

Our News

The fundraising team are working tirelessly to plan the 'Dame Catherine Harpur's School presents Ticknall fete.' The Parish Council is keen to work together with the school to provide exciting events in the village and is supporting the event. So please save the date **Monday 6th May (May Bank Holiday.)** and sign up to help (the sheets are in the library area.)

What's been happening in school?



Chinese New Year

Thank you to those of you who made it along to our Chinese New Year dinner on Friday, and thank you to Kenna for helping to prepare it.

The whole school used the celebration as a great learning opportunity throughout last week. There was lots of opportunity to try authentic foods purchased when class 2 took a trip to the Chinese supermarket. They were rather disappointed they couldn't afford a pet lobster and thankfully the assistant in the supermarket also pointed out that it might not survive the trip! So they made do with sweets, various fruits and all of the ingredients to make New Year dumplings and New Year cake.

Children got to practice their calligraphy skills (and thank you to Thor for his help with this) and ward away the evil spirits with their fantastic dragon masks.



Nursery : our nursery children have been immersed in the polar lands over the past few weeks. They have loved their igloo and have created their own using paper maché. As ever, learning about animals has been popular and the children have enjoyed making walrus from paper plates and learning how to count penguins.

Class 1 : with rocks and soils as a science theme across both school classes, class 1 have integrated this into their forest school work. They can tell you all about famous people such as Sir Edmund Hilary and Grace Darling. They have also been investigating what magnets can do. In their geography work they have been learning about creating maps and have mapped both our school and the garden.

Class 2 : Our Island



Our class 2 island is now well on the way to being created. We've learnt all about democracy ready for when we move onto the island (and voted very fairly to decide which ecosystems and animals we will be having on our island.) Of course, it all started with a volcano or two. We found various ways in science to mimic an eruption and we have created survival posters in case we ever come across an eruption. We have enjoyed considering other stories and films which gave us ideas for different ways in which we are transported there and writing about our own idea. These include travelling down a plug hole into the sea or falling into the board during a game of Oceanopoly.



Winnie the Pooh Week

Our Winnie the Pooh week in January enabled us to spend a lot of time learning outdoors.

Unfortunately, our efforts to catch a Heffalump were rather unsuccessful, but Eeyore did enjoy all of his new houses.

We enjoyed reading a few of the stories and our visit to play Pooh Sticks of course.

Did you know that Winnie the Pooh got his name from a bear from Canada who was taken to London Zoo when his owner went off to fight in World War 1?



Wet playtimes

Have you ever wondered how the children entertain themselves on wet winter days when the weather is too bad to venture outside.

Look closely at our library and you'll see a whole new pirate world!



Friday afternoons

A time for children to learn according to their interests.

An incredible piece of planning produced this trebuchet. Not involved in the plan was how it might get home so apologies to parents for leaving them with this headache!



A request from another local school

- St Wistan's has been in touch to ask for our support in fundraising for a little girl, Audrina, in their Kindergarten. This is to raise money for pioneering treatment in America, which would massively increase her chances of survival. The family need to raise £200,000 for Audrina to travel to America. They have asked us to join them in a non-uniform / dress up day this Friday. We have agreed to support them and, as we don't have uniform, though it might be an idea for children to come dressed in either any uniform they have (doctor, nurse, policeman etc.) or if they would rather a pyjama day. We have put a donations box out in the library as even if your child doesn't attend school on Friday, we are hoping you can donate to this cause. For more information you can find her fundraising page on <https://www.gofundme.com/danceforaudrina>
Please share this with friends and family.

Reminders and requests

- Please can you make sure your child has indoor pumps or sports shoes in school on Mondays and Wednesdays. We need safe and clean footwear to wear when we use the village hall for our PE sessions.
- Can you please use the car park near to the village hall when dropping off and collecting children rather than the end of Rose Lane (outside the gate to the school playground.) There have been occasions when the neighbours have been unable to get out of their driveway.
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Dates for your diary

Next Saturday (16th February) is the Valentine's party for children. This will be along the lines of the Halloween party which was great fun. If you haven't sent your reply into Bria yet, could you do this asap.

Dates for next half term and beyond

Week beginning 4th March : 'A world of festivals' week. We will be holding a number of 'drop in' activities for families.

Monday 4th March : Rosenmontag. To celebrate German carnival please come we invite parents to come a little earlier to collect if they can (3.40pm) and watch our parade.

Tues 5th March : Pancake Day. Join us for a pancake or waffle to start the day 8.30am – 9.15am

Thursday 7th March : World book day. Children are invited to come dressed up as their favourite book character from around the world.

Mon 11th March : class 2 visit to Rosliston Forestry Centre. All children will need a packed lunch this day.

Wednesday 27th March 3.15pm : mothers day celebration. Mothers and or / grandmas of children in nursery and class 1 are welcomed to school to enjoy a tea party with their children.

Saturday 30th March 10am – 12pm : open morning. A chance for visitors and current families to visit the school, chat to staff (and play in the garden)

Wednesday 3rd April 3pm – 4.30pm : open afternoon A chance for visitors and current families to visit the school, chat to staff (and play in the garden)

Wed 10th April : Easter bonnet parade / competition (details tbc)

Thurs 11th April : Easter egg hunt (details tbc)

Thurs 11th April : last day of term

Friday 12th April – Friday 26th April : school holidays

Monday 29th April : start of Summer term

Monday 6th May : Dame Catherine Harpur's School presents The Ticknall Village Fête.