

We've had such an exciting few weeks and the new children joining us at Dame Catherine's have settled in very well.

Our News

New play equipment : we are hoping to have the new play equipment fitted during the last week of this half term. With a bit of luck it should be ready for our Halloween party on Friday 26th.

What's been happening in school?

Our learning :

Over the last few weeks class 2 have learnt everything there is to know about Lego – past and present. We've even measured the height of things in our class out of Lego.

We were very proud of our first attempt at using pastels to create pictures of the Northern Lights (and a few Halloween pictures in the mix!)



We decided that our Viking glue was better than Prittstick!
And that our Viking butter wasn't bad either.

And we're now learning about all of the mythical creatures which were around in Viking times, before moving on to learn about dragons (as we've begun to read 'The Boy who Grew Dragons')



Class 1 and 2 joined together recently to investigate dry ice – safely. We listened to the squeals it makes when a metal spoon touches it, observed how it made a glow stick go dull, and saw the frozen carbon dioxide sublime into gas, which was very exciting.



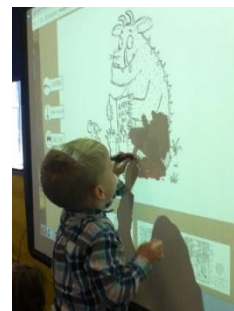
Class 1 and nursery have definitely been making the most of being able to learn outdoors while the weather has been nice. Our playground was turned into a road safety circuit by class 1 – including roundabouts.



In science they have been working on push and pull, rolling using natural materials and slopes. The children made a timber hitch to help them pull along their heavy logs – as a team.

Class 1 have been learning about Vikings too, pretending to be seafarers to help them in their role-playing skills.

We enjoy our times when the children get to try new things throughout the school – some 3 year olds are proving more competent on Ethan the interactive whiteboard than some of the adults!





Nursery children are enjoying our 'Materials' topic. They are bringing in items to add to our paper scrapbook. Please bring in more if you can. Thank you for these wonderful paper planes.

Children's report

Eliora's dad, who studied archeology, came in to work with us on Monday afternoon this week. We learnt that if your second toe is as big as your big toe it is possible that you have descended from Greeks or Vikings. We learnt the different ways we can learn about Vikings from objects that are buried. Vikings were buried in their boats with their weapons. We looked at places nearby which had 'by' and 'dale' and 'kirk' in the name. We found Blackfordby and Stanton by Dale.

Report by Eden and Riley

Let us know

We are looking at demand for holiday club sessions over the half term holiday, and might be in a position to run a few sessions if there are sufficient numbers. Could you please let us know this week if you would be interested in this provision and which days you might need it. We will then confirm via e-mail next Monday which days / dates we are able to offer.

Reminders and requests

Collecting other children : if you are planning for another adult to collect your child from school, could you please ensure we know about this in advance (before 3.30pm on that day.) This also includes when they are going home with other children to play. Please remember that we need permission from someone with parental responsibility, and cannot accept another parent's say so.

Reading :

Our Library is back in use (with some lovely pictures drawn by Margaret.)

If children have any outstanding books from last year, please can these be returned. Please feel free to come and borrow new books.

Could parents make sure that all children bring their reading book and reading diary to school every day. We listen to children individually with their reading books in class 1 and for children in class 2 also where we feel they continue to need this individual approach. In class 2 we read on a daily basis, but we will focus on teaching reading using a variety of text types, including a class book. Much of the individual reading will be with parents / carers and we ask that you try and read daily with your child, or a minimum of 3 times a week and record this in their diary. Older children can complete this themselves and ask a parent to initial this. From next week we will recognise reading at home in our rewards system to encourage children. Thank you for your support.

Dates for your diary

If you would like to design a Christmas card with your child, which we will get printed for you to buy copies, please feel free to come into school and work with them on this on Wednesday 24th October (first half of the morning.)

We are holding a celebration assembly on Tuesday 13th November. We aim to start at 3.20pm and this will last for approx. 30 mins, to showcase some work and share some achievements. All family and friends welcome. We will hold this in the village hall.

School calendar for Autumn Term : please find attached the calendar dates for the rest of this term, which includes some Christmas dates for you.

| Week beginning | School events |
|-----------------------|--|
| 15/10/18 | Thursday 18 th October 4pm Fundraising Committee meeting |
| 22/10/18 | World War I theme days this week. Wednesday 24 th October 9am – 10.45am : design your Christmas card with your child. Thursday 25 th October : Halloween activity afternoon for children Thurs 25 th October : last day before half term holiday. Friday 26 th October : Halloween Party 4pm – 7pm |
| 29/10/18 | HALF TERM HOLIDAY |
| 5/11/18 | School starts back Wed 7 th Nov Fri 9 th November – Sun 11 th Nov : Ticknall WWI exhibition Fri 9 th November (eve) Ticknall WWI concert (we hope to contribute to this) |
| 12/11/18 | Tuesday 13 th November 3.20pm Family celebration assembly (village hall) Fri 16 th November : Disney and Pudsey day. To raise money for Children in Need and also celebrate Mickey's 90 th birthday we will be having a dress up day (Disney or Pudsey – your choice) Fri 16 th November : Quiz night |
| 19/11/18 | Parent – teacher consultation evenings Wednesday 21 st Nov 4.10pm – 7pm and Thursday 22 nd November 4.10pm – 5.45pm |
| 26/11/18 | Mon 26 th November : AGM |
| 3/12/18 | Monday 3 rd December 2pm – 7pm Open afternoon and evening (details to follow) |
| 10/12/18 | Fri 14 th Dec : Christmas dinner village hall 1pm. Parents invited. Setting up from 10am. Monday 10 th Dec 9.30am nursery children attend Christmas performance |
| 17/12/18 | Tuesday 18 th Dec : Our Christmas performance in village hall Last day Thurs 20 th Dec. (Children back on Tues 8 th January) |

