children made predictions, observed the results and discussed whether their findings matched their expectations. In Music, we have been learning about different note values, including minims, crotchets and semibreves. The children have practised recognising these notes and understanding how long each one lasts. Well done to all of Year 3 for another fantastic week of learning! We hope you have a wonderful weekend



Year 2 busy practising their sewing skills in provision

Y4 - Miss Buckley

In English we have enjoyed writing flashback narratives inspired by The Whale. The children have been creating engaging stories that move between the present and the past, while using powerful vocabulary and description to bring their writing to life. In Maths, we have been building our confidence with rounding. The children have been using place value and number lines to help them decide whether numbers should round up or down and explain their thinking. We have continued learning about the water cycle in Science and are excited to begin creating our own experiments to explore evaporation and condensation in action. In RE, we have been exploring the story of the Fall. The children became newspaper reporters, using their knowledge to write exciting and informative news articles about these important events. During Music we have been listening to and exploring the meaning behind La Mer, sharing our thoughts about the emotions, images and atmosphere the music creates. Our learning about the Magna Carta has continued as we investigated its impact on people's lives and why it remains such an important part of history today. In D&T the children have loved beginning the construction of their pulley systems. They have been carefully using saws and hand drills, developing their practical skills and enjoying seeing their designs start to come to life. We are looking forward to seeing the finished products in the coming weeks!



Year 4 applying their wood working skills to making pulleys.

Y5 - Miss Wright

This week in Year 5 the children have been very busy. In English we have had a go at planning, writing and editing our first setting description linked to The Viewer. The children have had a go at using a thesaurus to find exciting vocabulary and detailed adjectives. In Maths, the children have finished their place value unit of learning this week with a very tricky rounding activity which took lots of courage and resilience, they have now begun addition and subtraction with numbers that have more than four-digits. In Science, we began to compile all of our knowledge and research on the Solar system, particularly the 8 planets and Pluto, creating a double page fact file with all of the amazing information! In RE the children thought about the importance of faith and the impact God has on our lives by holding a balanced debate about whether God was real or not and the importance of him in our lives was evident from the very start. Year 5 are very lucky to be leading the Harvest service at Church next week so have also spent a considerable about of time creating Art work and Poems to showcase at Church. In Music this week, we have been focussing on the songs for our Harvest service and the importance of the tempo and speed of the music whilst also thinking about the words. To end the week, we were very fortunate to have an afternoon trip to Church to focus on the wider community and to think about the importance of supporting others and how we can do that alongside the food bank.



Year 2 working together in the small world provision

Y6 - Mrs Woodward

This week, Year 6 have continued to show great enthusiasm across the curriculum. In English, the children began a new unit exploring formal and informal letters. They carefully unpicked William Beech's language and writing style to help them craft their own informal letters from his perspective. In Maths, the class moved on to long multiplication, developing their understanding of the formal written method and applying it to increasingly challenging calculations. In Science, pupils drew upon everything they have learned this term to create their own classification systems for a variety of living things, demonstrating their excellent knowledge and understanding. In Geography, the children designed their own maps and challenged another class to use them to identify and locate OS map symbols. In RE, we explored why being loving within a community is important and discussed the positive impact this can have on those around us. Next week, the children will complete their informal letters before moving on to write a formal letter in the style of Zacharius Wrench.



Year 1 completing their art work using water colours

OPAL

Platinum Award 2024 - 2026



Highlights

We have enjoyed another wonderful week of Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL), with children across the school demonstrating creativity, imagination, teamwork and kindness in abundance.

One of the most popular activities this week has been our wheeled play. It has been lovely to see our Year 6 pupils showing such care and responsibility by supporting some of our new Foundation children. The older children have enjoyed giving rides in pushchairs, helping younger pupils to explore the playground, and creating imaginative games together. These interactions have been a fantastic example of our school values in action, with children showing kindness, inclusion and respect during their play.

Den building has also been a huge success this week. Children have worked collaboratively to design, build and improve their structures, using problem-solving skills and plenty of creativity. It has been wonderful to see pupils of different ages playing together and sharing ideas.

As we move further into autumn, the grassed areas are becoming increasingly wet and muddy. We are now beginning to enter our "welly season". To help us continue providing access to these valuable outdoor spaces, children will only be able to use grassed areas if they have a pair of wellies in school. Please ensure that wellies are clearly named and stored in the designated welly area.

We would also like to remind families that puddle suits and waterproofs form an important part of our school uniform for winter play. Having waterproof clothing allows children to continue enjoying outdoor play opportunities whatever the weather. Please ensure that all items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Finally, we always welcome donations of spare wellies, puddle suits and waterproofs that children may have outgrown. These are greatly appreciated and help ensure that all children can enjoy high-quality outdoor play throughout the year.

Resources needed:

Wheeled toys such as scooters, tractors, trikes

Pushchairs

Dolls pushchairs

Car tracks

Welly Award

Year 2

Golden Broom

Bess