



Oakwood Junior School March 2011

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Dear Parents/Carers

I'm always pleased when February finishes and March arrives. The lighter mornings and evenings are welcome and hopefully the worst of the weather is behind us. The bulbs in the allotment are coming through and the frogs in the wild life pond are fat with spawn. Even our chickens sense that spring is round the corner and are laying their eggs more regularly now.

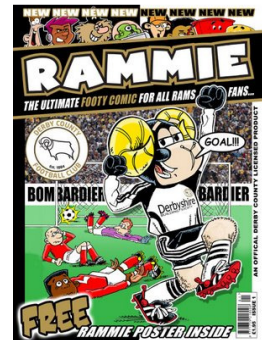
In school we have started our Derby Fest. We had a fascinating speaker come into school and he gave the children an insight into Derby and the past. The children particularly enjoyed the gory bits, but as well as that they also picked up lots of historical information about their city. The mayor has also been in and has given us an insight into his role which was very interesting. We've also started our mapping work and the children have been told about doing their own research about Derby. We do hope you can support them in this and we're looking forward to sharing some high quality work with you. The Derby Fest topic overview is on the website, so do have a look at some of the exciting learning your child will be doing around the Derby theme.



Enterprise Market

At the end of last half term we held our enterprise market. Every year this event gets better as the children become more and more confident with making a range of products that they've made and seeing them make a profit. A lot of skills are required to do this and the children worked particularly hard in teams to achieve work of a high standard. The winners for lower school were Miss Dee's friendship blossoms who made £13.14 profit and in upper school the Brainy Boxes team managed a whopping £24.20 profit. A special well done goes to them.

Thank you for your support during the morning of the market. We had over 200 people in - which was great!



L2L Celebration Afternoon

On Friday (4th March) we had our first L2L celebration event. Four children from each class who had collected the most L2L stickers were invited to a special treat - a conducted tour around Derby County's Football ground. The tour included a visit to the changing rooms, an inspection of the pitch and even a visit to the cells! These children have done really well and the trip recognises their hard work.

Governors

Mrs Pam Moss, our Chair of Governors, who has given many years of service to school, has recently resigned her post and I'm pleased to let you know that Mrs Carrie Edwards is the new Chair person and Mrs Judith Russ the Vice chair.

We had a special assembly for Mrs Moss to thank her for her contribution in terms of her help and support of the 16 years she has worked for the school. The school council made a special card and with the collection we made for her a cut glass vase was presented to her.

Being a school governor is an interesting and important role in school. They do make important decisions about most aspects of management in school and they do a valuable job. We have one vacancy at present for a parent governor - so if you are interested, please contact us.



Big Pedal

We are involved in the 'Big Pedal' cycle to school competition. All cycle journeys to school for children and parents count towards the school's progress in the competition. Last year we came second in Derby, so we would like to go one better this year. The competition starts on Monday 7th March (yesterday) and will last for 3 weeks, so please dust of your bikes and encourage your children to cycle to school.



Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

We are collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. So if you have any, please do send them into school with your children or hand them into the school office, if you could encourage your friends and family to give them to you as well, that will be a big help as we can purchase some really good resources for the children with them. Thank you for your support.

Latest News

We heard today that Miss Baldi has successfully given birth to a 6lb 12 oz baby boy named Alfie. He came two weeks early and the news is a bit of a surprise. Thank goodness it didn't happen in school!! We all wish them well.



Dates for your Diary

07.03.11	Assessment week - Upper School
09.03.11	Mayor in school to talk to the children
14.03.11	Assessment week - Lower School
22.03.11	Rev. Tim Wright in school to talk to the children about the history of St. Mary's Church
25.03.11	Inset Day - School closed to the children
28.03.11	Visits to the local area and Derby City Centre starts this week
05.04.11	Art expert coming into school to talk to the children about Joseph Wright, the Artist
06.04.11	Open afternoon - Upper School - More details nearer the time
07.04.11	Open afternoon - Lower School - More details nearer the time
08.04.11	Mrs Langford's class assembly Older people's event 2.00 pm start time
13.04.11	Derby Fest evening event for parent's - 5.00 till 6.30
15.04.11	Break up for Easter
03.05.11	Return

Just to let you know that the INSET days for the summer term are the 24th and 27th June. An extra day has been granted in lieu of the Royal Wedding and this will be taken on the 22nd July, so school will finish for the summer on July 21st.

Kind regards

Nancy Elks
Headteacher