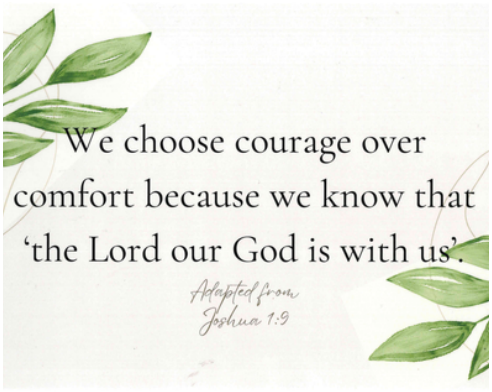
16.10.26

Issue #6

NEWSLETTER







Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

As we come to the end of our first half term, it is a lovely opportunity to pause, reflect and give thanks for all that we have shared as a school community. Our children have worked incredibly hard, embraced new experiences and continued to grow in confidence, knowledge and friendship.

A real highlight this week has been our fantastic Key Stage 2 trip to Derby Faith Centre. This was such a valuable opportunity for the children to experience different places of worship, learn about different faiths and traditions, and develop their understanding of the diverse world in which we live. Most importantly, they approached every part of the day with curiosity, thoughtfulness and tremendous respect.

The children's reflections really capture just how special the experience was:

"My favourite parts were the mosque and the Hindu temple. In the mosque it was beautiful."
"I liked how calm the temple was and learning about all the gods and people."
"I enjoyed the Mandir the most because I enjoyed listening to the people sing and seeing what they do before they pray."
"I enjoyed trying the food – it was spicy!"
"My favourite part was when we used a giant drum and we shouted 'Akaal', but it was so loud I had to cover my ears!"
"I loved all of the marble and the statues because they were so colourful at the Hindu temple."

It seems the parents who joined us had just as fantastic a day! It was wonderful to receive this lovely feedback from one of our parents:

"Could I please say thank you to the school and whoever arranged for the children to visit the temples in Derby. What an experience! I have learnt things that I never knew. It made me feel so calm and relaxed, and I was amazed by how clean and well looked after their places of worship are. Can I also take this opportunity to say how nice it was to see all of Year 6 focused and being very respectful."

What wonderful words to receive. We are incredibly proud of all our children. Hearing a parent recognise their respect, focus and positive behaviour makes us especially proud and reflects the values we work so hard to nurture throughout our school.

As we finish this first half term, I would like to say a huge thank you to our wonderful children, our dedicated staff and all of our parents and carers for your continued support. It has been a busy but very rewarding start to the school year, and there is so much to celebrate.

I hope all of our families have a happy, restful and well-deserved half-term break. Enjoy spending time together, recharge those batteries, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back ready for another exciting half term.

With warmest wishes,

S Pearson

Mrs Pearson
Headteacher

School Dates for the Diary

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
13.11.26 - KS2 VR Day
19.11.26 - Year 2 The Deep trip
23.11.26 - Individual and Sibling Photographs
24.11.26. Whole School Pantomime Trip



YR - Miss Martin

This week, Reception received a very exciting visit from Mummy Owl! She left us a basket full of ingredients and a set of instructions. The children worked together brilliantly to put the instructions into the correct order before making their own delicious rice crispy cakes. They had so much fun following the steps and were very proud of their finished treats!

In Math's, we have continued our learning about capacity, consolidating our understanding of key vocabulary such as full, empty, and half full. The children have enjoyed exploring capacity through practical activities and investigations. Our playdough table has also been very busy this week, with children enjoying rolling, shaping, and creating different models while developing their fine motor skills and creativity.

As part of our outdoor learning, we went on a colour hunt around the school grounds, and he children carefully collected a range of natural materials, including leaves, pinecones, and sticks, before taking on the tricky challenge of sorting them into colour groups. They showed great teamwork and observation skills whilst exploring and sorting! In PE, we have continued to develop our dance skills, exploring different ways to move our bodies in time to the music helping to build confidence, co-ordination, and control. It has been another busy and enjoyable week of learning!



