



**NOOK LANE JUNIOR SCHOOL**  
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7/4/17

Dear parents, carers and families,

As we approach the Easter holidays I just want to share a few snippets of Nook Lane news.

### **YEAR 3**

This half term the children in Year 3 have been continuing their theme, 'The Forgotten Flood'. Children have written film reviews of 'The Forgotten Flood' film created by previous pupils, and enjoyed publishing these on the computer. We are looking forward to this work being displayed in the classroom shortly. To conclude their theme, the Y3 pupils went to Dale Dyke Reservoir, giving them further perspective and empathy for the events and people they have been studying over the past term. The children behaved superbly and had a great day out. In maths children have been tackling the tricky theme of fractions – learning to identify shapes and amounts before moving on to finding fractions of shapes and amounts. The children have developed their colour mixing and painting skills, producing astonishing abstract water paintings. Science lessons have focused on learning about magnets and forces, with children completing investigations to identify magnetic materials and to find the strongest magnet. The children have had a specialist sports coach teaching P.E. developing their hockey skills. This half term pupils also had the opportunity to attend the Partnership Games at English Institute of Sport, in which they competed in a variety of sporting and athletics activities. In computing, the Year 3 children have continued to develop their programming skills using Turtle Academy. Learning in R.E. has focussed on Christianity and understanding the symbolism of the Easter Story.

### **YEAR 4**

This half-term, the children in Year 4 have continued to develop their theme on the Romans. In English, they have written fabulous stories about Celtic tribes being attacked by the invading Roman forces and used new reading

super-hero characters to develop comprehension skills. In art, the children created wonderful Roman mosaics which they have used to decorate cam toys made in design and technology lessons. During Science lessons, the children learnt how to make electrical circuits using different components, including motors and buzzers and are looking forward to making an electrical toy after the Easter holiday. In history, the children have been time detectives, using primary sources to discover more about a person from the past and this travel back in time culminated in an exciting Roman dress-up day! Lots of fun has been had in P.E. where orienteering and cricket have been on the agenda. All in all, it has been a jam-packed and fun-filled time for all in Y4.

## **INTEGRATED RESOURCE**

The Integrated Resource held its Annual Autism Awareness Week – and it proved to be a great success! Children across school had the opportunity to access different resources and activities in their classes to help raise awareness about autism. The autism assembly enabled some of our children on the autistic spectrum to share their stories with other children, parents and staff. Thank you for all your support and contributions for this week.

Pupils have accessed a weekly sensory workshop with the support of a LINKS sports coach and have challenged themselves with a range of activities focusing on proprioceptive and vestibular senses. The children have all really enjoyed this.

Children in the IR have been continuing to develop their mastery in Maths skills using lots of concrete and pictorial methods and have been embedding their knowledge around the concept of time and number.

In English learning has focused on healthy living and writing for different purposes on this subject including recipes and information texts. The children have particularly enjoyed making fruit smoothies.

## **YEAR 5**

Pupils in Year 5 have been investigating fractions and honing their arithmetic skills. In English children have been looking at the opening chapter of *A Monster Calls* and writing their own scary opening chapters with some extremely spooky results! Theme work has focused on Ruthless Raiders where children have explored all things Viking- related including digging around in Viking poo (!) to discover what they ate, mapped out the Viking invasion of Great Britain, written messages in Old Norse and made Viking longboats. In Design and Technology, children have designed and built a pulley system to drag their longboats to shore. In computing children have learnt about the significance of the Viking raids of Lindisfarne, performed some incredible drama which told the story of the raids and are now using their animation skills to bring the story to life. In P.E. the children have been learning the dance for Move Fest, learning a Grease-themed dance to perform in front of nearly 500 people at the EIS, which they did beautifully yesterday whilst being an absolute credit to the school. Year 5 footballers were also great ambassadors for their year group and the school in a series of recent matches

against other schools. They exemplified the core values in the way in which they conducted themselves on and off the field.

## **YEAR 6**

This has been a busy half-term in Year 6 involving a range of exciting and memorable experiences. In P.E. the children have become very proficient at orienteering, managing to read some challenging maps of the school grounds. In gymnastics sessions, the children have worked in groups to choreograph routines which included complex balances and rolls. These were then performed to Pachelbel's Cannon. The final stage of this term's DT project involved the groups presenting their company, car and uniform to a group of judges from various companies. Each team produced a PowerPoint presentation which clearly explained the project and afterwards, they then had to answer questions posed by the panel of judges. Everyone did incredibly well and made it very difficult for the judges to choose a winning company from each class. Another particular highlight of the half term has been the fantastic Brazilian drumming workshops that have taken place each week. Within these sessions the pupils have learnt a variety of rhythms, played a range of exciting instruments and have learnt to respond to the timings given by the drumming teacher. The children have clearly loved this experience and moreover, thoroughly enjoyed sharing their expertise with parents and carers in a loud and entertaining assembly. The children have continued to impress us with their arithmetic and reasoning skills in maths. The improvements that have been made since the start of the year, in particular when tackling arithmetic questions, has been very impressive. Similarly, the Year 6 pupils have dazzled us with their writing skills producing some excellent content for their Brazilian holiday brochures.

## **WORLD BOOK DAY (WEEK)**

In March we celebrated our love of reading as a school with a week of activities culminating in World Book Day. This year's Book Day theme was Roald Dahl, celebrating his recent 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. On this day, children came to school in costumes inspired by this theme, ranging from Matilda to animal characters from Dahl's 'Dirty Beasts'. Classes rotated around 4 activities- performance poetry, artwork inspired by Quentin Blake, a Roald Dahl quiz and a treasure hunt to find biographical information about Dahl's life. Also during Book Week children had the opportunity to hear a chapter from their favourite Roald Dahl story during our 'Cosy Read' time and to watch their favourite film adaptation of a Roald Dahl story during a cinema morning. A book swap was held in each class, with children generously donating and swapping books for their classmates to enjoy. Two art competitions proved to be very popular also - designing book marks and creating an illustration to accompany any Roald Dahl book. It was a busy, fun-packed and enjoyable week for children and staff. Miss Smith and Mrs Slattery would like to thank everyone who took part for making it such a special celebration of books and

reading and I would like to thank both of them for making it such a brilliant week.

### **EASTER EGGTRAVAGANZA COMPETITION**

This is always a popular competition and this year has seen the usual high level of interest amongst children and families. Thank you and well done to everyone who entered and congratulations to the winners. It was extremely difficult to judge as the standard this year has been truly excellent! (I know... I'm sorry!)

### **RED NOSE DAY**

We raised an impressive £156.29 on Red Nose Day. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

### **FRIENDS OF NOOK LANE EASTER DISCO**

Much fun was had at the FoNL Easter disco. We had a great turnout of pupils and a fantastic response from parent helpers. Many thanks for all of your efforts. The total raised for the school on the night was an impressive £361.62.

### **SCHOOL DINNERS**

From next term there will be a new lunch menu. You should have received a copy of the new menu by email today and it will be available shortly on the school website.

The cost of school dinners, taking account of the May Day Bank Holiday on Monday May 1<sup>st</sup>, is £48 for next half term.

### **REMAINING INSET DAYS**

There is one more whole-school training day for this academic year on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June

### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

I hope that the children enjoy a lovely Easter holiday and we look forward to welcoming them back on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

*S. Arbon - Davis*

Steven Arbon-Davis  
Headteacher