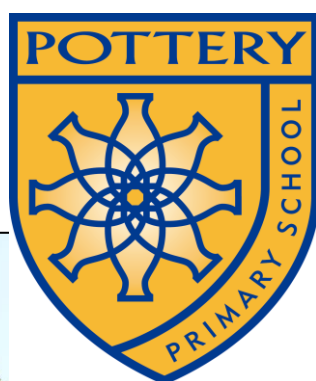


# *Pottery Primary School*

## **Celebration News**



## **July 2017**

## **Editorial**



This is my second year editing Celebration News and I am grateful for the many positive comments received about last year's edition. I hope you enjoy this one just as much.

As ever it's been a privilege to help put the booklet together and to read about all the many good things that go on in the school. My thanks to Mrs Hutton and all the staff and pupils who have contributed words and photographs.

**Paul Linford, Parent Governor**

## **From the Headteacher**



It has once again been a very busy year for governors, staff and pupils, and of course parents, who continue to support children's learning whilst also supporting the many events that are held here.

Throughout the year I have the privilege of spending time with all of our children both in the classroom and outside of the classroom, either sitting with them to eat lunch or chatting to them at break time. This year one of my favourite afternoons was spent with Mr Hodgson (Chair of Governors) and children from our School Council, discussing how we as staff promote keeping children safe, both within school and outside of school. This year we had a safety week in January which staff thought very successful. However, what was their perspective on this? Could we improve what we did and if so how? At the end of the afternoon the children created their safety statement which can be seen around the school and also in this celebratory edition. I am incredibly proud of the way in which the School Council work hard to represent the voice of all our youngsters in school; well done and thank you.

I am also incredibly proud of all our staff who continue to work passionately and tirelessly to ensure children enjoy learning and that they achieve success in what is an ever changing educational climate. Our topic based creative curriculum continues to foster inquisitive and engaging learners.

Throughout the year the PSA have once again continued to work hard to provide a wide variety of popular events which are always fun for the children and which raise much

needed funding for school. This year in addition to the funding provided towards coaches for visits, the PSA have raised funds for sets of cameras for the children to use to enable them to record their learning. All children love the 'pink book' which maps the year in photographs and the cameras will be invaluable to continue to enable this; your support at PSA events is key to this fund-raising.

The Board of Governors also give tirelessly of their time ensuring that we meet national requirements. They fully support staff in the principle that children's enjoyment of learning is at the heart of what we do, that children achieve their potential and continue to experience a wide variety of inspiring and engaging activities.

Finally, I couldn't end my piece this year without mentioning the tragic death of Ruby in year 2. Few events in life challenge a community as much as this one and it made me immensely proud to be part of both the Pottery community and the extended Belper community in the way in which people responded both to the needs of the immediate family and in the support of both staff and children within school. Ruby was such a caring and giving child and is sadly missed. The children who knew Ruby from within school, or through her dance school, contributed to a 'pink book' with photographs, words, poems and prayers for Ruby's family.

Thank you.

**Gill Hutton (Headteacher)**



## Classes of Mr Boardman and Mrs Campbell: Reception

This year in Reception we have had a great time sharing experiences and learning new skills through exploration and play. Here is a selection of some of the activities and adventures we have been on.

### Whistlestop Centre



We took a trip to the Whistlestop Centre run by the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust in Matlock Bath.



We walked to Belper to catch the train using our knowledge learned on safety week of how to cross the roads and how to stay safe at the Railway Station.

On arrival we set off to explore the woods through the story of the Owl Babies. We followed a trail and used our senses to explore: making smelly perfumes, listening



to the sounds of the woods, exploring textures and words to describe them and finding camouflaged



"worms" in the undergrowth. There was a fairy garden that we ate our lunch in and made fairy shelters using natural materials. We caught the train



home where our parents met us at the station as after such an exciting and energetic day the idea of walking back up the hill was a step too far!



At school we have grown our own plants and built shelters. We have explored where fairies might live on our school field!

## A Miracle in Town - Our Christmas Production



Over Christmas the children performed their very entertaining version of the Nativity called "A Miracle in Town". There were lots of lines to learn and songs to sing. They enjoyed showcasing their acting skills to family and friends. We were all very proud of how hard they worked and they definitely deserved the Christmas break.



## Exploring Our World

We have had lots of visitors this year to support our learning and to help us explore the world we live in and introduce us to new ideas and experiences. It has been great fun having them in. Each visitor has brought new and interesting things. These visitors have included:

\* The Music Man who brought his collection of instruments. We had great fun playing them.



\* The Transport Police who came with their car and emergency equipment.





We really wanted to have a go at driving the car with the sirens on. We used the sirens so much that the car battery ran down.

\* "Eggucation" who delivered our eggs with Cindy Pompom and Repeckah.

We hatched 7 chicks and were very sad when they had to go back to the farm.



