



# Ordsall Primary School

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## FROM THE HEADTEACHER

As we come to the end of another busy and successful half term, it has been wonderful to see the wide range of learning, enrichment and opportunities taking place across the school. From visits and performances to competitions and high-quality classroom learning, the children continue to demonstrate our RESPECT values in everything they do.

There have been many highlights this term, including World Book Day, enrichment clubs and the fantastic achievements celebrated across year groups. It has been particularly pleasing to see the level of engagement, enthusiasm and pride that children are showing in their learning, as well as the way they support one another and contribute positively to school life.

I am incredibly proud of the way our pupils represent the school, both in and out of the classroom. Thank you to all of our staff for their continued hard work and dedication in providing such a rich and varied experience for the children, and to parents and carers for your ongoing support – it is greatly appreciated.

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable Easter break with your families. I look forward to welcoming everyone back for the start of the summer term on Monday 13th April.

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION & BELONGING



This term in our assemblies, we have been learning about a range of important events that help us better understand diversity, inclusion and the world around us. We celebrated Neurodiversity Celebration Week by exploring the story *Leo and the Octopus*, encouraging children to think about difference, understanding and friendship. We also learned about the Muslim festival of Ramadan, developing an understanding of its importance and how it is observed by many people around the world. We explored Chinese New Year, learning about traditions and celebrations. In addition, we discussed the role of young carers and considered how we can safely support and help others. We also marked International Women's Day by recognising the achievements of women and the importance of gender equality. Finally, we celebrated World Book Day by sharing some of our favourite stories and taking part local and national assemblies.

## EASTER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AT ORDSALL PRIMARY SCHOOL

During the Easter holidays, a series of Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) play sessions will be taking place at Ordsall Primary School on Tuesday 7th, Wednesday 8th, Thursday 9th and Friday 10th April.

These sessions are not organised or run by the school. Ordsall Primary School is simply acting as the host venue. The sessions are being delivered by Active Newark and funded by County Council.

Families who have a valid HAF code can attend these sessions free of charge. For children who are not eligible for HAF funding, places are still available and can be booked for a daily fee.

This is a great opportunity for children to take part in fun and engaging activities during the holidays. Further information, including booking details, will be provided by the organisers.

For those with a HAF code, these can be booked here: <https://eequ.org/book/ordsall-primary-haf-club-with-active-newark-cic-13548>

For those that would like a paid for place, these can be booked here: <https://eequ.org/book/ordsall-easter-sports-and-activity-club-with-active-newark-cic-19275>.



## YEAR GROUP HIGHLIGHTS

### NURSERY

This half term in Nursery, we have been learning about different celebrations from around the world. It has been lovely to see their curiosity as they discovered how people celebrate in different ways. Towards the end of term, we also explored the new season of spring and learned about Easter and how it is celebrated. We are so proud of the children this term and are looking forward to more exciting learning with our new friends after the break!



### RECEPTION

Reception have had a fantastic half term, with lots of imaginative and collaborative learning taking place. One highlight was the children working together to build an aeroplane, inspired by their idea of "going on holiday." The boys shared ideas, communicated well and showed great teamwork throughout the project. As the weather has improved, the children have also enjoyed spending more time outdoors, making the most of opportunities for outdoor learning and play.



### YEAR 1

This half term, Year 1 have been investigating hot and cold places around the world. As part of this learning, the children have located the Equator, the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, and the North and South Poles. They have also explored the climates of different countries, identifying similarities and differences. The children have loved the hands-on experiences, particularly using globes and maps to find different places around the world.

### YEAR 2

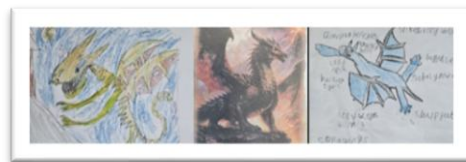
Year 2 have had another exciting term, which began with an amazing visit from White Post Farm. The children had the opportunity to ask questions and get up close to a range of animals from different habitats, including rabbits, a corn snake, a bearded dragon and even a millipede!

This hands-on experience really brought our Science learning to life, helping pupils understand habitats and the needs of animals and plants. We have built on this in English by writing fact files about unusual animals, as well as developing our Geography knowledge by exploring continents and oceans around the world.



