



Enjoying Netball in the  
sunshine this week

@pockprep

19th March 2021

EDITION 148



Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful to feel the first stirrings of Spring in the Prep School this week, perfectly timed with the Vernal Equinox on Saturday! The children are now fully re-engaged with school life, and it feels in many ways like we have never been away. Being able to watch the children play in the sunshine, on our beautiful fields, is a highlight I look forward to every day.

After hitting the ground running with our 'Heroes of Science' work last week, this week has been no less busy. Staff have made the most of the improved weather, taking opportunities whenever possible to be outside. Year 6 have started work on their 'Dig for Victory' garden, our after school cross country club was as well-attended as ever and year 2 have thrown themselves back into their 'Mind, Body and Soil' environment work. There is a real buzz of anticipation in the air – this summer promises so much, and staff are busy making plans to ensure that it is one to remember.

You may have seen in our social media feeds this week that the prep school is working hard on a new curriculum, 'The Curiosity Project'. This curriculum is designed by our Assistant Head (Academic) Cath Sweeting in conjunction with the teaching staff, and is a chance to reinvigorate our own practice and inspire all our pupils towards a dedicated love of learning. As parents, you will hear much more about our curriculum in the weeks to come, and there will be a presentation which you may wish to attend in the new academic year. However, please do get in touch if you wish to discuss any aspect of our curriculum – your feedback is always very welcome.

I would like to offer my thanks to parents who have sent in prizes for our Friday Blingo session next week! We are so excited to be able to do something new with the children, and end the term in a positive way. Just a quick reminder that our term will finish at 3.45 p.m. rather than the traditional earlier finish. We are looking forward to having a number of House sport fixtures across the afternoon.

With best wishes for a wonderful weekend,

Suzy Ward

## WHAT ARE WE DOING IN PRE-PREP NEXT WEEK?

### Reception

Next week, we will be celebrating all things Easter! Our areas of learning will be set up with Easter related activities - egg template decorations, making Easter cards, feeding the chicks worms, egg numbers recognition and circle time about Easter holiday plans. In addition we will be reading the **Easter story** and **We're Going on an Egg Hunt by Laura Hughes**. We are planning a surprise for our Pre-schoolers and will be setting up a little Egg Hunt for them in our Pre-Prep outdoor area, our Literacy focus will be to write clues for them to follow. We will also be learning about how Easter is celebrated in France, as part of our French curriculum. It's so lovely that we can celebrate the build up to the holidays, together in class!

Star of the week for a wonderful writing assessment and for using her phonics independently when writing is Marciana

Mrs Afford

### Year 1

Another splendid week at school for Year 1 and I could not be more delighted with the efforts the children have made in all areas of their learning.

Next week the children will learn about the final 'real superhero' to complete our Superhero topic and we will have another guest on Monday morning to introduce this. As the week progresses, I will set the children a writing task to determine which superhero was their favourite and get them to complete an independent writing task to explain their reasons why. I am sure that they will create some beautiful pieces of work and I hope to be able to show this to you at some point!

In maths we will focus on problem solving and I hope to spend the end of the week preparing the children for Easter. As a class I would like to look ahead together to next term to explore our first question themed topic which is very exciting!

Star of the Week is Casper - for excellent progress with his writing and for sharing super ideas this week.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Steel

### Year 2

We have really enjoyed learning about Skara Brae in Orkney this week and next week we will continue our projects. We will be spending some time reviewing how our models are progressing. We will also continue working on our tourist brochure, planning the layout and images as well as adding the text.

Reviewing our recent learning in maths means that we will be working on some of the aspects that the children are finding tricky. This includes looking at shape properties and fractions of shapes/grids.

Of course, we will be thinking about Easter and creating some lovely Easter craft.

2X Star of the Week is Harrison for showing a fabulous work ethic in all his lessons.

2Y Star of the Week is Bea for a positive attitude to learning even when tasks are tricky.

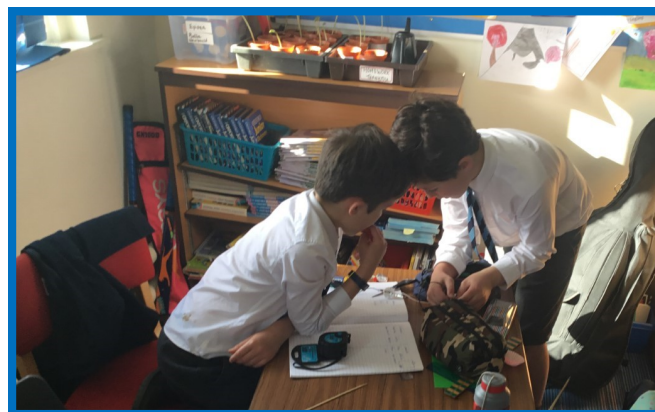
Mrs Kay and Mrs Walton



## SCIENCE WEEK IN PHOTOS!!



Year 3 investigating 'sweet tricks' and making their own chocolate lolly as part of their Chocolate Story topic (Charlie and the Chocolate Factory)



Year 4 investigating conductors and insulators in Science



Just some of the wonderful 'Rainforests' that Year 5 have made



The children in the EYFS in PE this week—they were very excited to see the lollipop lady on their walk over to the sports hall!

