



Ordsall Primary School

Mr Karl Hopkinson (Headteacher) | 01777 702852 | office@ordsallpri.notts.sch.uk | www.ordsallprimary.com

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

What a busy and brilliant half term it has been at Ordsall Primary School! We've seen our school vision of *"Play, Learn and Grow Together"* reflected in so many wonderful ways.

Our pupils have enjoyed a range of enriching opportunities, including some fantastic sporting successes — we're so proud of their **resilience, effort** and **teamwork**. Year 5 also wowed us with their Easter performance, which included some truly impressive instrumental duets and solos. It was a joy to see their confidence and creativity shine on stage.

To end the term, our Egg Fun Days brought plenty of smiles and laughter across the school. From egg rolling to shackling, it's been lovely to see the children enjoying themselves and making happy memories together.

We're pleased to welcome Mrs Harris, who has now joined us to teach Seurat class until Mrs Luckhurst returns from maternity leave. At the same time, we say a fond farewell to Mrs Bown, who will sadly be leaving us over Easter — we thank her for all her hard work and dedication. We're also delighted to welcome back Miss Perfitt, who will be teaching Renoir class for the remainder of the academic year.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Tuesday 22nd April 2025** for the start of the summer term.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION & BELONGING

As part of our DEIB (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging) assemblies this term, children have explored a range of



important cultural events and themes. We learned about St David's Day and St Patrick's Day, celebrating Welsh and Irish traditions, and also explored Holi, the vibrant Hindu festival of colours.

On International Women's Day, we recognised the achievements of women throughout history and discussed the importance of equality for all.

We also took time to reflect on the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, helping deepen our understanding of history, human rights and justice.

This term, we were thrilled to receive 36 applications from our Year 4 and Year 5 pupils for the new role of Belonging Ambassador. It was incredibly difficult to choose from such a thoughtful and passionate group, but we narrowed it down to 10 successful applicants. They were proudly presented with their certificates this week, and their Belonging Ambassador badges will be arriving shortly!

SCHOOL COUNCIL LITTER PICK

This term, our School Council proudly led a community litter pick, with pupils from across the school getting involved in this



important initiative. Working in their Phases, children took to the local area armed with bin bags, gloves and litter pickers, ready to make a difference.

The pupils showed great care and determination as they collected bags and bags of rubbish, helping to tidy up our shared spaces and protect the environment.



It was a brilliant example of our children putting the British values of responsibility, respect, and community spirit into action.

We are so proud of the way our children represented Ordsall — showing that even small actions can have a big impact. A huge well done to everyone involved for being active citizens and helping to look after our local community!



YEAR GROUP HIGHLIGHTS

NURSERY

This half term, the Nursery children have been learning all about growing and changing. We planted our own cress seeds and explored what plants need to grow. We also thought about how we've grown and changed so far, and talked about the diverse families who care for us. One of the highlights has been learning about the life cycle of a butterfly. We've been carefully looking after our own caterpillars in the classroom and are enjoying watching them grow each day — we can't wait to see them transform and release them into the wild!



RECEPTION

Recently in Reception, we celebrated World Down Syndrome Day by reading *This is Me* by George Webster — a beautiful story that reminds us that everyone is different, but together we can shine brightly. We shared the special things that make us who we are and celebrated what makes each of us unique. The book also introduced using our hands to talk, so we've been learning lots of new Makaton signs and using them to share stories and communicate with our friends!



YEAR 1

Year 1 have enjoyed some amazing first-hand experiences this half term as part of their big question: "Why did London burn?" We took part in an exciting theatre workshop with Partake Theatre, where we learned about the events that led to the fire and how people at the time responded. We also became bakers for the day, making bread just like Thomas Farriner would have done in his Pudding Lane bakery — a fantastic way to bring history to life!



