# Weekly Newsletter

FRIDAY 21st APRIL 2023

#### Dear Parents and Carers,

It's the summer term already, and it's been especially exciting for us at Knotty Ash because the first phase of building work is complete. If you've been round the back of school to the Juniors, you'll have seen that the temporary classroom - which Year 6 have been using up until now - has gone...



Here it is being removed in three sections, with a crane lifting each section over the school gates!

Year 6 came back to a lovely new classroom —unbelievably made out of the old staffroom!



Junior DRB have moved into the new extension too (photos to follow in next week's newsletter), which consists of a classroom, two intervention rooms, an office and a conference room.

During the week, the ramps in and out of the extension have been completed, and there's also a new turfed area by the Junior playground, which Mrs O'Hanlon is planning to develop into an allotment area.

The builders' cabins are still on site because the next phase of works is due to commence before the end of term. So far, y3 and y6 have moved to big classrooms; the next phase will double the size of the y4 and y5 classrooms, as well as refurbishing the corridors and creating more group rooms.



In other news, I want to share our pride in John from y6, who competed in the Casscais Beach Cup 2023 trampoline competition, placing 3rd out of 31 competitors.

On Wednesday, the children enjoyed a performance of The Railway Children by M&M Theatrical Productions. The Railway Children is a classic story and it was brilliant to see it brought to life by 4 very talented actors, with moving scenery, many costume changes and even a few songs! Our own budding actors in Mr Hall's Drama Club were even lucky enough to have an impromptu Q&A session and workshop with the professionals.





We were also very proud of Mohammed-Zayn in y3, who taught his class about Ramadan and Eid, with the help of his dad! We're so impressed by Mohammed-Zayn's knowledge and his confidence. Everyone learnt such a lot. Thank you both!

#### **Dot Art Schools Competition**

A reminder to vote for your favourite Knotty Ash entry, from the 3 shortlisted pieces by Amy, Chloe and Jack in y5.

https://schools.dot-art.com/schools/knotty-ashprimary\_316/#mobile\_info\_details



For more news, make sure you're following us on Twitter @AshKnotty



### <u>Sunday</u> 23rd at <u>3pm</u> Emergency alert system test on ALL mobile phones

Emergency Alerts is a UK government service that will warn you if there's danger to life nearby, e.g. flood, fires, extreme weather. In an emergency, you mobile phone or tablet will receive an alert and advice on what action to take. The alert will be a siren-like sound and vibration. It will be sent to all smartphones. On Sunday the system is being tested for the first time. You won't need to do anything ; the alarm will sound for 10 seconds.

https://www.gov.uk/alerts

Do you know at 3pm on 23rd of April 2023, a UK-wide test of an emergency alert system will take place on EVERY MOBILE PHONE in the country. This loud alarm will sound on your phone and make it vibrate, even if it is switched to silent or notifications are off.

If you're living with domestic abuse and you have a mobile phone hidden in your house "just in case"? Please remember to switch it off on Sunday 23 April 2023

Your hidden phone must be switched off completely during this time to avoid discovery.

- Even if this post doesn't apply to you, please support/ share/repost
- You will be connected to someone who is living with domestic abuse right now, even if you think you're not.
- Sharing this information could help keep them safe



citizens

Hull & East Riding



This is a topic that is integrated into our curriculum through every year-group in school; however, sometimes children forget what they've learnt when they're faced with interesting-looking messages or content online. It's always worth reinforcing messages about keeping safe online, and reminding children what they should do if they see or read anything that doesn't feel right. Here are some useful links...

Advice for parents:

https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/ https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/ https://www.childnet.com/resources

Video for Nursery and Reception children: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zfcvhbk/articles/zkcj92p

Advice for Year 1 and Year 2: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zymykqt/articles/zym3b9q

Videos for Years 3-6 https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/44074704

Advice for Year 5 and Year 6 https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zv63d2p/articles/zfmhfdm

In BSL: https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/deaf-zone/bsl-videos/







Roblox is enjoyed by many of our younger children and we wouldn't want to spoil that... but it can provide a way of strangers sending messages to your children. Check this information for ways to improve security settings...





We are often contacted by parents with concerns about Online Safety at home. There are some really useful tips here for how to talk to your child about Online Safety and how to respond if there's a problem...