### YEAR 3

This half term, Year 3 have been busy exploring a range of exciting topics across the curriculum. In Science, the children have been learning about plants and flowers, developing their understanding of how they grow and what they need to survive. In English, they have enjoyed creating their own mythical creatures and writing non-chronological reports about them. In Geography, the children have been learning about the United Kingdom, including its countries and key features.



### YEAR 4

It may have been a short half term, but Year 4 have been very busy travelling back in time to when the Romans invaded Britain. We had a brilliant time during our Roman Day, where the children enjoyed wearing Roman armour and taking part in training drills similar to those carried out by Roman soldiers. Alongside this, we have been developing our Science learning by investigating circuits and exploring all things electricity, as well as using technology to log and present data.



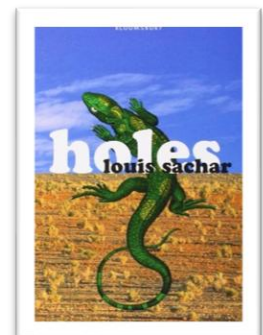
### YEAR 5

This half term, Year 5 have been exploring climate change, the impact of humans on our planet and how we can help protect it for future generations. In Science, we have investigated reversible and irreversible changes, developing our understanding through practical enquiry. More recently, the children have been busy preparing for our upcoming Easter performance, learning songs, practising musical ensembles and rehearsing their lines. We hope you enjoyed the performance – the children have worked incredibly hard to bring it all together.



### YEAR 6

Year 6 have loved reading their class text, *Holes*, this half term and have been eager to read a little more each day. In Writing, they have explored first person narratives through the character of Zero and written scripts for a news bulletin based on the story of Kissin' Kate Barlow.





## ENRICHMENT AT ORDSALL

As part of this half term's enrichment offer, we have been hosting a fantastic Dungeons and Dragons club, delivered by The Leaky Teacup gaming café in Retford.

The children have been fully engaged in this imaginative tabletop role-play game, where they create adventures, explore new worlds, battle monsters and solve puzzles, all guided by the Dungeon Master. Each child has their own set of dice, which are used to determine the success of their actions and help build a shared story.



The Leaky Teacup have kindly invited all children who attended the club to a free gaming session at the café during the Easter holidays. What a wonderful opportunity to continue their adventures!

## SCHOOL COUNCILLORS SUPPORT LICK PICK IN RETFORD

Our Year 4 and Year 5 School Councillors joined North Notts Bid to help litter pick in Retford town. They were given the task of litter picking in Kings Park. The sun was shining, and the children worked as a team to clear all the litter from in and around the park.



## RED NOSE DAY FUN

We had a fantastic time celebrating Red Nose Day at Ordsall, with lots of fun and laughter across the school. Thank you to everyone who supported the event – we were delighted to sell all of our Red Noses, raising £900.

In addition, we received £373 through generous donations both in school and via our JustGiving page, bringing our grand total for Comic Relief to an amazing **£1,273**.



Thank you again for your continued support in helping us raise money for such an important cause!

## WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATIONS

We had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day across school. The children especially enjoyed trying to guess who was behind the mask in our very own *Masked Reader*, as well as taking part in a range of book-themed activities throughout the day. Thank you to everyone that entered our paper plate competition. It was very difficult to choose a winner from each year group, but you can check out the winning designs in the photo attached!



## BELONGING AMBASSADORS VISIT RETFORD OAKS

Our Belonging Ambassadors recently enjoyed a visit to Retford Oaks to watch *Frozen Jr.*, and what a fantastic experience it was! The children thoroughly enjoyed the performance and were a wonderful representation of our school community throughout the visit. Thank you to Retford Oaks for hosting us – it was a truly memorable trip.



## COMPETITION SUCCESS

This term, we celebrated a fantastic achievement from one of our pupils. Back in December 2025, some of our children entered a competition to design the side of a ReFood truck, and out of 4,000 entries, a design from our school was selected as the winner!



Representatives from ReFood visited school this week to present prizes, and we were thrilled to see the newly designed truck arrive on site – it looked amazing.

A huge congratulations to Olivia in Year 6 for her winning design. Keep a look out for the truck around Retford – it has already been spotted in the town centre!