\* School staff came to visit and share with us the jobs they do.

We now know there are lots of different jobs that keep the school running smoothly.



These are just a few of the things we have been up to, what a fun filled and busy year we have had!

## Classes of Miss Bradley, Miss Dale, Mrs Hawkins and Mrs Roberts: Year 1 and 2

### Reading Café



Years 1 and 2 took part in a reading café which gave the children opportunities to share many different books whilst having a snack and chatting to friends. The children explored genres that they may not have chosen before and enjoyed the experience so much that we had to do it again!



### A Visit From A Poet

We were fortunate to have a visit from a local poet Andy Tooze. Each class took part in a poetry workshop where they shared Andy's poems, created their own and performed to an audience consisting of children and parents.

## Christmas Around The World



To enhance our topic 'Christmas around the world' we visited Chatsworth Farm Park and took part in a real life nativity! We also made traditional Christmas decorations.

Our Christmas production focused on how Christmas is celebrated around the world and we learned to say 'Happy Christmas' in six different languages!

## Fit For The Queen

As part of our 'Famous Five' topic we discovered how five famous people throughout history have shaped our lives today. One of the people we looked at was Queen Elizabeth II. We combined our history topic with art and design to make jewellery fit for the Queen!



## Around The Neighbourhood

As part of our 'neighbourhood watch' topic we took a walk around the local area.



We looked at the history of the buildings and looked at physical and human features of the landscape.



We used this knowledge to inspire our writing and give a focus for art activities.



**Classes of Mrs Kanigowski, Mrs Locker/Mrs Hodgins and Miss Slack: Years 3 & 4**



In the autumn term, two Roman soldiers came into year three and four as part of our topic 'Under Attack'. They spent the day in school so that we could learn about the Romans. We learnt about Roman ways of life, the army and all about hygiene

(including toilets!) During the afternoon we were transformed into Roman soldiers and learned all about battle techniques and how to function as an effective fighting unit both on the defensive and offensive. At the very end of the day we had the opportunity to ask our own questions as well as have a photograph taken with the soldiers.



Our first trip of the year was a visit to Newstead Abbey where we took part in several activities throughout the day. We learnt about the toys that were used in Victorian times and had the chance to play with these. We also made sugar mice and played parlour games in the main hall. The final activity of the day was learning where

animation began and watching a film made from slides. We really enjoyed the day.



During our Enterprise week we designed, costed, made and packaged 'Christmas Creams'. We carried out market research to decide on the shape, colour and flavour of our products. We then worked in groups to follow our design and make our 'Christmas Creams'. Some of us then volunteered to sell the products at the PSA 'Winter Fair'. We helped raise nearly £300!



In the spring term we took part in 'RE day' which involved each class studying a story from a different religion. These stories were then linked to other areas of the curriculum which allowed us to represent the stories in a variety of creative ways including singing, painting pictures and collage.

During the term we were very lucky to have visitors who were skilled orienteers. Initially, we looked at a map and learnt the symbols used for orienteering, and then we moved on to following a map using gym equipment in the hall. For our final session, the ladies mapped out the school and set up an orienteering course for us to follow, using the methods taught. We really enjoyed the orienteering sessions and most of us were able to follow the maps independently by the end.





During the summer term we took part in 'science day'. We visited each teacher in the team and took part in a different science activities. Mrs Hodgins' activity was a race track using magnetism, Mrs Kanigowski's activity was making boats, using different materials to make them float and Miss Slack's activity was taking the temperature of water to find out the best insulator.



On 'Music day' we had the opportunity to have a taste of playing the spoons! Jo and Francis came in to give each class a workshop, where they taught us how to play the spoons, and we put a song together using different techniques. We were all surprised at how easy it was to play them and tried playing several different types of spoons to see what effect this had on the sound!

Our final trip of the year was a visit to 'Poole's Cavern' where we took part in two activities over the day. Our first activity was a walk on the yellow track to 'Solomon's Temple' through the woods. We were identifying different types of leaves along the way and studied food chains which linked to our science in class. When we got there, we were able to go up the temple; the stairs were very narrow and steep!







Our second activity was a guided tour down the cave of 'Poole's cavern'. We saw stalactites and stalagmites including 'Poole's slug' and the 'flitch of bacon'! On route, we saw the stalagmites which are known as poached eggs due to their distinctive colours which were white and yellow. When we reached the end of the cave, we were lucky enough to see how dark the cave is without electricity - we experienced pitch black for the first time!

## Classes of Mr Hartley, Miss Illingworth and Mrs Nicholson: Years 5 & 6

### London



What an exciting start to our year. Our topic in the first term was Cities of Stone, where we studied and compared some famous cities, including Mayan cities and London. We also read The London Eye Mystery by Siobhan Dowd. As a result of this, we decide a visit to London was needed.

