



DREAM

Determined risk takers who want to succeed
Resilient and respectful learners
Expressive communicators
Ambitious achievers, unafraid of mistakes
Magic happens when you dream

Inset days 2022-2023:

Thursday 22nd December 2022

Monday 27th February 2023

Friday 7th July 2023

Message from the Principal, Mrs Paula Baines-Chambers:

What a wonderful start to the 2022-2023 academic year we have had! Our pupils have shown great behaviours for learning and are applying previous learning and knowledge gained from their journey in our DREAM curriculum. I have seen an increase in pupils reading regularly at home, thank you for supporting this. Please encourage your child to read at home if they currently are not doing so.

Our journey, as Ashwood, over the past 4 years has been incredible and I am proud to lead the school. Our teachers continue to work incredibly hard, learning opportunities are helping to expose our children to a range of jobs that they can aspire to. Our curriculum has been specifically designed for our pupils and builds on previous skills, allowing our children to make links and help the learning stick in the long term memory. Our curriculum overview and specific subject information can be found on our website - please take a look. There have been many magical DREAM moments which we have showcased on Twitter. Please follow us on Twitter so you don't miss these magical moments!

We are always looking to improve Ashwood and create an environment that is the best it can be for our children. Over the summer we had some work completed - we have enhanced our Nursery outdoor provision and within school, we have had all communal areas redecorated.

I wish you all a restful and safe half term.

Mrs Baines-Chambers

Thank you for helping to support 'World Mental Health Day'



Upcoming events:

Week beginning 14th November; we will be participating in the National Anti-bullying week.

The week will begin with 'odd sock day'. Further information will be shared after half term.

Friday 16th December, Years 1-6 will be visiting the Pantomime at Derby Arena. Further details will be shared nearer the time.

School uniform (see our updated policy on our website)

- Royal blue sweatshirt
- Black or grey trousers, or knee-length skirt
- White polo shirt
- White, black or grey socks / tights
- Flat BLACK school shoes
- Trainers are not acceptable
- Blue and white striped or checked dresses for summer
- Black or grey trouser shorts

PE Kits—Pupils to wear their PE kit on the day of their PE lesson

- White T Shirt
- Blue or black shorts
- Black pumps and **trainers for outdoor PE**
- Sweater for **outdoor PE**
- Navy or black track suit bottoms for **outdoor PE**

Nursery Autumn 1

This half term we have welcomed lots of new families to our nursery. The children have all settled quickly and seem to be enjoying their learning and making new friendships.

We were all very excited to use the new play area in the nursery garden, lots of outdoor learning and building up confidence to jump, climb, and balance. As readers we have developed new story language by listening to and acting out lots of Traditional Tales! We started with The Three Little pigs then read Goldilocks and The Three Bears, it was great fun making our own delicious porridge! In Maths we have been learning to identify colours and to sort by colour, shape and size.

Next half term we will be immersing ourselves into Celebrations! Starting with Halloween, Bonfire Night, Birthdays and Remembrance Day, before thinking about Christmas. We will be learning lots of new vocabulary and engaging in a variety of craft and creative activities.

FS2 Autumn 1

We are so proud of how well the Reception children have settled into school. They have made a fantastic start to their phonic learning and have been working really hard on their letter formation. In maths, we have been representing and comparing numbers up to 3. The children have loved our 'Wonderful Woodland' topic in which they have observed seasonal changes and learnt about nocturnal animals. A particular highlight was a visit from Archie and Gismo the owls!

Next half term our topic is 'Let's Celebrate' and we are looking forward to exploring festivals and celebrations from around the world. We will be reading and writing cvc words in phonics as well as learning about numbers up to 5 in maths'.

Year 1 Autumn 1

The children are starting to settle into year 1 and are beginning to understand the classroom rules and expectations. We have immersed ourselves in the class text 'Grandad's Island'. Through this as writers, we have retold the story using nouns, verbs and adjectives. We have produced super sentences. As readers we are learning how to decode and blend words to help with our reading skills in our phonics sessions.

As scientists we have studied parts of the human and animal bodies and learnt the needs of survival. As artist we followed the style of Henri Rousseau, thinking about various brushstrokes and colour mixing primary / secondary colours to create different animals from Grandad's Island. As historians we have studied our own and local history as well as Grandad's history - this included dancing to classic 'Beatles' songs! As musicians we have learnt how to find the beat, sing, perform and compose music. As spiritual people we have learnt about belonging particularly within the Christian faith.

As mathematicians we are mastering numbers to 10. This includes place value, more than, less than and how to use the part, whole model. As computer programmers we have learnt about basic technology, how to stay safe online and began exploring 'Purple Mash'. We have been busy!

Next half term Christmas will come early though a mysterious, green creature might not be happy about it ...



Year 2 Autumn 1

What a great start to our year the first half term has been!

Our main topic 'Would you rather live in the city or the countryside?' started with a fantastic trip to Cromford Mills to experience the countryside first hand. We continued our learning by looking at the physical and human features of the countryside and the city and used our comparison skills to say where we would prefer to live. We also used our map skills to track our walk to the fire station on Ascot Drive. We then looked wider at the 4 countries of the UK and the capital cities.

We developed our knowledge of paint mixing and explored changing the tone of colour. We looked at Squares with Concentric Circles by Wassily Kandinsky and how colour can be used to create different effects. We then used all of this knowledge to create our own countryside landscape master pieces.

Our science topic was about animals and their adaptations to their habitats. We learned scientific vocabulary to describe the diet and food chains of different kinds of animals. We used our scientific enquiry skills to observe the preferred habitat of a woodlouse. They prefer dark, damp habitats.