## What have we been learning? Nursery







Since the last news letter we have had an amazing trip to Farmer Ted's where we saw lots of different animals We could stroke the guinea pigs and the Alpacas ,We had a ride all round the farm on a tractor ride and we enjoyed lots of play experiences- toboggan rides, soft play, swings, trampolines and climbing frames. We had the best day ever!

This week back in school we have been finding out more about all the animals that live on the farm. We have also been learning BSL farm animal signs.

Our green beans have grown lots over the Easter Break and are almost ready to plant out. We have also been planting cress seeds, making cress heads using old egg shells.

In Maths we have been sorting, counting and comparing the number of farm animals we have. We have been using mathematical language such as more, many, less and fewer.

In phonics we learned all about the letter d and some of us went home and found objects at home beginning with this sound - well done Ebony, Lola and Nathan.

We have spent a lot of time outside enjoying the sunshine because the weather has been lovely . we got our big wooden slide out and we enjoyed playing on our new tree swing. We went on the running track again which is becoming one of Nursery's favourite activities-lots of us did more than 7 laps this week !



# What have we been learning? Reception









"Our pictures are our footprints.

It's the best way to tell people we were here."

- Joe McNally



It has been wonderful to have the children back in school this week. The lovely weather has been great and has meant that the children have had lots of time to play and catch up outside, which they love. They even helped organise the outside area and helped with planting some flowers and their own turnin souch to take home. Plance keep us undeted

planting some flowers and their own turnip seeds to take home. Please keep us updated on those! They have spent time this week getting back into our routines and recapping on prior learning. Next week, we will start our new topic 'Minibeasts'. As always, thank you for a great week Reception.



### What have we been learning? Year 1

This week Year 1 have been learning about living and non-living things in Science; sorting objects into groups. In PE they have been learning how to retrieve a ball quickly whilst working with a partner. In English we have begun looking at out new text about the life of a plastic bottle and linking it to our Science knowledge of materials. The children were amazed watching the mechanisation and processes involved in making plastic bottles. In Maths we have been learning to sort objects into groups of ten for easier counting and have begun some work on partitioning. We also had a lovely time at Forest School on Monday and found the environment had changed dramatically because some of our trees are now in leaf. It is definitely getting more difficult to find the children; they are becoming experts in camouflage



Year 2 have had a lovely week this week! I enjoyed listening to all the wonderful things the children got up to over the Easter holidays.

The children enjoyed their PE sessions this week. They hoping to build on hockey skills this half term. This week they worked on moving with the ball and passing it to each other! There certainly are some fantastic hockey players already! I will upload some photos of PE lessons next week!

In class the children have been working very hard to develop their reading and comprehension skills! I've been so impressed with their enthusiasm and determination with their reading this week!

In maths the children have been working on their 2 times tables! They have liked exploring all the different methods of multiplication. They will continue this next week when we look at the 5 and 10 times tables!



What a first week back we have had, there are almost too many highlights to cram in, but we'll give it a try!

We had a wonderful talk from Mohammed-Zayn and his dad all about Islam, their experiences of Ramadan and fasting, celebrating Eid and also Indian culture. We are hoping to follow this up with a visit to a mosque before we break up for the summer.

We had our first swimming lesson this week. Once we had all mastered the art of getting changed (we did have the odd child trying to get in to the water still wearing their socks (), all was great in the end as the children were fantastic and all managed to get into the pool to show the swimming instructors their skills!

In Forest school we identified trees using new leaves and spring flowers; the mud kitchen was as messy and amazing as always, and we even managed to practise 'panning for gold' in the pond!

We started to compose music with Mr Webb in guitars! In TT Rockstars we completed this months 'gig' (assessment) - lots of improvement from all which we were delighted with! And the performance of The Railway Children was simply tremendous and we'd never seen Y3 sit so still! Wow! 😮 🐳



# What have we been learning?

Year 4



Year 4 have enjoyed a lovely return to school. It has been a very productive week filled with a wide variety of lessons and skills. We enjoyed our first day back and had a go at sketching portraits of King Charles for his coronation. We will then be entering those in a competition! They were really well done and the class enjoyed turning our room into a gallery in order to appreciate the differences between everyone's works of art. We have explored a wide variety of fractions this week in Maths and have developed our knowledge of mixed number fractions. This is when a number is made up of whole numbers and fractions. In PE, we developed our throwing, catching and balancing skills. This will surely put us in good stead for rounders season, it's so close we can smell it! It was also great to get Mr Steel in and revisit the chess skills which we have developed so far! What a week!



