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Move Back to Cotgrave

After a very busy week moving the school from West Bridgford, the whole school has settled very quickly into the Cotgrave site. The build looks fantastic and, after spending money raised on the 'My Donate' page to update the existing building, the move between the old and new is seamless. Highlights for many pupils (and staff) are the space in classrooms, sensory room with new lights and equipment and the post 16 common room. It is also great to have outside space again with a range of outdoor play equipment. All of the updates go towards making the school a great learning environment.



Sport Relief

On Friday the 23rd Ash Lea held a Sport Relief Mile. It was a huge success and the pupils showed great enthusiasm. Nearly all of the pupils completed between 3-4 laps of our course and received Sports Relief goodies for their work at the end. The focus was on fun and enjoyment and for the pupils to get active for as long as possible. We're really proud of everyone for participating to the best of their ability.



STEP UP
FOR **SPORT RELIEF**



Class 1 have loved their animal topic this term, especially visiting Candleby Lane Farm since being back in Cotgrave. They have been thinking about what sounds the farm animals make and have been using their signs and symbols really well to tell everyone what they have seen. The big animals have been very popular, the ducks trying to get us wet by splashing in the water, Libby the big pig who greets us when we arrive, Lily the sheep and Ronnie the goat, although the little guinea pigs have been most people's favourites.



Since Christmas Class 2 have been very excited about their animal topic. We have explored animals that live on the farm, wild animals and pets. We have visited Candleby Lane Farm to help care for the farm animals. Class 2 have settled back into Ash Lea at Cotgrave very well and everybody is making full use of the facilities including the outside area and the new sensory room.

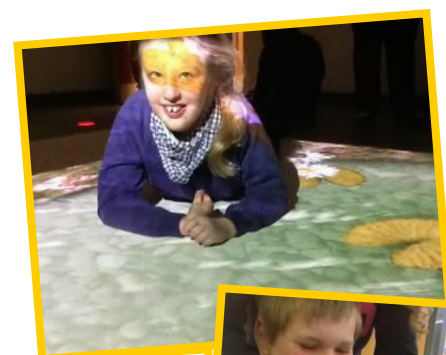


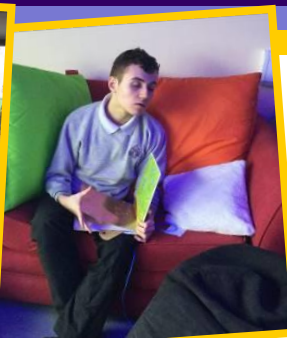
Class 3 have been exploring parks in Cotgrave. Adults who have grown up in Cotgrave told us what the parks were called locally; we visited 'Witches Park (used to have a witches' hat roundabout); Precinct Park (next to the shops); Pigeon Park, (next door to the pigeon lofts) and Ringleas Park (on Ringleas but Alex has renamed it 'the Zombie Park'!!!). Class 3 have been making comparisons between the parks and voted Pigeon and Zombie Park their favourite as there was equipment which challenged their climbing skills, raised fitness levels and fostered the love of hanging upside down ☺.

Class 4 have enjoyed their Viking topic this term. Our music sessions have been everyone's favourite. We have also been reading the story about 'The Building of Asgard's Wall' – a famous Norse myth. This has included call and response and there has been some great interaction between the pupils throughout the story. We also have thoroughly enjoyed our visits to Cotgrave shopping centre. We visit the local Co-op every Tuesday morning to buy the ingredients ready for our cooking session on a Tuesday afternoon. We are encouraging the pupils to be as independent as possible in Class 4, and have made some quick snacks such as sandwiches and toasties. We may even have an Easter treat for you prepared by the pupils. From all the staff and pupils, we wish you all a happy Easter break! (Don't eat too much chocolate!!!)



This term the students in Class 5 have been exploring their hobbies and interests. They have been sharing the things they like to do in class including toys, games, and hobbies. They have been finding out about the things that other people in school like to do and also new hobbies they would like to try. This included snowboarding, skateboarding, pottery and even skydiving! In our first term we read the book 'Naughty Bus' which tells the story of a toy bus and the adventures its owner takes it on. The students then brought in their own toys so they could write their own stories. The results were some incredible stories featuring some brilliant toys!





