**Biggin C of E Primary School**

Newsletter for the second Spring Term (25/02/19 – 12/04/19)

Published Monday 11th March 2019

Once more school was buzzing on Friday as everyone enjoyed dressing up as a favourite book character for our World Book Day celebrations. I think the prize must go to Mrs Woodroffe for a special appearance as a rather formidable nurse, although no-one is quite sure which book she was from! It was an amazing effort from everyone and lots of fun.

Most important of all though is the way the children’s knowledge and experience of different types of books and authors is growing. Their enjoyment of reading is improving all the time and they are busy working towards new targets on the Accelerated Reading scheme for this half term. Soon, we will be starting to shadow the Carnegie Kate Greenaway prize which reviews a shortlist of new picture books for children.

Parents’ Evening slips have been sent out, please make sure you have returned yours as appointment times to discuss your child’s progress are being sent home this evening. I will be holding a separate Parents’ Meeting on 11th April at 3.45pm to discuss reading, the wider curriculum and internet safety.

The coming weeks are critical for the children’s progress and children in Years 1, 2 and 6 will of course be taking part in statutory assessments. We try to keep these as low-key as possible, but they are really important. Please ensure that we can make the most of this important time by not affecting your child’s attendance by unauthorised absences.

I am pleased to let you know that after the Easter holidays we will be able to offer the children on school dinners a choice of meals on a daily basis. We are really grateful to everyone who is helping us with this trial which the children are very enthusiastic about. Each day children will be able to choose between a meat, vegetarian or jacket potato option. If the trial is successful we will adopt this as normal practice from September 2019.

Congratulations!

to Mr N Bacon on winning the Bonus Ball draw for Saturday 9th March with number 2.

 Safeguarding Reminder:

If you or any member of the public are concerned about the safety and wellbeing of a child, please call Starting Point at Derbyshire County Council on 01629 533190.

**And for this week: 11th – 17th March**

Monday Spring term two dinner money over-due

Wednesday KS2 to Parwich for PE/netball coaching

Thursday Scholastic orders to be received

 Violin lessons for those in year 3

 After-school Hi 5 netball for years 3 & 4 at Q.E.G.S back at school around 5.20pm

Friday Red Nose Day – low-key this year at Biggin; if you wish to wear a nose and bring in

 £1.00, we will bank it with the £’s from World Book Day.

1. World Book vouchers can now be spent at a variety of outlets and of course through the Scholastic book club (orders to be in the office by 14th March),
2. Please complete and return to school a.s.a.p. the parental questionnaires which were sent home last week.
3. Remember: term dates are printed at the top of each newsletter and term/holiday calendars are distributed each September.

**Spring term dates**

March

18th & 19th Parent consultations - individual slips have been sent home this evening – any

 Problems/queries, please contact the office a.s.a.p.

19th Archdeacon to visit school

21st After-school bike skills session

23rd Biggin Pre-school Easter Bingo 7.30pm Royal British Legion, Hartington. Tickets from

 pre-school £10.00 includes hot food.

25th Governors - Finance committee meeting 3.45pm

29th Assembly with Michael Tinker

 Years 5 & 6 to Q.E.G.S. for orienteering

30th 7.30pm – ‘Mister Keith’ at Biggin Village Hall, tickets from Janice at the School House

31st Mothering Sunday

April

3rd Library van due to call

 Meeting of the full governing body

10th FOBS – short meeting to discuss Race Night

11th 3.45pm – 4.45pm parent’s evening talk

12th Service in church

 Break up for Easter

We return for the summer term on Monday 29th April when Beaumont’s will collect all your unwanted textiles, footwear, bags etc.

Remembrance rocks, we found a lovely remembrance rock in our flower tub! This one is dedicated to **The Canary Girls of WW1**, it has been painted with a canary and a poppy and its last place was Mackworth, Derby. We have ‘planted’ it in a safe place and hopefully it will continue on its journey reminding folks about these brave girls and women whose efforts helped to secure our victory.