## What have we been learning? Year 5







BA B.

Year 5 have had a superb first week back. It has been lovely hearing all about their Easter holidays. The children have edited their poems that they wrote before half term and were brave enough to perform them to the class. It was lovely to see how proud the children were of sharing what they have written. They also enjoyed our PE session this week; they played their favourite game, dodgeball. In Maths, we have been learning long multiplication, which is really tricky, it was been lovely to see their progress throughout the week and their understanding developing. We spent some time this week following a tutorial for our entry into a competition for the Kings coronation which the children really enjoyed! They also had a brilliant opportunity to watch a theatre company come in and perform Railway Children. I'm really looking forward to another fun filled week next week and I hope everyone has a lovely, restful weekend.

# What have we been learning? Year 6









Year 6 have clearly all had a lovely break and they've returned fresh and ready to get stuck back in to some hard work. Our own John Murdock regaled us with the tale of his trip to Portugal, where he travelled to compete in a prestigious international competition and won a bronze medal! We are all incredibly proud of him - it's an incredible achievement.

I'm also very proud of Toby. Unfortunately he broke his arm while playing football over the holiday (he took 'Easter break' a bit too literally!), but nonetheless has come in and got down to work all the same. Great resilience Toby!

There are only a couple of weeks to go now until SATs, so we've got a last big push to get us all ready and a brand new classroom to work in. The brand new facilities are lovely and the smell of newness in the air makes for a great environment to work in. Next week is another mock testing week, with hopefully higher scores and a growing sense of achievement in our children. Regardless of the scores, they're all working so hard and doing us proud. Have a great weekend everyone!



# What have we been learning? DRB



Loving

What a fabulous and busy first week back after the Easter break!

The new junior DRB building is all ready to use now, so we were very excited to have a nose around the rooms. It's fantastic, spacious and smells new!

We have started our new ORT story book for this term called 'Let's recycle' and we have been learning new vocabulary words with signs to match these too. In maths, we have been focusing on addition and subtraction calculations within 10.

The weather has also been kind to us this week, so we've been outside on the field for P.E and learnt how to play cricket with the juniors in DRB. We now know how to hold the bat correctly, aim for the wickets with a ball when bowling and remember to run when we hit the ball. What a dream team we are!

Lastly, we have certainly enjoyed the performance of 'The Railway Children' by M and M Theatrical productions. A BIG Thank you to Mrs CB, for organising this for us all.

Learning Togethei









Nursery & Reception Day Out to Farmer Ted's







### Alendance

Attendance Ladder			
Equates to:	100%	PERFECTION	
SCHOOL DAYS of exclusion	98%	IMPRESSIVE	
7 SCHOOL DAYS eff each year	96%	GOOD	
9 SCHOOL DAYS M <sup>1</sup> exclusion	95%	NEARLY THERE	
SCHOOL DAYS off each year	94%	NEEDS TO IMPROVE	
20 SCHOOL DAYS off each year	90%	CONCERNS vederere to Educational Weltare i Persistare Manethere	
30 SCHOOL DAYS off each year	<b>85</b> %	SERIOUS	

Class	Attendance
Reception	90.7%
Year 1	89.2%
Year 2	88.2%
Year 3	93.1%
Year 4	93.6%
Year 5	98.0%
Year 6	96.6%

# Whole school attendance this week92.8%Class attendance winnersYear 598.0%

Well done to all the children who were in school every day this week.

### A letter from Rose Crossland, our local Road Safety Officer:



slower speeds, safer streets



Liverpool City Council



Due to a high number of complaints across the city we are having to issue another reminder to motorists about your responsibility as a driver to park responsibly. We need to share the road with all road users, especially the more vulnerable, and allow for safe access for pedestrians and cyclists.