Our time in London involved a guided tour of The Houses of Parliament where so many famous people have stood. We learnt so much about the history of our country. Lunch was in the sun by the River Thames. Following this we were taken on a visit to 10 Downing Street. We had all written to try



to persuade MP's to allow us to stand outside this famous door. Thankfully, Pauline Latham was able to organise this for us. We even managed to meet Larry the Prime Minister's cat.

The day also included a visit to Horse Guards Parade and a walk up The Mall before stopping to take in the views of Buckingham Palace. It was a long day (including an unscheduled hold up) but a really special time and we will definitely remember this trip!

### Learning about Space



During the spring term we were involved in the Tim Peake space project. We had a fabulous start to the project with a visit from Philip Shimwell (an ambassador from the project), who brought in Helen Sharman's space suit. During our 'space day', we experienced how astronauts train, how they keep fit and healthy in space, the characteristics of an astronaut and investigated the size of craters. During the term, the children then took part in 'Mission X' which helped to increase physical fitness and core strength. It was great fun and for all budding astronauts a great opportunity to find out more about opportunities available for future careers in science and technology.

### Eco Warriors





Our spring term topic was Eco Warriors and we looked at how we could help the environment at a local and global level. We looked at recycled materials and created our own products including adverts and speeches in a Dragon's Den style presentation. Towards the end of the term, we visited the National Stone Centre and Eco Centre in Middleton. We had a busy day with a treasure hunt around the Eco Centre,



willow weaving our own fish, an exploration of the Stone Centre and a workshop about rocks and minerals. It was a beautiful day, complete with a picnic in the sun.

**Year 5**



## **Zoolab and Forest Schools Day**



Whilst the Year 6's were at Kingswood we had two very exciting days in Year 5. Firstly, we had a visit from Barry, who works for Zoolab. He brought with him some friends which we don't usually find in the classroom. These included Deidre the giant African land snail, Gary the gecko, Rosie the rat, Tom the toad, Sophie the snake and Michelle the millipede. We learnt lots about the animals and were able to stroke or hold them.





Our second exciting day was spent down on the field with Mr Boardman completing a variety of 'Forest School' type activities. The morning was spent competing in teams to



build the best hedgehog home, put up a tent in the quickest time and make the strongest rope using wool. We had lots of food and at the end yellow team were the winners so they were able to choose their materials for a race first. In the race we had to transport water from one end of the field to another to release a cork in a plastic tube. Our materials were things like sponge balls, funnels and plant pots- not the easiest items to transport water! In the afternoon, we had a campfire where we sang songs and toasted marshmallows. We then created giant artwork using nature to display what we had enjoyed. It was a great day and there were smiles all round!



## **Year 6 Residential to Kingswood - Dearne Valley**

On 14<sup>th</sup> June, Year 6 journeyed to Kingswood for three fun-packed days filled with a variety of challenges.

Their first activity was the indoor climbing wall; it was quite challenging. Next they had the scrapheap challenge, which turned out to be a very amusing experience as Bailey and Mr Hartley launched the group's protected water balloons off the top of a 15 metre high building to test their strength. After all the water balloons were thrown off, everyone went to collect the wet debris- little did they know, Mr Hartley and Bailey had a large bucket of water. Most people were drenched!

The second day started off with archery, being taught by Craig, Jade and Ash. All of the children hit the target, with some quite impressive scores. Once again the skill level of the children improved dramatically over the session. The morning also saw groups co-operating together to complete the night line activity.



The afternoon saw everyone together, attempting to build the most stable raft in preparation for a number of water based challenges. As expected, nearly everybody jumped in and swam to shore. Due to the warm weather this



helped them all cool down. The evening ended with all the class trying to solve The Trail of Mystery. A deviously challenging tale, that required them to solve the crime based on the evidence they managed to gather.

After a good night, all the children needed waking up in the morning for their final day of activities. The two activities were Jacob's Ladder and bush craft. Even though there had been some late nights and early mornings, all the children managed to build a reasonable shelter and challenge themselves one more time as they ascended the climbing frame.



The activities were both adventurous and challenging. The instructors were great fun and supported us all in developing our skills. They all agreed that their favourite coach was Bailey - their group leader. Bailey supervised them in most activities and was a really fun person to be around. The time away was great fun and enjoyed by all. All the children were a credit to the school. They were kind and supportive of each other and enjoyed the opportunity to spend time with each other.

