

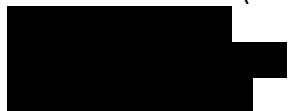
# Headteacher Newsletter April 2024



Dear pupils and parents,

I hope you have all had a lovely Easter break and managed to enjoy the holiday despite the weather!

We had a busy last week with the Easter Extravaganza where the children displayed their artistic talents with their amazing creations. We were overwhelmed by the number of entries. All the children voted for their favourite and the overall winners (although they all did get a chocolate prize) were -



We also held the fabulous Easter Egg Trail where all the children found tickets and then hunted for the one very special Golden ticket. This year the Golden Ticket winner was Aya Fletcher.

A massive well done to the winners!

## Diary Dates

Please see below a reminder of the events planned for this half term.

Thursday 18th April	Class 2 Breedon Forest School Session
Monday 22nd April	STEM Day with Assembly
Monday 22nd April	Class 1 Forest School
Thursday 25th April	Class 2 Breedon Forest School Session
Monday 29th April	Class 1 Forest School
Wednesday 1st May	Cricket Taster Sessions - Whole School
Thursday 2nd May	Class 2 Breedon Forest School Session
Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday
Thursday 9th May	Y3 / Y4 / Y5 Swimming (details to follow)
Thursday 9th May	Class 2 Breedon Forest School Session
Tuesday 9th May	Y5 and Y6 Mixed Cricket HVC
Monday 13th May - 16th May	SATs Week
Thursday 16th May	Y3 / Y4 / Y5 Swimming (details to follow)
Thursday 16th May	Class 2 Breedon Forest School Session
Friday 17th May	Pyjamarama Day (details to follow)
Wednesday 22nd May	Y5 Mini Leader Course (in school)
Thursday 23rd May	Y3 / Y4 / Y5 Swimming (details to follow)
Friday 24th May	Inset Day

## Wednesday's equal Wheelie Wednesday!!

All children are invited to bring in their skateboards or scooters (no bikes or skates please) to enjoy some wheelie good fun on Wednesday lunchtimes. Children MUST have a helmet to be able to take part.

Please take their equipment at the beginning of the day to the playground where it will be stored really for lunchtime.

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## Inset Days

We are pleased to confirm the Inset Days for 2024 / 2025 as follows:

- Wednesday 4th September 2024
- Friday 25th October 2024
- Friday 14th April 2025
- Friday 23rd May 2025
- Friday 24th July 2025

## School Improvement

There has been a lot of activity in the Easter holidays with the refurbishment of what was a dark and not particularly welcoming staff room. The entire room has undergone a major overhaul with a new ceiling, floor, storage units and a small kitchenette being installed. The room is now a light and welcoming place which provides us with a room that can be used for interventions and the staff can still make a drink!



Also, during the holidays the carpet area in Class 2 which was rather threadbare has been replaced and is looking great.

## PTA Support

PTA have once again been an amazing support to the school and the resources and experiences we are able to provide.

With their help, we have just placed a subscription for several magazines aimed at the different year groups in school. The National Geographic, Beano and First News. They have also agreed to fund a visit from a storyteller or author which will hopefully be arranged for next term and new dictionaries for Class 2 and 3.

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Last term their contributions to transport costs enabled Class 1 to attend Matlock Farm Park, Class 2 to visit Weston Park and early in the year Class 3 to attend Cromford Mill.

Future projects that are being explored involve replacing the base and mud kitchen in the garden and a sheltered area for outside.

A huge, massive thank you to everyone who is involved in raising these funds.

## Summer (hopefully!)

Although we haven't seen much sunshine yet, we are approaching the months where we might get some sunny weather. Please could we ask that children have appropriate clothing in school depending on the weather including a sunhat and that they are wearing sunscreen.

Children should ALWAYS have a coat and water bottle with them everyday. We would also encourage them to have wellies in school so that they can access the trim trail.

As the weather improves the after school care children will be accessing the playground and outside areas as much as possible. With this in mind please could we ask for parents collecting at 3.15pm to leave the playground promptly so we can secure the gates.

## School Attendance

A reminder that the doors open to pupils at 08:40 and the children are encouraged to enter class to settle themselves and to complete any morning work. Registration is from 08:45 closing at 09:00 for all children. Lessons start promptly at 09:00 so please try to ensure your child arrives in time as it can be unsettling for them and the rest of the class.

The gates are open from 08:30 and children are welcome on the playground from this time. A polite reminder that they need to be accompanied by parents during this time.

## Easyfundraising

Did you know that we are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! All you need to do is sign up and remember to use easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely FREE! These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/grindlefordprimaryschool/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=rm-en-n1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/grindlefordprimaryschool/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-en-n1)

Once again thank you all for your continued support,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'KL Gemmell'.

Kate Gemmell (Headteacher)