

Issue 26 – Summer Term 2018

Inside this issue

- Class News
- Fundraising
- Sports News
- Diary Dates

Prom 2018

As always our Prom was a great success. All the pupils looked amazing and loved their limo ride before arriving at Cotgrave Welfare to be welcomed by all their friends and family.

There were lots of speeches, dancing, eating, drinking and even more dancing! Thank you everyone who supported this amazing event.



Official opening

On Friday 22nd June the Chair of Nottinghamshire County Council officially re-opened the School. The event was also attended by Council Kay Cutts MBE and Council Taylor.

The school had prepared a video and several songs to entertain our guests who all seemed to be impressed with our wonderful building.





This term classes 1, 2 and 3 have enjoyed a water topic and took the opportunity to do a primary department trip to see the lake at Rushcliffe Country Park. The 3 classes had time to try a variety of activities; we walked around the lake looking for animals that live on or near the water, explored the sensory area with different textures and sounds, went on a ladybird trail, had parachute and ball games and of course ended up all together on the fantastic park for a play and an ice cream. What a fun filled day.



Class 3 took part in outdoor classroom day in May. Activities ranged from A Rwandan Rainforest experience, through to planting and decorating wellies. Class 3 loved the beach, where some made sculptures in the sand whilst others talked the adults into donkey ride racing. The rockets needed trial and error to get the right amount of fizzy tablets and water in the bottles to ensure an amazing launch; and the water slide was just wild, with children sliding down in lots of different ways. Some even slid down on their tummies!!! What a fantastic day

This term Class 4 have been busy with our Africa topic, exploring the different environments and wildlife with multi-sensory activities. We have enjoyed the stories 'Mama Panya's Pancakes' and 'Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain', where we had lots of fun learning about Kenyan culture and looking at what was 'the same' and what was 'different' to our own homes and lives. We have continued to focus on pupil independence, and have had great success going shopping for ingredients and cooking summery African inspired dishes. At the end of term we had a lovely trip to Rushcliffe Country Park, looking at the wildlife that surrounds us in our local area.

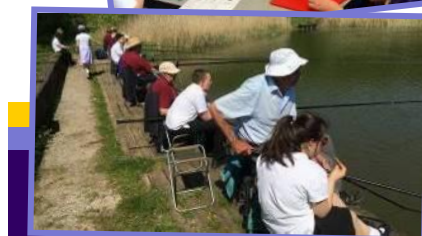


During this term Class 2 have had chicks from the company 'Living Eggs'. The eggs came to us and within a week, 9 chicks had hatched! The whole school loved watching the chicks hatch and grow and we were even able to keep 3. Since then we have had a purpose built, wheelchair friendly chicken coop for Rosie, Betty and Kieffe. Class 2 have loved the opportunity to get to know the chickens as well as the guinea pigs and even Meg the dog, who comes in once a week. We have also had Dizzy, a qualified therapy dog visit us, which class 2 thought was amazing and we can't wait for her to visit us again!





This term the Class 5 and 6 topic has been 'Out and About'. They have been learning about where they live and all the amazing things we have to offer in Nottingham. They have had a number of trips out including a tour of the Council House, a trip to Wollaton Park, a walk around the City Ground and an exciting morning at The Contemporary where they viewed an exhibition and made their own artwork. Each place they went there was a brilliant and different opportunity for learning and the students all showed how amazingly they could represent the school when out in the community. The classes have also really enjoyed our regular fishing sessions, at Cotgrave Lakes, supported by a group of local fishermen and they have continued to visit South Notts Academy to use their teaching kitchen for cookery sessions. They have made a range of sweet and savoury dishes, including Scottish oatcakes, Welsh rarebit, quiche, flapjack and Eton mess. The students have also benefitted from sensory sessions with Nicola, our Occupational Therapist, looking at emotions and feelings, and some great PE sessions with Lee, learning basketball and tennis skills. A fantastic term for classes 5 and 6!



Class 7 have enjoyed visiting different local places including local parks, 'Hot Pots', The Manvers Arms, Sainsbury's, Co-op, the Church and best of all, the fish and ship shop. Class 7 took on the project of decorating and tidying the area around the porta-cabin. They raised money by doing a sponsored walk and wrote a letter to the Governors. Class 7 went and bought the paint and plants and decorated the area which now looks great!



Class 8 have had an adventurous term! It can often be difficult to go on visits as the class are all wheelchair users. However, this term most of the class enjoyed a very adventurous week on residential in Lea Green. We went abseiling, kayaking and up on the high ropes. We had a lovely day cruising along the canal courtesy of the Peter Le Marchant Trust and the Rotary Club of West Bridgford. It's always such an enjoyable day and is even more so when families can join us too. We had tremendous fun too when we spent the day at the Lincolnshire Wildlife Park. As we had been thinking about African animals and their habitats this was a great opportunity to see some of these creatures up close. In the 'walk through' aviary, this was a little closer than we had expected!



Well another term and another school year nearly over! This term Class 9 have continued with our work of preparing our students for leaving school. We have completed some accredited courses, carried on with our lifeskills, accessing the community and continuing to use South Notts. Academy for cooking our dinners on Monday. We have worked with Lee, our PE coach on our sports skills which culminated in sports day. Our research into life after school involved us travelling out to Mencap's café in Bingham and getting Pulp Friction to show us what they do. Both of these involved us meeting past pupils and opportunities for them to talk to us about their experiences.



Diary Dates & Info



On Tuesday 3rd July we held our sports day for the first time in 3 years. The day was conducted by Lee our sports coach and our sports apprentice Chloe. The day was such a success and we really appreciated the feedback from staff and parents. The day consisted off mini sporting activities in the morning, such as Rounders, Boccia and Kwik Cricket. In the afternoon we adapted some of the traditional races, such as the obstacle race, into two different races. One of the obstacle races was also wheelchair accessible so that every student was able to participate and race against their friends. We also had a water obstacle race that was also wheelchair accessible. This involved the students carrying a small cup of water in some way, whether that be in the hands or on the head, and tackling a few obstacles on the way to the finish line. We then had a straight race of either running/jogging or walking. We would like to thank you all for attending and supporting the children during this day. Also thankyou to any parents/carers that joined in any of the activities on the day it was very much appreciated



Diary Dates

30 th July - 3 rd August	Fun Week 2017
6 th Sept 2018	First day of autumn term
16 th Sept 2018	Race for Life
26 th Oct 2018	Inset Day
22 nd Dec 2018	Xmas Dinner Day
7 th Jan 2019	Inset Day
25 th Feb 2019	Inset Day
24 th May 2019	Inset Day

Our current fundraising total is **£75,725.86!**
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

Ash Lea School, Owthorpe Road,
Cotrave, Nottingham, NG12 3PA

Tel: (0115) 9892744

Email: office@ashlea.notts.sch.uk
Web: www.ashlea.notts.sch.uk