



Dates For Your Diary

May 2014

14th - Year 5/6 Kwik Cricket Tournament at Clifton Cricket Club 4.00pm
 19th - Governors Meeting 7pm
 20th - Year 5/6 Tri Golf Tournament at Ashbourne Golf Club 4.00pm
 23rd - ProKick Challenge Assembly
 26th - 30th School Closed for Half Term

June 2014

6th - Swimming Gala
 10th - Year 3/4 Tennis at QEGS 4.15pm
 11th - Year 5/6 Orienteering at QEGS 4.15pm
 12th - KS1 Trip to Tesco at Alfreton
 13th - ProKick Challenge
 17th - Yr 5/6 Rounders at QEGS 2.15pm
 18th - Year 6 Transition at QEGS
 20th - KS2 Trip to Tesco at Alfreton
 24th - School Photographs
 27th - INSET Day - School Closed

July 2014

1st - Year 6 Transition at QEGS

Tesco – Eat Happy

During June KS1 and KS2 children will be visiting Tesco, Alfreton to take part in their 'Eat Happy' -Farm to Fork initiative. If you would like more information about the scheme then please visit: <http://www.eathappyproject.com/farm-to-fork/farm-to-fork-trails/>

KS1 will visit on Thursday 12th June

KS2 will visit on Friday 20th June

School Website

Don't forget to visit the school website to view up to date information and photographs about school life. There is a link on the village blog if you need it.

ParentView

Ofsted ParentView is available all year round, enabling parents to give their views on their child's school. There is a link via our website or you can visit directly by visiting: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

KS2 Tests – Years 3, 4 and 5

A reminder to parents of children in the junior class. At this time of year we formally assess the children using the DfE supplied 'Optional SAT's' papers. During the week starting Monday 12th

May all children in Years 3, 4 and 5 will be tested in reading, writing and maths. The children have been issued with a copy of the timetable for the week. It is extremely important that your child arrives at school on time everyday during this period to enable the tests to start on time and with every child clear of the instructions, minimising any disruption.

Year 6 SAT's and Breakfast Club

During this same week the Year 6 will be formally assessed using the test materials supplied by the DfE to all Year 6 children in primary schools in England. To enable the children to start the

day in a calm and prepared manner we are inviting the children in Year 6 to begin the day with a shared breakfast provided by school staff. Year 6 children are encouraged to arrive at school for 8.30am to enjoy a peaceful start to the day and provide an opportunity for them to ask any last minute questions they may have. Children attending Wednesday evening SAT's Club have devised a menu for the week.

St Georges Parade – Oddfellows

Ashley Rushton represented school at the recent Oddfellows Parade through Parwich on Sunday 27th April after being invited to take part last term.

School Collaboration

Even though we are a small primary school we are fortunate to share links with Ashbourne and Matlock schools. We are members of the Dove Valley Primary Schools Association and Derbyshire Association of Small Schools as well as of course being part of Derbyshire County Council.

These memberships enable school to share good practice and agree how best to move forward in these changing times for education. If you would like to know more about these links please contact school.

Open Door Policy

Our Open Door Policy is available either daily on the playground, via email during and outside of term time or telephone during the school day. Please do contact a member of the team who will do their best to help answer your query.

Dough Disco - Monday 3rd March 2014

On Monday 3rd of March 2014 schools attempted to break the Guinness World Record

'The most people sculpting using modelling clay.'

Parwich Primary School participated.

We succeeded in the record attempt, Guinness World Records states;

'The most people sculpting with modelling clay (multiple venues) is 4976 and was organised by Shonette Bason (UK) at 44 schools in the UK and Abu Dhabi on 3 March 2014'.

Well done to all the children who took part!

The New National Curriculum from September 2014

The national curriculum is a set of subjects and standards used by primary and secondary schools. It covers what subjects are taught and the standards children should reach in each subject. Other types of school like academies and private schools don't have to follow the national curriculum. Academies must teach a broad and balanced curriculum including English, maths and science. They must also teach religious education.

Why the change?

The main aim is to raise standards, particularly as the UK is slipping down international student assessment league tables. Inspired by what is taught in the world's most successful school systems, including Hong Kong, Singapore and Finland, as well as in the best UK schools, it's designed to produce productive, creative and well educated students.

Although the new curriculum is intended to be more challenging, the content is actually slimmer than the current curriculum, focusing on essential core subject knowledge and skills such as essay writing and computer programming. It also follows on from similar curriculum revamps in Scotland and Wales, which were implemented in 2010 and 2008 respectively and have a similar focus on excellence and core skills.

Do all schools have to follow the changes from 2014?

No – academies and free schools are exempt. This is partly because these schools need more flexibility in what they teach (for example, in the case of faith schools that have a strong emphasis on religious education). Academies and free schools do, however, still have to teach a balanced and broadly based curriculum that includes English, Maths, Science and RE.

What are the main changes to the 2014 National Curriculum? ?

The table below summarises the main changes in the core subjects covered by the National Curriculum.

Subject	What's new?
English	<p>Stronger emphasis on vocabulary development, grammar, punctuation and spelling (for example, the use of commas and apostrophes will be taught in KS1)</p> <p>Handwriting – not currently assessed under the national curriculum – is expected to be fluent, legible and speedy</p> <p>Spoken English has a greater emphasis, with children to be taught debating and presenting skills</p>
Maths	<p>Five-year-olds will be expected to learn to count up to 100 (compared to 20 under the current curriculum) and learn number bonds to 20 (currently up to 10)</p> <p>Simple fractions (1/4 and 1/2) will be taught from KS1, and by the end of primary school, children should be able to convert decimal fractions to simple fractions (e.g. 0.375 = 3/8)</p> <p>By the age of nine, children will be expected to know times tables up to 12x12 (currently 10x10 by the end of primary school)</p> <p>Calculators will not be introduced until near the end of KS2, to encourage mental arithmetic</p>
Science	<p>Strong focus on scientific knowledge and language, rather than understanding the nature and methods of science in abstract terms</p> <p>Evolution will be taught in primary schools for the first time</p> <p>Non-core subjects like caring for animals will be replaced by topics like the human circulatory system</p>
Design & technology	<p>Afforded greater importance under the new curriculum, setting children on the path to becoming the designers and engineers of the future</p> <p>More sophisticated use of design equipment such as electronics and robotics</p> <p>In KS2, children will learn about how key events and individuals in design and technology have shaped the world</p>
ICT	<p>Computing replaces Information and Communication Technology (ICT), with a greater focus on programming rather than on operating programs</p> <p>From age five, children will learn to write and test simple programs, and to organise, store and retrieve data</p> <p>From seven, they will be taught to understand computer networks, including the internet</p> <p>Internet safety – currently only taught from 11-16 – will be taught in primary schools</p>
Languages	<p>Currently not statutory, a modern foreign language or ancient language (Latin or Greek) will be mandatory in KS2</p> <p>Children will be expected to master basic grammar and accurate pronunciation and to converse, present, read and write in the language</p>

Will the new National Curriculum involve new tests?

The Department for Education is currently in the process of reforming KS2 tests, but details have not yet been published. We will of course keep parents informed of the changes as they are introduced and staff begin to implement them.

The National Curriculum published document is available online.

To view the whole document please visit: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/260481/PRIMARY_national_curriculum_11-9-13_2.pdf

More details for each individual group will be added to the school website next term and a meeting for parents will be held during the summer term for parents interested.