**Compiled by Evie Moulton with Mr Hartley**





## Literacy



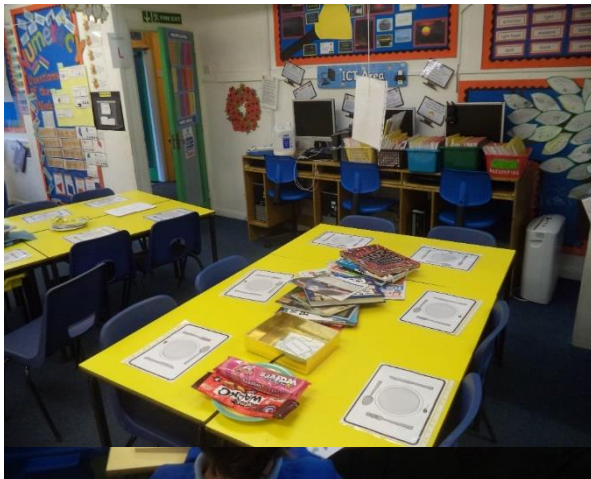
We have continued to apply literacy skills through our half-termly/termly topics throughout the school. We have also continued to embed 'Rainbow Grammar' as a tool to support children's understanding of sentence structure. Rainbow Grammar is first introduced to our reception children who are taught that a sentence has 3 parts to it - a subject (who or what the sentence is about), predicate (what is happening to



the subject) and a full stop. Each part of the sentence is colour coded. As the children move further up the school, they are introduced to new Rainbow Grammar concepts which build on their prior knowledge. When children reach year 6, they learn how to embed and develop all aspects of the Rainbow Grammar scheme.



For the first time, we hosted a 'Book Reading Café Day' on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January. The purpose of this was to allow all children to experience a range of different books in a café themed way.



The classrooms were set up with different genres of books and snacks for the children to taste and enjoy whilst they were trying out new books.

The books were carefully chosen in order to promote maximum enjoyment and engagement whilst also providing a challenge. Children were also asked to share their own favourite books as part of the day.

By the end of the reading cafe day, the children were encouraged to develop a list of books that they were interested in reading. Many of the children were also given a follow-up reading challenge in order to encourage the children to read a wide range of different genres. Many of the children said that this was one of the 'best days' that they had had in school and found it 'lots of fun'.



We repeated this later in the year; children are selecting from a wider choice of genre when choosing a reading book as a result of their Reading Café experience.

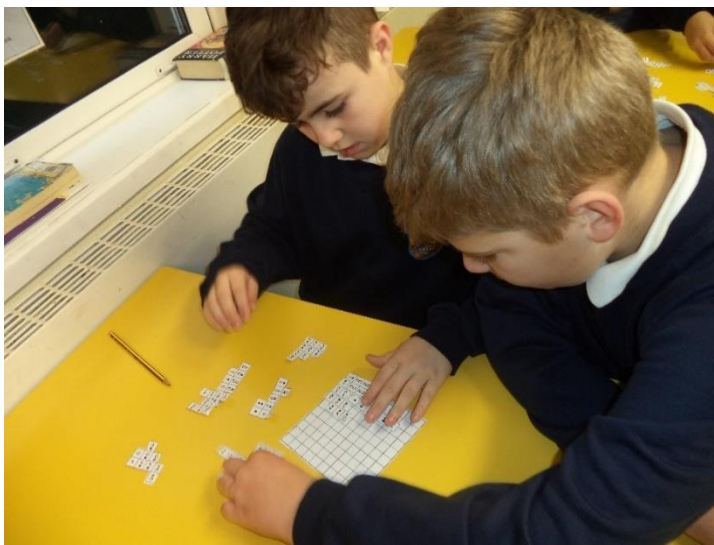
We intend to continue with the very popular 'Reading Café days.

**E Campbell (Reading Co-ordinator), M Kanigowski (Writing Co-ordinator)**

## **Mathematics**

### **Maths No Problem**

This year has been another exciting year at Pottery for maths. Staff have been delivering a new scheme - Maths No Problem - following training in September 2016. The scheme teaches children the Singapore method for solving maths problems. It encourages all children to use concrete and pictorial representations in order to tackle challenging maths. This approach enables those who will benefit from visual representations to fully comprehend what is expected for their year group. The children have responded well to the style of teaching.



### **Maths Day**

As with other subject areas Pottery held a day specifically for maths. Children moved around their key stage to be taught by all the teachers. This gave the children and the teachers an



opportunity to experience ideas and teaching methods. These subject specific days have proved very popular with the children, who get additional opportunities to work collaboratively with their peers to solve problems.

### **Open Evening**

The familiar format of an evening, dedicated to the subjects taught at primary school, proved a success yet again. It was great to see our children confidently solving challenges and participating in mathematical games. The children enjoyed explaining mathematical understanding to their parents. There were a wide variety of activities and games, supported by year 6 volunteers. The event was well attended and an enjoyable evening.



### **Teachers**

Over the year there have been a number of initiatives at Pottery. I have had the opportunity to team teach maths with all the staff in the juniors and Mrs Campbell has similarly team taught with the staff in infants. This has been a great opportunity to learn from each other and develop our teaching strategies across the school. As a school we are always looking for new and interesting ways to support the children, whether this is in the form of guidance or additional challenge for individuals.