We have developed our understanding and tolerance of other religions by finding out about traditions that are followed by Jewish people. We have learned about how some Jewish people celebrate Passover and Sukkot.

We cannot wait to learn about The Stone Age next half term, when we will be finding out about the first humans and how they developed from using stone to different metals. We will be creating our own bags using a dying technique called Batiq, finding out about Christianity and preparing for our Christmas performance!

Year 3 Autumn 1

In English, the children have been using their skills from year 2 and developing their writing exploring narratives and instruction writing. We have been using similes, metaphors and conjunctions to improve our creative writing. We have also been developing our ambition and determination by choosing exciting vocabulary.

As mathematicians, we have been building on our Year 2 knowledge of place value, number bonds and fact families. Recalling our number bonds quickly is a skill we have and will continue to apply. We are now ready to add and subtract 2-digit and 3-digit numbers with exchanges using the column method. Don't forget to use Times Tables Rockstars at home, it's a great way to improve and apply your times tables.

In creative curriculum we have explored the country of Italy, explored its geographical features and the impact its climate has on food. This linked with our topic of humans including animals when we learnt about a balanced diet in preparation for planning our own Pizza in DT. Also in science we have learnt parts of a skeleton, how muscles function and explored the skeletal system of varying animals. We began learning French and have learnt the basic pleasantries, including numbers and colours. Our focus in Computing has been safety and email and RE has allowed us to explore others views and understanding of God. In Art we will explore collage.

Year 4 Autumn 1

We have had a fantastic start to our academic year! The children have been exploring how the Normans changed the English identity and the cultural impact of this. As scientists we have been investigating electricity, creating our own circuits and switches, which has been applied through designing and making a lamp to celebrate the Battle of Hastings. In computing, we have been learning how to code, debug and create our own games. As mathematicians, we have consolidated our knowledge of place value which has supported problem solving in rounding, addition and subtraction. We have also read an exciting mystery book that supported our ability to write a journey narrative within English, starting at a train station and describing a train ride to an interesting location. On our visit to Warwick Castle, we explored how Normans lived and how we can still see their legacy today. Utilising this experience, we wrote a diary entry describing our explorations and adventures.

Next term, we will be learning about the water cycle and how changes of states of matter link to this. In English, we will be writing a persuasive letter to an author. Within Maths, we will be exploring measurements, perimeter and consolidating our knowledge of times tables.

Year 5 Autumn 1

This half term, Year 5 have been exploring the many ways we fit in the universe, including the experience of a VR mission to Mars! We have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Earth and Space, which helped us discover where we are in the solar system and why we don't fall off our planet! Using Oreos helped us envision what the moon phases look like, and it was certainly a delicious lesson! Our Science topic has linked well to our class text, 'A Star Outside My Window', which has consolidated our learning about outer space.

In PSHE, we have compared our lives with other people in our country and explained why we have rules, rights and responsibilities to try and make the school and the wider community a fair place. We have also learned about the meridian, and why this is important to distinguish time zones. Finally, Year 5 have been part of an exciting venture - the Mini Police Project. We have been engaged and inspired when learning about how to keep ourselves and others safe in our local area, with opportunities to meet some very important members of the police force.

Next half term, we look forward to learning all about the Tudors and how they shaped Britain, which will consist of dress up days, banquet cooking and re-enactments of battles!

Year 6 Autumn 1

Year 6 have had such a fantastic start to the year! They have fully immersed themselves into their topic, exploring the question 'How can we save our biomes?' and we are so proud of their fantastic efforts. They've learned all about the changing climate our Earth is facing, taking a closer look at biomes across the world and the wildlife that live there. We've used Now Press Play to learn about our climate crisis and deforestation, created placards to use in a peaceful protest and written persuasive speeches on saving the planet that would rival Greta Thunberg herself! We also loved getting creative this term - we've learnt how to hand sew and created survival bags for expedition equipment. We've also designed and created rainforest art using different printing techniques.

This new knowledge of the world has given us a great foundation for the rest of the school year and we're so excited for Term 2!

Team Friendship Autumn 1

Team Friendship have enjoyed their first term of 2022 and the transition back into class has been very successful. Our theme this term was about 'Being Me' and how 'friendship' and 'belonging' is important to us. We have linked the theme to our learning about where we live and our school where we learn together. The children really enjoyed thinking about what they like to do in Derby. We had lots of suggestions - shopping, swimming, eating ice cream and having our hair cut! Together, the children made a fantastic cardboard bus and developed their imagination and communicated where they wanted to go and why.

Within our bespoke curriculum, we continue to develop our skills and EHCP targets. This term we have especially enjoyed learning our phonics using 'Little Wandle' SEND support <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/> and exploring numbers through the 'Mastering Number' programme. <https://www.ncetm.org.uk/maths-hubs-projects/mastering-number/>

After half term, our learning will be themed around 'Celebrations'. We will be looking at different occasions to celebrate and why. We will link our learning to Autumn, Diwali and celebrations of birthdays and the birth of baby Jesus.

Team Courage Autumn 1

This term we have been learning to build relationships with our peers. We have been using our time in forest schools to learn about effective communication and creating positive friendships. In math's we have been looking at place value and creating a deep understanding of tens and ones. The children have been using place value charts and part-part wholes to develop a visual method of separating tens and ones. The children are also becoming more confident in counting in two's, fives and tens which will support them in their addition and subtraction topic coming up after half term. The children have also learnt how to sort, recognize and count the vertices of shapes in our current topic.

In English, the children have been writing a story about Pinocchio. The children have been focusing on their handwriting, whilst also consistently using capital letters and full stops in their sentences.

Thinking of Teaching?

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