

Newsletter

Summer Term.

July 2023

Dear Families,

I truly can't believe that we are at the end of the academic year already. It has been a very busy year but one where Dove Bank has had so many 'firsts' including our Steven Lawrence Day, our Christmas Concerts and our fire alarm during our Coronation celebrations. Despite having to close due to a power cut and having a 'Rubbish' assembly from the Wombles who came to share their experience of all of the litter they have collected over the years, we have still had a wonderful year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our staff, children and families for continuing to support us this year and for working so hard to put the children first.

Our Summer Concert, organised by Mrs Good, was definitely a highlight of this half term. The children sang and signed with confidence and beauty.



Our Summer Social was a real success and a big 'Thank You' goes to Friends of Dove Bank for organising this event, including bouncy castles, an amazing range of prizes and a variety of stall holders. A special thank you also goes to those families who gave up their time to help set up in the morning and tidy away in the evening too.

I am very much looking forward to all of the exciting times ahead next academic year.

On behalf of all of the staff, we would like to wish you a lovely summer break.

Kind regards,

Mrs Fletcher



LIFE

Inspiration Innovation Integrity



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Sycamore Class

As well as the usual curriculum, Year 6 have enjoyed an exciting term with lots of great events and activities. Everyone really loved making the water and air propelled vehicles and learnt lots about design in terms of aerodynamic and weight distribution as well as just having fun seeing their creations come to life. Warning Zone was a real eye opener for some as they considered the importance of keeping themselves safe in many different situations and had those dangers brought to life in a safe but thought-provoking way. Last but definitely not least was our fantastic trip to Whitemoor Lakes. The children had the chance to challenge themselves in many different ways and it was an absolute pleasure to see them develop confidence in themselves to try new things whether that be in overcoming a fear of heights or deep water or simply negotiating the challenges of friendships successfully.

Well done year 6, you really are a year group to be proud of.



Oak Class

Oak class, have had a super half term. We have explored minibeasts, learning about different habitats and the names of minibeasts. We have designed our own minibeast worlds and done some super pond dipping! Last week we went to Manor Farm for our class trip. We had a super time and even found some stray dinosaurs.

We were very proud of ourselves for earning enough Dojo points to have a Dojo party and were able to come to school in non-uniform.



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Year 6

Thank you to Finch Consulting for sponsoring the Year 6 Hoodies this year as well and coming in for the day to work with Sycamore class making water powered vehicles. There were a range of prizes on offer for the best vehicle ranging from tickets to Alton Towers to gift vouchers for WHSmith.



Warning Zone

The children in Maple and Sycamore visited Warning Zone Life Skills Centre in Leicester City, where they had the opportunity to learn about risk, consequence of actions, peer pressure and personal responsibility.



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Maple Class

Maple have had another busy half term. We have continued our Ancient Greek topic, and also focused on our computer skills where the children have learnt coding skills using both Scratch and Code 4 Life. They have written and debugged chase, pong and clicker games. They have learnt to make a character fly, code a cartoon and some have experimented with video sensing.

In Art, the children have continued to investigate paper craft skills and have created final collage pieces, that showcase the skills that they have learnt.

This half term, we have also taken part in a fantastic summer concert and visited 'Warning Zone' in Leicester, where the children were taught crucial messages about personal and online safety. During the last few days of this term, we have also visited Nailstone Church to sing and sign for the elderly from the village



Pine Class

Pine have been very busy this half term.

We have completed lots of learning on sentence structure and story writing in English. Pine have really enjoyed using an online thesaurus to demonstrate their knowledge of more tricky words in their work. We have seen some amazing handwriting this half term too.

Pine have completed topics on money and time in Maths, with lots of hands on activities to build their confidence.

Science has been lots of fun, learning about types of rocks and how they are formed.

Pine have greatly enjoyed water colouring in our art sessions and this has been linked to our mindfulness work, along with yoga, as you can see in one of our photos!

It has been a busy half term and the children have worked very hard, they have been a pleasure to teach.



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Birch Class

Birch have been super busy this half term, with lots of great learning and fun!

In English Year 1s have been recreating their own fairy tale story of Jack and the Beanstalk using their imagination to change parts of the magical world that Jack finds. Children have worked hard to include conjunctions to connect sentences and use exclamation marks. In English, Year 2s have focused on writing a poem about their day at school using rhyming couplets and apostrophes to punctuate contracted words (here's, hadn't). Children have worked extremely hard in using expanded noun phrases and subordinating conjunctions in their story writing and their non-chronological report about animals.