### **Summary**

Maths is a subject that permeates all aspects of our lives. At Pottery, we aim to give children the confidence and the understanding to tackle mathematical problems both in school and the wider world. We aim to build on their confidence, enabling them to solve challenges individually and co-operatively.

**G. Hartley (Mathematics Co-ordinator)**



## French (juniors)

Since the start of the academic year, those of us in years 3 and 4 have been learning about pets, food and transport in French. This has given us many varied opportunities. We have watched the weekly exploits of 'Boowa and Kwala,' we have learnt finger rhymes and songs and we have played a variety of language games.



As a class, we read the story of 'La Chenille qui fait des trous.' By taking a well-known story and studying it in French, we are able to draw upon our prior knowledge and then access and enjoy the story in the foreign language.

We enjoyed the craft activities based on the story.

Ready for our summer holidays, we have been learning how to order an ice cream in a French café. We can order a variety of flavours but may need help paying at the end!





Thanks to the 'Salut' computer software, we are able to consolidate our learning by playing vocabulary games and listening to songs and stories. In years 5 and 6 we have learnt about 'House and Home' and 'The Solar System' so far this year. We have learned how to describe where we live and the home that they live in. We have also studied the planets which complemented our topic work



Again we have been exchanging letters and pictures with the school in France. We sent an Easter card and more recently a letter and picture showing what we like about spring. They sent us pictures of flowers.

## Religious Education (RE)



Whilst we study RE each week, in February we had a whole RE day where each class focused on a different religious story from across the six main world religions. Each class experienced different activities and through drama, art and music recreated the story to share with parallel year groups in the afternoon. Each class showcased their work and the children enjoyed visiting different classrooms and learning about the different stories.



Throughout the year, classes have visited St Peter's Church and had visitors in school from practising world religions, including a Muslim speaker from the Open Centre in Derby. We have also had some fabulous visitors to our assemblies including Reverend Anne from St Peter's, 'Open the Book' with Mrs Hodgson and Valley Cids who have had us all singing and dancing!



**A Illingworth (RE Co-ordinator)**



## Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE)

Within PSHE we had our annual whole school safety week. Along with having a focus on safety in and around our school we had a strong focus on railway safety. The week was launched with a visit from two railway police men along with their car, which we all had a go at sitting in and finding out about all of the equipment.



We also had the opportunity of trying on police clothing and handling different equipment.



Throughout the school we looked at the importance of safety on line (table, PC, ipad, smartphone - anywhere you can access the internet!) Infants enjoyed Smarty the Penguin, making rhymes and posters and juniors looked at CEOP work about 'keeping safe on line' from which leaflets were created as reminders

about keeping safe whilst on line.

Year 5 and 6 developed their first aid skills looking at DRS ABC and the recovery position. They then analysed data of accidents in our playground presenting the information in various ways. Furthermore they looked at hazards and created hazard report in the style of a



weather report. The school council then went on to work with Mrs Hutton and Mr Hodgson (Chair of Governors and also link Governor for keeping us safe) to discuss what more we could do as a school.

**A Locker and J Thompson (PSHE Co-ordinator)**

## **Music**

Children across the school have continued to learn a variety of musical instruments including violin, flute, guitar, drums, recorder and trumpet. During our Christmas service at St Peters Church, all instrumental children performed a marvellous rendition of the 'Hallelujah Chorus', which was adapted and conducted by our brass teacher Mr Kevin Holdgate.

EYFS and Key Stage 1 have been working with Peter Morley who brought in a range of orchestral instruments which the children had great fun playing.



## **Whole school music days**



In June, the whole school enjoyed 'spoons' workshops run by Joe May. It was great fun learning to play a variety of spoons and perform songs with Francis, the flautist. Children listened to classical music by Beethoven and Mozart and each year group found out about the modern composers: Johns Adams, Anna Meredith, Leonard Bernstein and



Anna Clyne. We finished our days with a whole school sing of 'Happy' and 'The Power in me'.

This year at our open evening, parents, visitors and children were able to try out music making of their own using the class percussion instruments, electronic key boards bells and glockenspiels. A favourite for all visitors was trying out our new app - Garage Band. An enjoyable, 'noisy' evening!



Choir have once again had a busy year taking part in concerts with The Dalesmen Voice Choir and performing for the Belper Stroke Club, Babington Hospital, Heritage Court and at the PSA school winter and summer fairs.

Finally, children and staff have worked extremely hard on musical performances over the year with infants performing three different musicals at the end of the autumn term and this term the year 6 children will be performing the 'Sherwood Hoodies'.

**L Nicholson (Music Co-ordinator)**

## Physical Education

### PE throughout the school

This year we have worked hard to continue to improve physical education throughout the school.

In the early years children have the opportunity to develop their basic skills through physical play and through structured PE lessons. They develop their confidence and begin to apply skills in dance, gymnastics and games.

