



Newsletter Easter 2016

Bennerley Fields School

Tel: 0115 932 6374 email: info@bennerleyfields.co.uk

Website: www.bennerleyfields.derbyshire.sch.uk



Here we are nearly at the end of the Spring term. Time certainly seems to fly by. It is lovely to have light mornings and evenings again.

As usual we have had a busy and productive term. You can read about everything that has been going on in school in this newsletter.

I was very pleased and proud to be made permanent Headteacher in January. It is a genuine pleasure to come to school every day and work with our amazing pupils. There is a tremendously skilled, talented and dedicated staff team at Bennerley Fields who work together to provide the best learning opportunities for your children.

We have had some staff changes since the last newsletter. We welcomed Becky Owens into our Key Stage 2 department in March. We are very delighted that Michelle Spittal is now a permanent staff member. We look forward to Fiona Fox returning from her maternity leave soon.

We wish Leanne Jordan from Butterflies class all the best when she starts her maternity leave after Easter. Floss Hayden will be joining the Butterflies team.

Our February Parents / carers afternoon was successful, with our KS3 students showing off their enterprise skills. My family and friends certainly had more valentine's gifts than usual! I am sure that all of our pupils will showcase their skills at the whole school enterprise day on March 24th.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the newly reformed PTA. They have worked extremely hard to organise the Lands' End to John O'Groats rowing event. All money raised will go to towards the KS2 playground.

I wish everyone an enjoyable Easter holiday and look forward to welcoming everyone back in April, ready for a busy, productive and enjoyable Summer Term.

Ann Harrison

Congratulations to all our pupils who have had 100% attendance this term:

Jordan	Reece
Jack	Charlie
Kallum	Lewis
Jake	Kodie
Zara	Abbie
Hugh	Sammy
Lewis	Sam

Dates for your Diary

Last day of term - Thurs 24th March

INSET day - Monday 11th April

Pupils return to school - Tues 12th April

Half Term - 30th May to 3rd April

INSET day - Monday 6th June



Ladybirds Nursery

The Ladybird Class have had a very busy Term. Our first topic was about the weather where we learned songs and shared some sensory experiences about Sun, Rain, Wind and Snow.

It was very windy during the term so we were able to use streamers and the small kites outside. We had the water tray out in the classroom and tried on wellingtons during our sensory story and had lots of fun dressing up in different hats.



Christian trying on hats and doing puzzles

We had a class trip to the Snowdome in Tamworth where we experienced sliding down slopes in the Snowplay area and running through the crunchy snow.

Our second Topic was Sounds and Music and we have listened and moved to different types of music, learned actions to some songs and played our instruments in different ways. We have played some of the children's favourite songs and really enjoyed dancing to them!

We have started to celebrate Spring time with a story about lambs and will create our Easter Cards and some lovely chocolate nests during our sensory cooking session.

We look forward to next term where our topic will begin with 'In the Garden', giving us lots of opportunities to enjoy the warmer weather.



Butterflies Nursery

This term we have been learning about Songs and Music in our Topic. We have chosen 3 favourite songs, Animal Boogie, Rock stars and The Wheels on the Bus." We have enjoyed learning about the different sounds that go with our actions. We have learnt about loud and quiet, fast and slow.



Callum exploring music on the iPad.



James dressing as a Rock Star



Will playing guitar

One of our favourite things was our Dancing session each week, where we have added to learning about the weather from last term.

We loved going on our trip to Snowdome on the minibus. We had great fun taking turns and exploring on the snow tyres and sledges.



Brianna on the snow sledge.



Eagles and Tigers - Key Stage 2

Eagles and Tiger classes have been working very closely on their Topics this term. The children really enjoyed the Dinosaur topic in Spring 1, where they researched different dinosaurs and their diets. The children had the opportunity to explore a variety of artefacts supplied by the library service such as a sensory dinosaur quilt, a dinosaur dressing up costume, fossils and dinosaur skeleton models. They looked at timelines and sang songs about different dinosaurs. They also created a Pteranodon sculpture out of willow and tissue paper, made Triceratops masks, and T Rex models among many other crafty activities.



Painting our Pteranodon sculpture, made from willow withies and tissue paper

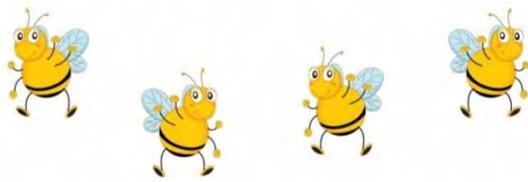


Leo making dinosaur fossil biscuits

This term, we have been studying Ancient Greece. We have been listening to and role playing characters from a variety of classical myths and legends. In music we are using the Garage Band app to recreate simple Greek style music. We have been exploring different Greek foods and expressing our likes and dislikes. It has been great trying on Greek masks and warrior helmets. We are looking forward to making clay pots in Art!!

Each class has been on weekly community visits to develop their functional and communication skills. This is a picture of a group of pupils from Eagles and Tiger classes handing over a letter they wrote in Literacy to the manager of Morrisons' supermarket.





Busy Bees - Key Stage 1

Busy Bees have had an exciting time so far this year. We have been on a dinosaur adventure last half term, exploring the past by becoming archaeologists to look at bones and fossils. We learned names of dinosaurs and explored how they might have looked and felt using our senses and tested our observation skills by going on a dinosaur hunt. We are enjoying our Ancient Greece topic and have been investigating myths and legends. We have used sensory stories to explore Hercules, Medusa, the Minotaur and Pandora's Box! We are looking forward to a range of Easter activities before our break.