## WHAT ARE WE DOING IN PREP NEXT WEEK?

### Year 3

Year 3 have had an 'inventive' start to the week, entering 'The Invention Room,' to see how Willy Wonka might have made his creations. The children used this as a stimulus to create their own 'Chocolate Room', describing what it would have been like to have been Charlie in there.

In maths, we have been finding the best methods for mental calculations. The children have also begun to find the perimeter of regular shapes, using the correct measurements of length. We will be practicing our investigation skills next week, to apply what we have learnt about perimeter to real life situations. Please continue to help your child practice their times tables, especially the x3 and x4.

This week the children have been given parts for our Year 3 and 4 play. We are all very excited about recording a play from our work on Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The children will be coming home with their lines at the weekend. Please may they begin to learn these so that we are ready to film the 1st week back after the Easter holidays.

Thank you for all of your support.

Mrs Rogers and Mrs Snelling

### Year 4

Year 4 have been very good plant parents this week, taking care of their Pock and the Bean Stalk plants. They are growing well and getting quite tall. The sunshine this week really helped and it was lovely to get outside and feel springlike!

Year 4 have been focusing on their Kensuke's Kingdom poetry and News Round extra performance. We have seen some fantastic drama so far. We have also written some amazing letters to stop palm oil harming the rain forests and the orang-utans habitats.

In maths we have continued our fraction work.

Next week:

Maths - We are going to be continuing to finish our fraction work and start to look at how we display and read data.

English/Topic - We will be finishing our book - Kensuke's Kingdom (which will be very sad) and focusing on the last chapter and the ending. We will also be continuing our work on our Y4 performance.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a fantastic weekend.

Miss Shepherd and Mrs Kennedy

### Year 5

We have had a great week in school, with a particular focus on the rainforest - the children have been so creative in their rainforest production and they will be bringing these home next week. Next week in English we will finish reading 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' - this has been such a powerful text and has generated some brilliant discussion, leaving us all with a lot to think about. In Maths the children will be reading and interpreting timetables and working on word problems. Science will see us creating a digestive system - messy!

We are also excited about House Netball and House Hockey next Friday! How wonderful for the children to be able to participate in a sports competition - let's hope the Spring sunshine appears that day - good luck to all four houses!

Have a lovely weekend.

The Year 5 Team

### Year 6

Year 6 have been hard at work this week and continue to impress us with their growing maturity and confidence. Next week we will commence script readings and rehearsals for our upcoming production after half term. All pupils will be fully involved in the production and more details of performances and costumes etc will be available in due course.

Next week will see us drawing our study of *Holes* by Louis Sachar to a close by writing stories based on the legend within the study text. Pupils have planned such imaginative tales and we are really looking forward to reading their finished pieces - not before some in-depth editing by the pupils themselves of course.

In maths pupils will either continue to study Ratio and Proportion or they will be constructing 2D shapes, depending on their group. Homework will continue to be set and we do expect pupils to spend at least 30 minutes of concentrated time on each piece. Please remind your child that MyMaths or Times Tables Rockstars can be completed any night of the week, even when homework has not been set.

Finally, next week we will be planting selected fruit, vegetables, herbs and bee-friendly flowers in the spirit of 'Dig for Victory' ahead of our Summer Term topic on World War 2. A separate letter has been sent today about this gardening project which will initially take place next Thursday afternoon. Thank you for your continued support, Mr Parker and Mrs Sweeting



# NOTICE BOARD



## **Amended Bus Times for End of Lent Term – Friday 26th March**

A reminder to all that as lessons don't finish until 3.45pm on the last day of term next Friday 26th March, please see the slightly amended bus schedule, attached. If you have any queries please contact Mr Bartle, Transport Manager



## **School Uniform Shop**

The School Shop is now closed. Parents can order online; a version of click and deliver will be made available. Website: [www.newplansolutions.com](http://www.newplansolutions.com) then Search By School, enter Pocklington School and click Shop Now and use the password York. Mrs Amanda Smith, School Shop Manager



## **David Byas Sports Academy**

Unfortunately we are now FULLY BOOKED for all Easter Camps apart from:

6th / 7th April – Two Day GIRLS Cricket Camp (One Day option available)

1:1 Cricket Coaching with David Byas (1hr sessions £45)

Unfortunately these sessions are also now fully booked. Summer Camp dates for Hockey, Cricket, Netball and Rugby will be released shortly. Please email [david@byasacademy.co.uk](mailto:david@byasacademy.co.uk) to book a slot and pay online. All camps take place at Pocklington School and are for ages 7-17yrs old. For more information on all our camps visit [www.byasacademy.co.uk](http://www.byasacademy.co.uk), email [info@byasacademy.co.uk](mailto:info@byasacademy.co.uk) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram Mr D Byas, Director of Sport



## **Pocklington Tennis Club – Easter Camps**

We have been given the fantastic news that we will be able to reopen the Tennis Club on Monday 29th March, and we will be starting straight away with our Easter Tennis Camps.

The camps will be on the following dates:

Monday 29th March - Thursday 1st April

Friday 2nd April (Good Friday)

Monday 5th April (Easter Monday)

Tuesday 6th - Friday 9th April

Monday 12th - Friday 16th April

Times: 9am - 12noon,

Price: £25 per morning, Age Group: 4-16yrs.

For more information and to book please see the link here. We may have to restrict numbers, therefore, we will be doing it on a first-come first-served basis, so if you would like a place on any of the dates please let Sean know and he will confirm your place. Mr Sean Evans, Pocklington Tennis Club