Key stage 1 have been coached by a variety of Premier Sport coaches as well as their class teachers. They have acquired and improved their skills in dance, gymnastics, athletics and a variety of team games. Lots of children have also represented the school this year in local competitions such as end ball and football.

Key stage 2 have been further developing their skills and learning to apply them within game situations. They have also had visitors come in to teach children orienteering skills such as symbol reading, following maps and using directional language. Year 6 have also enjoyed their 3 day residential at Kingswood.

This year we have successfully taken part in local competitions such as netball, athletics, cross country and a new event, the Amber Valley swimming gala.





### **Intra-school competitions**



Throughout the year, the whole school has taken part in intra-school competitions. This gives year groups the chance to participate and compete for their house colour in team games such as football, end ball and hockey, harnessing skills that children have been practising in PE lessons.

Every child has enjoyed the opportunity to participate in these competitions and they have reinforced our teaching about sportsmanship and team values.

### **Fitness days**

As well as our PE lessons, every child has taken part each term in a fitness day. Children are tested on their stamina by running as far as they can within a given time. We have been impressed by the improvement the children have shown over the year and the enthusiasm the children have to increase their levels of fitness and achieve a healthy life style. Targets for improvement are set for individuals and classes following each event.

### **Afterschool clubs**

After school clubs have been offered to children in years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. There has been a large variety of clubs both indoors and out including: gymnastics, dance, athletics, team games and new experiences such as archery.

The Government Sports Premium continues to be invaluable in providing additional and extended opportunities for the children whilst enhancing the skills of the children and the staff.

**L Bradley (PE Co-ordinator)**

## **School Council**

Each year classes vote for a school councillor to represent their class at fortnightly school council meetings. The older children also attend monthly meetings with Mrs Marriott (Karen) our school cook and Mrs Hutton to discuss menu choice and to provide feedback. This year the school council have been involved in organising and running the Bring and Buy Sale and in spending the money with their classes on something of their choice.



## **Election Time**

The election was great fun! We had to write down why we thought we would be a good school councillor and then we had to read it out to the class. Afterwards, the class voted for the person they thought would best represent them. As there were so many candidates we had a number of rounds to narrow down the choice and ended up with four names to go on the ballot paper. A couple of days later we had a big vote and found out who the new School Councillors were.

**(Piece written by Amelia – school councillor)**





### **Bring-and-Buy Sale**

At the bring and buy sale all of the school councillors go behind stalls and sell things children have donated, which included got lots of toys and books. You go on a stall with a partner and the older ones helper the younger ones. In the bring-and-buy sale this year we raised £334. We divided the money up and each class decided how to spend their money and we have bought things like: books, games, felt tips, craft equipment, toys and playtime equipment.

(Piece written by Ruby -

school councillor)



### **Minute taking in meetings**

As the older students in school council we (Lauren and Lottie) have the privilege of writing the minutes. The minutes then get passed to each class so children know what we have discussed. First, we record the attendance of the other school councillors at the meeting: next we write down the discussion and requests from the other school councillors starting with reception and going up to year 6. The requests from school councillors are requests from children in their class which they collect every 2 weeks by leading a class council.

Taking the minutes is a very important job because if no one did it then we would have nothing to tell to our classes about. We improve the school and our experience of school. We are the voice representing all of the children.

(Piece written by Lauren and Lottie - school councillors)

### **Meeting our School Cook Mrs Marriott**

At the 'cook meetings' (as they have become known), we all discuss meals and if people are enjoying the food. We talk about events like 'Find Deck' and if we would like to do more events like that in the future. Feedback is useful as it tells us if the cook (Karen)

We also get to talk to Karen about supporting our school events. We have a notice board in the hall and get the chance to ask Karen any questions about the food. In June, year 2 had a 'bring a family member to dinner day' so they could see what dinners were like before they had to pay for them in year 3!

**Risk assessment**

**Safety**

- Online
  - Old Exploration
  - Online Protection
  - Online
  - Cyber Bullying
  - Anonymous
- Fire
  - Alarm
  - Special telephones
  - Dials
  - Lesson
  - extinguishers
- Bullying
  - School Times
  - On Purpose
  - (Stop)
  - PSA
- Stranger
  - Kidnapping
  - Rape
  - Stalking
  - Inappropriate
  - Abuse
- Abuse
  - Neglect
  - Family
  - Stranger
  - Child
- Child
  - Safety
  - Rules
  - Unhappy

**Child**

**Abuse**

**Stranger**

**Bullying**

**Fire**

**Online**

We wrote all we could think of that we had learnt on big pieces of sugar paper.



We used all this information to create a safety statement which is now displayed in each classroom and around the school.



Our final safety statement reads:

'At Pottery we all have a right to be safe, to have a fair say and be treated equally. We are taught the knowledge and skills we need, in fun and exciting ways, to keep safe both in and out of school. If we are in danger, are worried or harmed. We know how to report this and who to report it to.'