Class 6 have been fantastic during the move back to Cotgrave. They love their new classroom, and the view from the window is amazing! They have looked at "The Park in the Dark" and "The Talent Show" as class texts this term. They have enjoyed reading the stories, describing the action, finding rhyme, and making sentences in group sessions. In Maths, the students have been looking at time and measuring length. They especially enjoyed measuring items around the new classroom, using handprints. Class 6 have also continued cookery sessions at South Notts Academy – and have enjoyed making a selection of sweet and savoury foods to take home.

Class 7 have enjoyed learning about the Vikings through dance, cooking, Norse myth stories, documentaries and films. They have also learnt about Scandinavian inventions including wind turbines, Lego and Hygge. Before leaving West Bridgford they visited the fire station as part of options, which was great fun! Class 7 love their new classroom and new areas around the school especially the common room. They are enjoying being back in Cotgrave going to the local Co-op and café but still catching the public bus back to West Bridgford weekly.



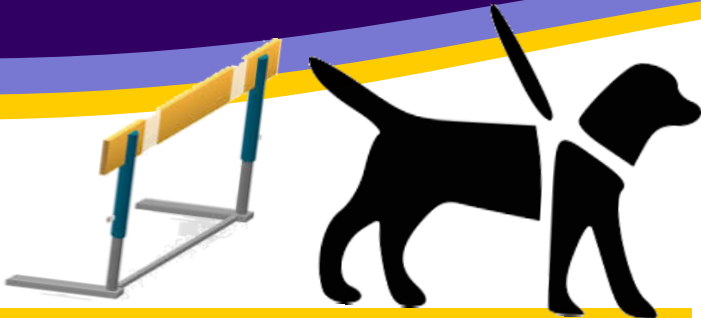
Another busy term over for Class 9! We have done a lot of visits to post 18 providers this term, both day services and college providers. Our timetable carried on as normal, though there are some new activities this term. We are making our own production of the Wizard of Oz, which is taking place in our options lesson, and this is being filmed as part of a project. We have also done some work with outside agencies about consent and what it means, and the class has made a radio broadcast which will be entered into a competition to see if it will be aired.



Class 8 have loved being back in Cotgrave! The class is a pleasure to work in for pupils and staff: New projectors, sound system and lighting have really enhanced the class' learning. The tracking hoists have made all the essential moving and handling tasks quicker and easier for us all. The class have been able to visit the farm at Candelby Lane which supported our work on the Vikings. Small holdings like this would have been familiar to Viking families. The animals were very interested in us and very friendly. Together with Class 4 and 7 we have explored Scandinavian culture and traditions through this term's focus on the Vikings. We have particularly enjoyed Viking foods; we have made our own cheese and butter. All surprisingly delicious!



Diary Dates & Info



Alister is doing a sponsored obstacle course event, supporting guide dogs for the blind.

If you would like to donate please visit the fundraising link below

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/yvonne-parkes1



All Post 16 pupils have been offered the opportunity to visit at least one of the following colleges and day services

- Holmefield College
- Linkage college
- RNIB college
- Landmarks college (The Archer pub and Woodfield Industries)
- Space Inclusive
- Pulp Friction (Catering at Bestwood Lodge Fire Station) The Adventure Service

A great deal has been learned about what is available to our young people when they leave Ash Lea School. Plans have been made to visit many more places such as Portland College, Confetti and The FowerPod.

Diary Dates

16 th April	First day of summer term
7 th May	May Day Bank Holiday
22 nd -25 th May	Lea Green Residential
25 th May	Last day of half term
04 th June	Inset Day
5 th June	Return from half term holiday
14 th June	Foals Meeting – 7.30pm
23 th -24 th June	Open Gardens in Cotgrave based at Ash Lea School
25 th -29 th June	Dukes Barn residential
6 th July	Leavers prom night
24 th July	Leavers Presentation evening and family barbecue
25 th July	Last day of summer term
30 th -3 rd July	Fun Week 2017



The school has received 74 Easter eggs from the Bikers of the Nottinghamshire Motorcycle Egg Run.

Thank You!!!



Our current fundraising total is **£75,645.86!**
 Thank you to everyone who has donated
 Please visit our **Creating a Better Environment** fundraising page if you would like to donate or set up your own fundraising event. Thank you.
mydonate.bt.com/events/creatingabetterenviroment

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