Reception enjoying a visit frim Mummy Owl

Year 1 - Miss Owen

What another wonderful week in Year One! This week in Math's, we have been developing our understanding of the part-part-whole model. The children have been able to identify the whole when given two parts and have used their number bond knowledge to find missing parts within a whole. We have also continued exploring greater than and less than. The children have loved this topic and have even begun challenging each other during provision time by rolling dice and comparing numbers using the symbols < and >. It has been lovely to see them applying their Math's learning independently during choosing time!In English, we have reached the end of our narrative writing unit based on the story Gorilla. As a class, we read the story and then changed the main animal to create and write our own versions. The children have shown great enthusiasm for the text and have retained key events from the beginning to the end of the story. They have produced some fantastic pieces of writing, using descriptive language and time connectives to bring their stories to life.Year One have done an amazing job settling into school and becoming familiar with our class routines. I am incredibly proud of all they have achieved so far and am excited to see what the new half term brings!



Reception trying out their creative skills

Y2 - Mrs Marshall and Mrs Turvey

It's been a fantastic start to the academic year in Year 2, and we are incredibly proud of how well the children have settled into their new routines and shown enthusiasm for their learning. This week in Maths, we have been developing our counting skills by counting in 5s, 10s and 3s. In English, the children have worked hard to write the problem, resolution and ending of their Little Red narrative stories, demonstrating growing confidence in their storytelling, use of adjectives, subordinating conjunctions and use of different sentence types. Our History learning has included an exciting outdoor learning session where the children built shelters inspired by Stone Age living, linking brilliantly to our memorable trip to Creswell Crags. They thought about where their shelter would be built and why. In Science, we have been exploring the season of Autumn and observing the changes taking place in the world around us by going for a short walk around the school grounds. Next half term, we will be exploring addition and subtraction in Maths, learning about water pollution in Geography, studying the work of artist Paul Klee in Art, and developing our skills in Sports Hall Athletics during PE. We look forward to another exciting and successful half term of learning!

Y3 - Miss Bower

It has been another lovely week in Year 3! In English, we have been busy publishing our finished pieces of writing and are very proud of the work we have produced. In maths, we have been developing our column subtraction skills and have started to explore exchanging across the tens boundary. In geography, we have been learning all about Australia, including its different states and territories. One of our highlights this week was our trip to the Multi-Faith Centre! We really enjoyed learning about different religions, exploring their beliefs and traditions, and even trying some different foods. Some of the food was a little spicier than we expected, but we were all very brave and gave it a go! It was a fantastic opportunity to learn more about different faiths and cultures.



Year 3 enjoying their food sampling at the Sikh Gurdwara

Y4 - Miss Buckley

This week began with an exciting trip to the Multi Faith Centre. The children thoroughly enjoyed learning about and experiencing different faiths and places of worship. They showed excellent respect, curiosity and maturity throughout the visit, asking thoughtful questions and embracing the opportunity to learn about different beliefs and traditions. We were incredibly proud of how they represented our school.

In English, the children completed an independent narrative write based on a haunted house. This piece allowed them to showcase the narrative skills they have developed throughout the term. They worked hard to create suspense, describe settings effectively and engage their readers through thoughtful vocabulary choices and imaginative ideas. It was wonderful to see their creativity shine through in their writing.In Maths, we have been focusing on subtraction, including exchanging. The children have been developing their understanding of place value to help them subtract larger numbers accurately and confidently. They have practised a range of methods and have been encouraged to explain their reasoning and check their answers carefully.In History, the children took part in an interactive quiz to assess their learning about Magna Carta. They enjoyed revisiting key facts and events while demonstrating the knowledge they have gained throughout the topic. It was fantastic to see how much information they could recall and explain.In Science, we evaluated our water cycle experiment. The children reflected on what they observed during the investigation and used their scientific understanding to explain the processes of evaporation, condensation and precipitation. They considered what worked well and how the experiment helped to deepen their understanding of the water cycle.In Computing, our focus has been online safety. The children discussed ways to stay safe online and explored the importance of making sensible choices when using technology. They then created informative double-page spreads, sharing helpful advice and tips for keeping themselves and others safe in the digital world.