**Piece written by Lauren – school councillor**

### How we help the school

We asked our classes how the school council helps them and here are just some of the responses:

*'The school council help us to solve problems.'*

*'School councillors are always here to help.'*

*'School councillors can make the school a better place and can help us get new equipment to use.'*

*'They listen to our ideas and help us have a voice.'*

## **Year 6 memories of time spent at Pottery Primary:**

This year's school leavers on the memories that they will take with them on the next stage of their journey.....

*London because I had never been there before, it is massive and we stood outside number 10 Downing Street. Our Year 5 play, Pirates of the Curry Bean because I thought it was very funny and I had the part I wanted. Lea Green because we had a residential trip for 1 night and we did loads of activities; let's hope Kingswood is even better!* **Daniel Payne**

*When we went to Cadbury's World in year 1, I liked Cadbury's World because it was one of my first school trips at Pottery. Lea Green, my first residential. Kingswood, my longest time away with school.* **Abbie Statham**

*My first time getting the trophy. Going to London and getting stuck on the bus for hours. Young Voices concert in Sheffield.* **Ella Langston**

*When we went to Lea Green. When we went to London. When we went to Magna science museum in year 3.* **Finlay James**

*SATS! Coming back from London. Danelaw Viking Village.* **Fraser Taylor**

*Making friends in reception. Winning the child of the week for the first time. London trip.* **James Lingard**

*SATS week - SATS week was one of the best weeks at school because of the extra breaks and biscuits also the breakfast club. When I got the trophy on my birthday a few years ago. When people make you laugh in class.* **Daisy Bunting**

*I liked Fun Days. I liked World Book days. I liked my first day at school.* **Lauren Elliott**

*Lea Green in year 5, I did lots of fun stuff. My favourite was bush craft where we made a house out of trees. I also liked the night we played top trumps. DaneLaw Viking centre when in year 4. We lived a day like a Viking! Bonus, me and Finlay H spotted the baddie! Houses of Parliament in year 6. We went to London and went inside the Houses of Parliament.* **Alfie Whiting**



*One of my favourite memories was Lea Green because I was with all of my friends. Another of my favourite memories was Cadbury's World when we were in year 2 because I loved the chocolate we tried!* **Katie Harrison**

*When Mr Collyer wrote Xanthe and I poems in year 1. SATs week in year 6 (especially the breakfast club). Going to Magna Science Museum in year 3.* **Sophie Ainsworth**

*My favourite memories at Pottery Primary school are; the school trip and overnight stay as we tried lots of different activities and we got to spend lots of time with our friends at Lea Green. The school trip to London where we got stuck on the coach for 7 hours! SATs week!* **Jack Batterham**

*Beating Natalie in the long distance run on sports day, being stuck on a coach for 5 hours at London and going to Lea Green on a residential.* **Poppy Elstob**

*My favourites are: in year 2 we visited Cadbury's World, in year 5 we went on a residential trip to Lea Green and in year 6 we went to London for the day.* **Natalie Doyle**

*My Favourite memories of Pottery are: Lea Green (Year 5) - the tale of room 6 was the best. School Fair (Year 4) - I splashed Mr Hartley in the face with a wet sponge. Magna trip - I really like science so this was the perfect place to go. When I go to secondary school my favourite memories from Pottery (I presume) will be: Lea Green, Kingswood and the year 6 Prom* **Finlay Haynes**

*I enjoyed doing different art topics. I liked going on school trips because you learn new things. In PE, I enjoyed doing all the different team events.* **Faith Parker**

*Going to London as a school trip, Lea Green, the basketball tournament. I remember (in class) when Mrs Nicholson danced along to 'Shake It Off' in year 4. I remember falling into one of the metal poles on the playground. I had a massive lump on my lip and we had to go to the doctors to check my lip and teeth. I remember Lea Green very well, especially the carrying water on our heels and being sprayed by a hose pipe.* **Elisabeth Hodgson**

*My first favourite memory was when my friends and I were at Lea Green in year 5 because we were putting sun cream on but Katie Mann accidentally put too much on her face so she looked like a ghost. My second favourite memory was one day in class we just started laughing for no reason but then because we were laughing so much that we started to cry. My third favourite memory was when I first got the trophy in Year 1 but I thought you should keep it forever.* **Amelia Dawson**

*Possibly my favourite memory of Pottery was when we went to Lea Green in Year 5 because it was a very unique experience I really enjoyed it because we all got to try lots of things that we might never have done before. Another of my favourite*

*memories is from the beginning of year 6 when our topic was Cities of Stone, so we went on a school trip to London and got to go into Parliament. We also got to stand outside 10 Downing Street and we saw Larry the cat. It was a really interesting school trip and we learnt a lot. Last year because I was in Year 5/6 my class got to be in the Year 6 play and it was really fun. I enjoyed it a lot and I think everyone else did too because normally we wouldn't be in two year 6 plays.* **Xanthe Oldfield**