Lewis the archaeologist Will on a dinosaur hunt



Jase being a hero like Hercules



Xavier exploring all the bad things to come out of Pandora's Box

3M - Key Stage 3



Preparing to walk from the Derwent to the campsite

This has been a Spring Term of Bushcraft. Our class have been out in Shining Cliff woods with Ian from Lone Scout Bushcraft for the whole of January, February and March and working hard. We have been map-reading and hiking more complicated and challenging routes throughout the winter. We can now carry all the kit we need and manage 4 to 5 kilometres including hills and climbs without too many problems.



Trudging along the Midshires Way

We used trangia stoves to cook pasta and chorizo outdoors too. We have also worked out simple ways to measure distance using the number of paces we take to cover 100 metres and used this to estimate how far we have walked. These are all the skills we will need if we want to do the Duke of Edinburgh Award during Key Stage 4. If you want to see how we got on you can view our movies on the 3M blog on our website. Enjoy!

3K - Key Stage 3

3K began the term finding out about St Valentine and why we celebrate St Valentine's day. We made heart fridge magnets, coasters and delicious fudge to sell for Valentine's Day gifts. This was part of an enterprise topic where we had to decide on what to make, source and buy everything we needed then make the items. We made a good profit!



As a link to this with this we studied Romeo and Juliet. We enjoyed drama sessions where the Capulets and Montagues were fighting, where Romeo and Juliet fell in love and also the tragic ending.



Jacob and Charlotte are Romeo and Juliet

This part of the term we have been learning about where chocolate comes from. We compared cocoa pods to rugby balls. We found out how cocoa is transported to the UK and made into chocolate ready to make our Easter eggs.



Holly comparing a rugby ball to a cocoa pod

3F - Key Stage 3

We've done lots of great things since Christmas in 3F, like learning about the story of Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare in our literacy lessons. We got together with the rest of Key Stage 3 for drama sessions to act out scenes from the play and really enjoyed dressing up for the final one.



Romeo and Juliet

We were very busy on the 11th February when parent's visited for our enterprise afternoon. School was buzzing with activity and everyone worked hard making and selling over a hundred 'Lilylollies'! The enterprise theme continues until Easter; we are now planning ways to 'Make Bennerley Beautiful'.



Lily lolly sale



Look out for the seed kits we will be sending home so that you can all help us to grow lots of lovely plants for our school garden. We hope plenty of you have greenfingers!

3/4 A

Last term we enjoyed learning about 'Romeo and Juliet'. After reading the play, discussing characters in group time and writing our own review. We watched the film and during drama recreated various parts of the story, which led us on to filming our own news report. We had great fun in the filming of this, our cast of superb actors were;

Ethan the newsreader,
Benjamin the roving reporter,
Matthew and Lewis were feuding
family members,
Peter was Romeo
Caleb the vicar
Darcy was Juliet



Peter and Ethan acting out Romeo and Juliet

We are very proud of our film and hoping to receive an Oscar at the next awards ceremony !!

Key Stage 4

In KS4 we have been learning about safe use of mobile phones, Facebook, chat sites, etc. PC Bull, from Ilkeston police, came to tell us about how important it is to behave in a polite, respectful way when we are online. He said that people who send insults, or rude pictures and messages, are breaking the law and will get into a lot of trouble.



Kodie Works Wonders in Competition

Kodie Waters won Third Prize in a recent design and technology competition in Derby.

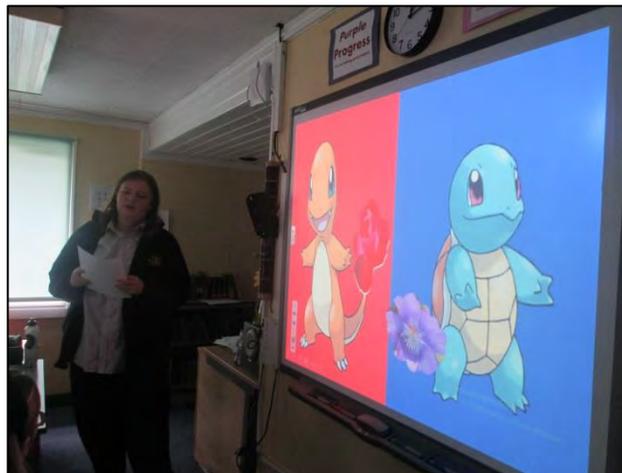
Along with Luke Butler and Matthew Hoare, who also performed excellently on the day, Kodie showed some of the skills that she has learned on Wednesday afternoons at Derby College, Ilkeston Campus.



Lots of great things were happening in school to celebrate World Book Day on 3rd March. We had a poetry recital session in Steve's room during lunch time.

KS3 and KS4 students listened to poems written by famous and not-so-famous poets. We even watched a clip of a wonderful BSL (British Sign Language) poem called 'Tree'. You can watch this poem on YouTube if you search for 'BSL poem tree Paul Scott'.

The picture shows Luke Butler reading a poem about Pokemon characters.



Lands' End to John O'Groats Fundraiser



What a fantastic event we had last Friday and Saturday! The children walked, ran and rowed all the way up the country and had an amazing time. Saturday was supported by staff, parents and local businesses and with a final surge of volunteers we made it all the way - 847 miles!



Donations have been flooding in and we are well on our way to our £5,000 target. The wheelchair accessible roundabout and swing will be installed over the Easter break and we will hold a grand opening in the summer term - details to follow.

Thank you to everyone for your support - we couldn't do it without you!

