



Ordsall Primary School

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FROM THE HEADTEACHER

I would like to start this term's newsletter with a 'thank you' for your ongoing support and commitment to Ordsall Primary School and the activities and events we take part in. When supporting Comic Relief, we sold out of red noses in no time, raising £300! In addition to this, your dedication to events such as World Book Day does not go unnoticed, so once again, 'thank you!'

Over this term we have been busy recruiting an additional office administrator as part of a restructuring to the office and administration team in school. The benefits of this include having two full time, parent facing office administrators to support parents, respond to queries and carry out the many administrative tasks involved with running a school. In addition to this, we will be forming a 'Family Team', designed to support children and parents with a range of aspects, including attendance and accessing additional support.

I have no doubt you will give our new office administrator a very warm Ordsall welcome once they are in post!

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

This term, parents of children working through the Read, Write, Inc. phonics programme in school will have noticed their child bringing home a brand new 'book bag' book. These are carefully selected to exactly match your child's current phonics/reading level and will enable your child to develop their reading fluency and grow in confidence.

The room plans for our Early Years classrooms have been finalised and over the summer term the new furniture and resources will begin to be ordered in preparation for September 2024.

All year groups have now confirmed their 'wish lists' for new classroom books and these too will be ordered over the summer term.

Ongoing training, support and monitoring have ensured that the use of Makaton and visuals within school is becoming part of daily routine and practice. It is wonderful seeing so many children using this as part of their interactions with others.

Next term, the school will be working closely with advisors from the Education Improvement Service at Nottinghamshire County Council to further support the work that has already taken place against the school's improvement priorities.

YEAR GROUP PAGES

Stay up to date with what your child is doing by regularly visiting their year group page on the school's website. These can be found here:

<https://www.ordsallprimary.com/all-about-our-classes/>



Red noses 'flew off the shelf'.

YEAR GROUP HIGHLIGHTS

NURSERY

This term's big question has been, 'What is growing?' As part of World Downs Syndrome Day, we planted sunflower seeds and made sure they had enough water and sunlight to grow. We discussed how every child is unique just like our beautiful sunflowers!



RECEPTION

This term we celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as a word or a character from a story. We have also been busy learning about the 'pants rule' through listening to the *Pantosaurus* story and singing the *Pantosaurus* song.



YEAR 1

We have been learning about the Great Fire of London through our big question, 'Why did London burn?' The children have been immersed in hands-on experiences, including making their own bread and taking part in our Partake theatre experience, taking on different roles to help understand and learn even more about the historical event.



YEAR 2

In Year 2, we had some spectacular costumes as part of World Book Day, where we enjoyed expanding our vocabulary through sharing some of the words we came dressed as. We've also been looking at some non-fiction texts and videos to broaden our knowledge about British wildlife linked to our big question, 'Who lives in a place like this?'



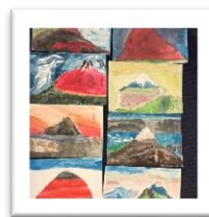
YEAR 3

We have been so busy in Year 3! We have been experimenting in science, exploring what happens when we deprive plants of an element required for growth. We also enjoyed taking part in World Downs Syndrome day when we planted our own sunflowers; we have enjoyed watching them start to grow as the term has passed.



YEAR 4

Year 4 have enjoyed planting sunflowers as part of our understanding of those with Downs Syndrome. We have also been exploring different instruments as part of our work on sound and using glockenspiels in our music sessions, learning to use them to accompany a song. In addition to this, we have developed our artistic skills when recreating volcano images – such a busy term!



YEAR 5

There has been lots going on in Year 5, with all the children taking part in various events such as World Book Day, Comic Relief and World Downs Syndrome Day. Whilst doing all of this, the children have also been working hard on their Easter performance, not only learning their lines and acting but playing songs on their various instruments.



YEAR 6

The Year 6 children have been working really hard this half term to perfect and perform their Haka dance. The children started with watching the original Haka by the New Zealand All Blacks before working in groups to think about their own routine. After weeks of practicing, editing and revising their dance, the children were ready to perform it to the rest of the year group. We were amazed at their collaborative skills and how they managed to bring all of their ideas together in a final showcase. It was also fantastic to see some children push themselves out of their comfort zone when performing!



GARDEN RENOVATION

At the start of the term, the garden behind the Phase 1 building underwent a complete renovation to create a beautiful and useable space for the children to use.

Uniper, a utility company that operates a number of sites in the local area, kindly offered to support our school by renovating the garden as part of their community commitment.

Their groundwork team have done an excellent job of rebuilding broken raised beds, repairing the dilapidated shed and installing some new benches.



A 'before' photo of the garden.



An 'after' photo of the garden.



SPORT AT ORDSALL

One of my passions is definitely school sport, which is why I have been incredibly proud of the children that have represented Ordsall at various sporting events over the term.

This started with some of our Year 5 children taking part in a basketball competition at Retford Oaks Academy earlier in the term, playing against many other local schools and putting on some great performances.

This was followed by our Years 3 and 4 children taking part in a tag rugby festival at Newark Rugby Club. 13 children attended to form two teams, with each team demonstrating some fantastic handling skills.

The following week our Years 5 and 6 girls also visited Newark Rugby Club for their tag rugby festival. Both teams played six matches, winning four, drawing one and losing one.

Well done everyone!

EASTER EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY



Please see the above poster for information about the 'Spring Festival' taking place at Idle Valley over the Easter holiday. Further details can be found at <https://www.nottinghamshirewildlife.org/events/2024-04-05-idle-valley-spring-festival>.



Bassetlaw Museum have got various activities taking place over the Easter holiday, all of which are completely free. See the attached poster for further information.