*My favourites have been the end of year rewards, the friends I have made and all the improvement in all of my learning.* **Ryan Haque**

*In late year 1, a new girl, called Elise joined my class. She was extremely popular at the start but as time went on she started to fit in and was treated normally. At the time, I was extremely shy and didn't have any friends, until one day, I was sitting by myself when Elise sat next to me. I just ignored her for a while; I was too shy and nervous to talk to her! As I wasn't talking, she made the first move and gradually, our friendship grew and grew! Today, we are the best friends ever. In Year 5, I went on my first residential trip to Lea Green. My favourite part, was the exciting night-walk. We set off at around 7.00pm and navigated our way through the dark using just a map. We arrived back at 10.00pm! We quickly had hot chocolate then went straight to bed. Our day in London. In Year 6 we had a 4-hour coach trip to London! First, we went to the Houses of Parliament. We spent about one and a half hours there before having lunch in ST James' Park. After that, we went down 10 Downing Street! Furthermore, we saw Larry the cat! Finally, we watched the changing of the guards before getting back on the coach and going home. However, we were stuck in traffic on the M1 and it took us 7 hours to get home!* **Emily Mason**

**Kingswood Residential at the end of Year 6 was a highlight and all the children had lots to say so here are just some of the things said about it:**

*I loved being the official photographer for the raft building exercise* **Evie Moulton**

*Stroking someone's hair during nightline when we were blindfolded and it turned out to be someone from another school.* **Leah Knapgate**

*Singing 'Frozen' and 'Let it Go' on the Jacob's ladder (it was crucial to hold on) and falling into the lake.* **Elisabeth Hodgson**

*Dressing up as a caretaker.* **Ava Mae Ryan**

*Everything, they are such a wonderful bunch of children.* **Mr Hartley**

*Loved every minute, the children are just great.* **Mrs Nicholson**



## **From the Chair of Governors**



This year has been a challenging year for the Pottery School Community. In the Head Teacher's introduction she referred to the sad loss of Ruby, which was a shock and a difficult time for all. But Gill Hutton also had a bereavement towards the end of 2016 and had some time away from the school. This was an equally difficult time for the staff but what struck me about both these tragic events, was the way in which the whole school came together, to provide a caring, supportive community in which the education of our children continued day by day. That professionalism is something which all those connected to Pottery School can feel justifiably proud. I have already spoken of my gratitude to the staff, but felt that a public acknowledgement was fitting here.

This year has been a consolidating year for the Board of Governors. We had just the one change when our new Governor, Jo, was unable to join us when his work patterns were changed. However, we welcome back Martin Osborne to replace Jo. Martin brings a wealth of experience as a Governor and many will recall that he has also held the position of Chair of Governors at Pottery in the past. While away, Martin was involved in setting up an Academy Trust and this knowledge and experience will assist the Board of Governors, should we decide that becoming an Academy is the correct decision for the school in the future. The Government has changed slightly its emphasis from all schools becoming an Academy to only those identified as 'struggling' but as the role and function of Local Authorities change, it is something which we will have to continue to keep under review to ensure that any decisions are made only when it is in the interest of the pupils and to improve their education.

There have been some frustrating delays in the new build and I had hoped to be talking about work in progress in this year's edition of the Celebration News. We hope that the replacement of E block will start before too long but we will write to parents separately once we have exact dates and details for you.

I had the privilege of undertaking a Governor visit to the Year 6 residential to Kingswood in June this year and was immensely proud of the way our older pupils

represented the school. On behalf of the Board of Governors, I wish them every success as they leave Pottery to begin their new adventures in secondary education.

**Julian Hodgson, Chair of the Board of Governors**

## **Pottery School Association (PSA)**



Pottery School Association has helped raise lots of money over the years to buy equipment for the school. Events such as: the summer and winter fairs, discos and pop parties, Easter Egg Hunt, selling refreshments at sports days, second hand uniform sales, Fun Day and more, have all helped to raise the funds to enable school to purchase equipment including library books, playground equipment, interactive white boards and dining tables. Most recently the focus has been upon raising funds to purchase new digital cameras for every class, and contributing towards coaches to enable school visits such as the pantomime at Christmas. The PSA has also recently been accepted as one of the Whitemoor Co-operative Store's chosen charities for their Members' Community Fund, which will provide money to improve the reception outdoor learning area (so if you've not signed up for a card please do!) The amount in this is already standing at over £3,000.

The committee functions and runs the events entirely through the voluntary support of school staff, parents, grandparents, carers and often, past pupils, coming to help. We would like to thank everyone who has supported us over the year; it is fantastic that so many of you are prepared to give your time to the school for the many fundraising activities and to enhance the children's school experience. We are always looking for more people to become more active within the PSA and any help is always most appreciated.

**Trish Wright, Chair of PSA**