In our 'Chop, Slice and Mash' Topic children designed an appealing and healthy sandwich using practical everyday skills. Children enjoyed making their own picnic and learning about animal and plant food sources. In our 'Street View' Topic children have recreated the work of James Rizzi and explored bright colours with comic elements that portray happiness, joy, love and life.

Birch ended the year with a wonderful trip to Manor Farm Park. With lots of exploring, animal cuddling, and quality time with friend's, the children made lovely memories. We enjoyed getting wet in the rain following trails with lots of walking (running) and hopping over all the animal poop!



Governors

We have spaces for a Community Governor so if you know somebody who might be interested then please contact the school office for more information.

Wrap Around Care

There is a price increase in our clubs for next academic year. Please see our website for more information.

Breakfast Club (7.30am – until the start of the school day)	£4.50 per session
Afternoon Session 1 (3.15pm - 4.15pm)	£4.00 per session
Afternoon Session 2 (4:15pm – 5:15pm)	£4.00 per session

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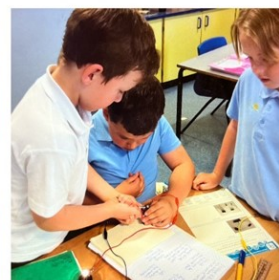
Larch Class

Well this second half of the summer term seems to have whizzed by! Once again it has been a busy one. In our DT sessions the children used data collection to research favourite pizzas of Larch class and then followed this up by creating their design brief for their own pizza. A lot of fun was had making their pitta or bagel pizzas and they certainly enjoyed tasting them for their ratings!

We ended our reading unit; 'The Ballard of Cinder-sooty nose,' which is a modernised version of the story Cinderella, with some drama. The children worked in groups to act out the ending, finishing their scene with a freeze frame.

In science, the children have been exploring electricity, where they have made electrical circuits and tested them. They had to use trial and error approaches if there was a fault within their circuit.

We have had some super writing pieces produced, linked to a short unit we have done based on an animation called; The Lone Robot. The Children had to write a setting and character description as well as an ending. They used lots of techniques we have looked at this year and work hard to include their fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases and similes. They finished the piece with fabulous drawings of robots to accompany their writing.



Bikeability

Children in Maple class had the opportunity to take part in Bikeability this half term and have learnt how to be safe on the roads.



Whitemoor Lakes

Sycamore had a very successful residential to Whitemoor Lakes this half term. They took part in a range of activities including sailing, traverse and fencing. They had a wonderful time were a credit to our families and school.

Thank you to Mrs Stanworth, Mrs Good and Mrs Baker who gave up their time to make sure the children had an amazing trip away.



Tour de Dove Bank

Thank you to Mrs Farrington who has been working with children on a 1:1 basis to help some children ride a bike ready for the summer holiday.

Staffing

We are really pleased to introduce our new staff who will be joining us after Easter:

Miss Dennis who will be teaching Oak

Mrs Thomas who will be teaching Pine with Mrs Maqsood

Mrs Glover who will be teaching Larch

Mrs Broughton who will be our Breakfast Club leader

We are sad to say goodbye to Mrs Hardwick, Mrs Oxbrough, Miss Shaw and Miss Massey but we thank them for all of their hard work and wish them well as they move on from Dove Bank.



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Manor Farm

The children in Oak and Birch had a lovely visit to Manor farm this half term. They had the chance to handle a range of different animals as well as enjoying time in the play areas.



New Walk Museum

The children in Pine, Larch, Maple and Sycamore all went out on a visit to New Walk Museum this half term. Each class took part in activities linked to their topic area.

Reading Volunteers

Thank you very much to our families who have given up their time to come and hear our children read. The children love the time with a different adults and it is lovely to have more support in schools.



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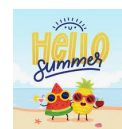
Sports Day

Mrs Oxbrough organized a wonderful Sports Day this year with lots of different activities for the children to take part in. Thank you to everybody who came to support the children.



A few reminders...

- Dojo is shut down during the holiday to allow staff to recharge and enjoy a restful break. We will reopen our classes on Thursday 24th August.
- Next academic year we will continue with children going straight in to the classroom at the start of the school day.
- Please can you continue to adhere to our one way system for drop off and collections.



Diary Dates

New term begins for pupils in Year 1 - Year 6	Tuesday 29th August
Family Meetings for Oak class	Tuesday 29th August & Wednesday 30th August
New term begins for Oak class	Thursday 31st August
Nailstone Village Show	Saturday 2nd September
Flu Immunisations	Tuesday 3rd October
Parents Evenings	Monday 9th October & Tuesday 10th October
Whole School Production of Robin Hood	Tuesday 24th October
Teacher Training Day	Friday 1st December

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