Remember pupils need to see and be seen when crossing the roads so please think seriously about the location of the school and neighbourhood and consider ways you can help as a parent/guardian to improve their road safety.

If you use a vehicle to drop off and pick up your child from School, please consider parking further away from the entrance & exits in a safe legal place and walk the remainder of the journey.

#### Do Not Park on

- School Keep Clear Zig Zags
- **Double/Single Yellow Lines**
- Close to junctions / Drop Kerbs
- Near School Crossing Patrol locations
- On Pavements
- Cycle Lanes
- In front of resident driveways

Parking Services and Police may be in attendance near your school do not be abusive as they are doing their jobs at the requests of concerns raised regarding road safety of the pupils.





# Term Dates and Events

Thurs 27th Apr Mon 1st May Tues 2nd May Mon 8th May 9th-12th May Fri 12th May 22nd-26th May Thurs 25th May Partial school closure for strike Bank Holiday Partial school closure for strike Bank Holiday (extra for the King's Coronation) Year 6 SATs exams Eurovision Party (afternoon) Knotty Ash Deaf Awareness Week Inclusion Quality Mark review assessment

29th May—2nd June HALF TERM

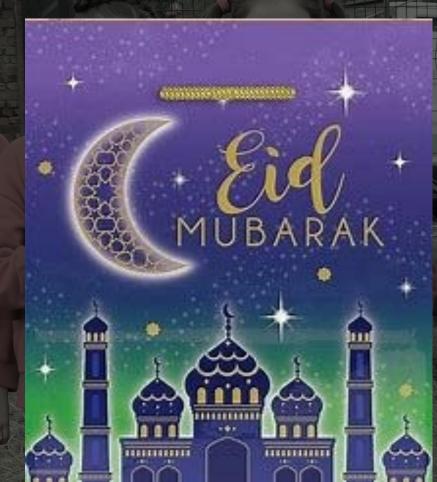
Mon 5th June

INSET Day—school closed for staff training



### Wishing a very happy Eid to all our

families celebrating this weekend.



Loving Learning Together

For more information about Eid... https://www.twinkl.co.uk/teaching-wiki/eid-holidays https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/newsbeat-65250029 https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/33575453



# Family Activities & Support

The latest edition of the Liverpool Parenting Newsletter is here.

### https://sway.office.com/yaQ6W3itHm4L9gTU?ref=Link

ou will find new information about local support available for families and children in Liverpool, along with information regarding events and activities on offer running from March to May 2023.

We have also been sent information about Family Learning and Engagement Courses run by LCC Adult Learning Service. This can be found on our school website, link here: <u>https://knotty-ash-primary-school.secure-primarysite.net/family-information-</u> and-support/

For families in receipt of benefits related free school meals, there are a variety of activities over the Easter break, all of which are free and include a meal: <u>https://merseyplay.com/easter-haf-holiday-activities-food/</u>

Locally, St John's Church offer a range of community groups and activities for families:

https://www.stjohnsknottyash.org/our-community

There's also a range of groups and activities available at Yew Tree Children's Centre for parents whose children are 0-5 years.

Loving Learning Together

https://liverpool.gov.uk/children-and-families/early-years-and-childcare/ childrens-centres/yew-tree-childrens-centre/

# Help and Advice

### For a range of local services - info@localsolutions.org.uk

### Parenting

Solihull Free Online Parenting Courses are now available on a mobile app. Go to the website: <u>https://inourplace.co.uk/</u> and enter the access code PURPLEBIN to register for any of the FREE parenting programmes Or download the Free app and do a course on your mobile device at your own pace.

Early Communications—a language enrichment group (Wednesday mornings) for 2-3 year-olds at Stoneycroft Children's Centre. <u>www.stoneycroftchildrenscentre.co.uk/</u>

The Drive is a local community centre offering a range of activities for family members, old and young. They also run weekly food clubs and provide breakfast/ lunch to families during school holidays. <u>https://www.the-drive.org/home</u>

### **Domestic Abuse**

For support around <u>domestic abuse</u> - <u>https://worstkeptsecret.org.uk/</u>

If you are worried about anything affecting your own or your children's safety or wellbeing, please get in touch in confidence and we'll be able to signpost you to support.

For more advice and support, follow us on Twitter @Knotty\_Families