YEAR 2

Year 2 have had another exciting term investigating our topic: "Who lives in a place like this?" We've been developing our research skills using books, videos, and the internet to create fact files about animals from a variety of habitats around the world. A definite highlight was our visit from White Post Farm, where we had the chance to ask questions, observe, and even hold animals from different habitats — including rabbits, a corn snake, a bearded dragon, and even a giant snail!



YEAR 3

This half term, Year 3 have been busy exploring the topic question: "How does your garden grow?" We've learned all about plant life cycles, labelled the parts of a plant, and even carried out experiments to see how plants grow in different conditions. We also had a brilliant time celebrating World Book Day, sharing stories and dressing up as our favourite characters. A highlight of the term was our trip to Retford Oaks to watch *Mary Poppins* and the follow up workshop in school.



YEAR 4

This half term, Year 4 have been learning all about volcanoes and earthquakes. We explored the dramatic eruptions of Mount Vesuvius and Mount Fuego, using them as inspiration for our writing. In Art, we created stunning volcano pieces based on the work of Hokusai. Each class also had the wonderful opportunity to visit our local library, with many children signing up for their own library cards. Meanwhile, our Reading Ambassadors enjoyed a special visit to Wonderland Bookshop to further inspire our love of reading!



YEAR 5

This term, Year 5 have been exploring different regions of the world through our big question: "What is a biome?" A key part of our learning involved researching a variety of biomes, from deserts to rainforests, and understanding what makes each one unique. The children created fantastic explanation posters on laptops to showcase their findings, and then confidently presented their work to the class — a brilliant opportunity to build both knowledge and presentation skills.



YEAR 6

In Year 6, we've continued to nurture our love of reading this half term, recently finishing our class novel *Holes*, which was a firm favourite. During our Read & Relax sessions, it's not just pupils enjoying a good book — Mr Fenton is reading *The Boy at the Back of the Class*, Mr Miles is enjoying *Tyger*, and Mrs Croker is delving into *Sunrise on the Reaping*, the latest *Hunger Games* book. Our Reading Ambassadors also visited Wonderland Bookshop to choose exciting new titles for our classroom libraries. Happy reading, Year 6!



COMIC RELIEF SUCCESS

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Comic Relief fundraising efforts this year. We're thrilled to share that, after deducting the cost of ingredients, we raised £527 through cash sales and online donations via our JustGiving page. We also completely sold out of Red Noses, raising an additional £840! A special well done to our amazing School Councillors for their fantastic selling skills and enthusiasm throughout the day. What a brilliant effort from the whole Ordsall community — thank you!



COMMONWEALTH DAY FLAG RAISING

A huge well done to our school choir, who represented Ordsall Primary so beautifully at the Commonwealth Day Flag Raising Ceremony on Monday 10th March 2025. Despite the chilly weather, the event was a great success, and the children's performance truly impressed everyone in attendance. We're so proud of their hard work and enthusiasm! Thank you to the staff who supported the event!

IN THE COMMUNITY



Bassetlaw Museum has lots of activities taking place over the Easter holidays. See the above poster for more information.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



This term, we've continued to celebrate and encourage excellent attendance through our weekly attendance raffle. Every child who achieved 100% attendance for the week earned a raffle ticket, and at the end of term, we drew five lucky winners from Phases 1 & 2 and Phase 3.

Our Phase 1 & 2 winners each received a £10 voucher for Wonderland Bookshop, while our Phase 3 winners took home a £10 Love2Shop voucher — a well-deserved reward! Well done to all our winners and everyone who earned tickets this term. The excitement is already building for the end-of-year prize draw, where Phase 1 & 2 pupils will be in with a chance to win a bike, and Phase 3 pupils could be the lucky winner of an Xbox! Keep up the great attendance!

SPORTING SUCCESS



Some of our Year 6 pupils represented Ordsall Primary in a handball competition hosted at our school. They played six matches against three other schools, securing five wins and one draw. Their outstanding performance meant they finished as overall winners of the event. Congratulations to the team — an excellent display of the RESPECT value of teamwork.