Year 1 children exploring sorting in the provision area

Y5 - Miss Wright

This week Year 5 have again been very busy and working hard, in Maths we have continued with the addition and subtraction unit of learning delving into missing number problems and inverse operations, the children have had to show a great deal of ambition and resilience. In English, we finished writing our setting descriptions about Tristain's bedroom and they have been compiled into a book for anybody to read as the children are very proud of the word they have produced and the vocabulary and fronted adverbials they have used. We finished off our Geography learning by creating a detailed image cycle with labels to show how tsunamis are caused and the impact they have on villages and towns that they hit. All of the children have made excellent progress in their spellings this week, they have worked really hard practising them and remembering the suffix which refers to the meaning of the word. The children completed their double-page spread information page all about the planets in our solar system and it is another piece of work they have excitingly showcased and are very proud of. In computing this week, the children were looking at coding and how various codes can be simplified to make them easier to read. Finally, year 5 along with some other year groups across the school were very lucky to attend a faith trip this week that goes alongside our RE learning, they had the opportunity to look around a Mosque, A Hindu Temple and a Sikh Gurdwara, the children had the opportunity to look around the different places of worship, seeing people engaging in prayer and to even try some food from another culture which they said was a little spicy but they really enjoyed! Overall, the trip was very fruitful and beneficial to the children, and they were all very respectful and represented the school very well.



Stepping Stones enjoying their cafe experience

Stepping Stones - Miss Cave

It has been a fun filled week for Stepping Stones! We have been super busy planning and cooking for our 'Tastes of he World' cafe experience! We have made a chicken jalfrezi from scratch and then we have also made our own homemade beef burgers! For dessert, we made a homemade apple crumble! It was all super yummy! We invited some of our friends from other classes to enjoy our cooking and the cafe experience and they were super impressed with our cooking skills. Mrs Turvey also joined in the fun and was super impressed with cooking skills!



Stepping Stones cooking up a treat

Y6 - Mrs Woodward

This week, Year 6 have continued to work incredibly hard across the curriculum. In English, the children completed an independent write, creating an informal letter from the perspective of a WWII evacuee and showcasing all the skills they have developed during the unit. In Maths, they have been learning long division and have been absolutely superb at it, showing confidence and determination when tackling challenging calculations. In RE, the class explored the sacrament of confession and its importance within the Christian faith, while in Science they investigated microorganisms, learning about fungi, bacteria and viruses. The highlight of the week was undoubtedly our visit to the Multi-Faith Centre, where the children had the opportunity to explore a Sikh Gurdwara, a mosque and a Hindu temple. It was a wonderful experience that broadened their understanding of different faiths and cultures, and one that every child thoroughly enjoyed. Year 6 have had a fantastic half term and should be very proud of all they have achieved.

OPAL

Platinum Award 2024 - 2026



Highlights

What a lovely final week of OPAL we have had before the half-term break! The children have continued to make the most of their playtimes, with dressing up and our new sleds proving particularly popular.

There has been lots of excitement as children have been zooming down the hills with their friends, as well as taking turns to pull one another along. It has been especially lovely to see our older children supporting younger pupils, helping them to join in, take turns and enjoy the new equipment safely.

As part of our OPAL assembly this week, we talked together about the risks, benefits and risk management involved in using the sleds. The children thought carefully about how we can enjoy exciting and adventurous play while making sensible choices to keep ourselves and others safe.

We agreed some important rules, including only one sled using the hill at a time and one person pulling a sled. Children in FS, Year 1 and Year 2 can have up to two children sitting in a sled, while in KS2 there should be one child in a sled at a time. We also discussed the importance of walking back up on the grass, away from the sledding route.

Of course, sledding is not just great fun! It provides lots of opportunities to develop balance, teamwork, cooperation and spatial awareness, while encouraging children to assess risk and make responsible decisions during their play.

A fantastic way to finish another brilliant half term of OPAL!

Resources needed:

Scooters
Ride on toys
Dinosaurs
Water play toys

Welly Award
Year 1

Golden Broom
Mason