Do you know what to report to the police and when to contact your local council office? On the web link below you can find out the most convenient ways to report crimes, incidents or neighbourhood problems to either Derbyshire police or its partners. Use the icons in the centre of the page to find the most relevant topic and way to report your specific issue <http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/Contact-Us/Contact-Us.aspx>

Inclement weather - if you **think school may be closed**, it is your responsibility to telephone 01298 84279 or 84642 and find out. The decision will have been made by 08:15am. If the decision is to close the school, High Peak Radio on 106.4, 103.3, and 106.6 FM and Ashbourne Radio on 96.7 FM and

101.8 FM will be informed and we will send you a text message but: –

* *if your details are not up to date, you obviously won’t get the message*
* *it is dependent on signal*
* *it is not a reliable way for you to contact us*
* *and … please reply (a simple OK is sufficient)*

Also - please remember: –

1. *‘if in doubt, don’t set out’*
2. *do not leave a child at school unless a member of the teaching staff has arrived* ***and*** *they are staying!*
3. *wellies, hats, gloves and scarves needed in school by* ***all*** *children at* ***all*** *times*

***High Peak Radio 106.4, 103.3, and 106.6 FM / Ashbourne Radio 96.7 FM and 101.8 FM.***

**Changing Gears**

Thank you to the KS2 parents who indicated an interest – the after-school cycle skills event will take place on our school field on Thursday 21st March from 3.35pm – 5.00pm.

Please complete, sign and return this slip to school by Friday 15th March: -

1. to confirm that you understand there are particular risks associated with this activity
2. to give consent for your child to participate
3. to confirm that your child has a helmet and will be wearing it!
4. to confirm that their bicycle is in good repair and that they will bring it!

Name of pupil \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ year group \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Your name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & relationship to the pupil \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Your signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & today’s date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Community information

**Sheep Theft Increase** The current trend in livestock thefts has suddenly taken an alarming upward curve with a large scale theft last night. A number of thefts – mostly sheep – have been reported lately, usually involving fewer than a dozen animals. These are bad enough and pose a real threat to the livelihoods of the farmers, but Monday night 71 Texel ewes in lamb were taken from a field at Hartington. This shows that we have a really serious problem in the area and we need your help. First of all, if anybody saw some nocturnal activity on Hyde Lane at Hartington then please get in touch. 71 sheep take some shifting so we’re hoping someone will have seen something. Secondly, please keep your eyes open and your mind set to inquisitive and don’t hesitate to ring the police if you see anything at all which gives rise to suspicion. Finally, we need information. Someone knows who’s doing this or may at least have an inkling. There’s no honour in protecting a thief and any information will be treated with complete confidentiality. Thanks in anticipation. ***Message Sent By*** James Shirley (Police,Sgt,Derbyshire Dales).

Derbyshire Police Offer Chance To Drop The Knife As Part Of The National Operation Sceptre. **We are offering people the chance to ‘Drop the Knife’ next week (Monday, March 11th – Sunday, March 17th) as part of a national anti-knife crime initiative Operation Sceptre**.

This is an opportunity, to safely discard bladed weapons that could come in to the hands of those that would cause harm to others. Inspector Richard Keene of Derbyshire police, explained: “For the last four years our officers have worked hard across the county on Project Zao, an initiative to reduce knife crime in the county. The initiative, part of our strategy to make Derbyshire safer, is a multi-stranded involving education, engagement and enforcement and our message has always been clear about the dangers of carrying a knife. We hope that by offering this opportunity it is a chance for parents, carers and friends to have discussions about the dangers of carrying a knife and that it is handed in rather than causing serious harm or killing someone. Bins will be placed at police stations across the county and staff will be on hand to safely handle any bladed weapons handed in. The bins will be at the following police stations across the county: St Mary’s Wharf Police Station, Chester Green, Derby, Cotton Lane Police Station, Derby, Peartree Police Station, Peartree Road, Derby, Ilkeston Police Station, Heanor Road, Ilkeston, Swadlincote Police Station, Civic Way, Swadlincote, Buxton Police Station, Silverlands, Buxton, Chesterfield Police Station, Beetwell Street, Chesterfield. For opening time details visit [www.derbyshire.police.uk/Contact-Us/Enquiry-Offices/Enquiry-Offices.aspx](http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/Contact-Us/Enquiry-Offices/Enquiry-Offices.aspx). If the police station is not open then contact can be made via the yellow telephone outside. If you are concerned about Knife crime in your area, contact your local Safer Neighbourhood team using any of the following non-emergency methods:

* [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/derbyshireconstabulary) – send us a private message to /DerbyshireConstabulary
* [Twitter](https://twitter.com/DerPolContact) – direct message our contact centre on @DerPolContact
* [Website](http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/Contact-Us/Contact-Us.aspx) – complete the online contact form [www.derbyshire.police.uk/Contact-Us](http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/Contact-Us).
* Phone – call us on 101.
* Always call 999 in an emergency

***Message Sent By*** Carole Woodall (Police, Communications Administrator, Derbyshire)

**Reminders**

**Biggin WI – meets in Biggin Village Hall the second Monday of the month**

**Hartington Social Dance Club - sequence dancing each Wednesday evening (mid-September to mid-June) in Hartington Village Hall.**