



## Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term seems to have flown by. We have enjoyed Year 1 Spring Festival assemblies which brightened up the day of so many parents and staff.

Staff have taken part in 'No More Marking' this uses a comparative Judgement to provide the school with a detailed understanding of children's writing. We are pleased to share that our average writing age in Key Stage 1 is above the national average. Both staff and children have worked hard to improve writing skills.

This half term we have also focussed on behaviour and permission in assemblies. Myself and Mrs Coplin have delivered assemblies to all children discussing the meaning of permission and consent and that no means no. Children have had our behaviour expectations shared with them again during assemblies and within class personal development lessons. We are pleased this appears to have had a positive impact on improving behaviour across the school.

We are now looking forward to all the Summer term will bring including lighter nights, dryer and warmer weather.

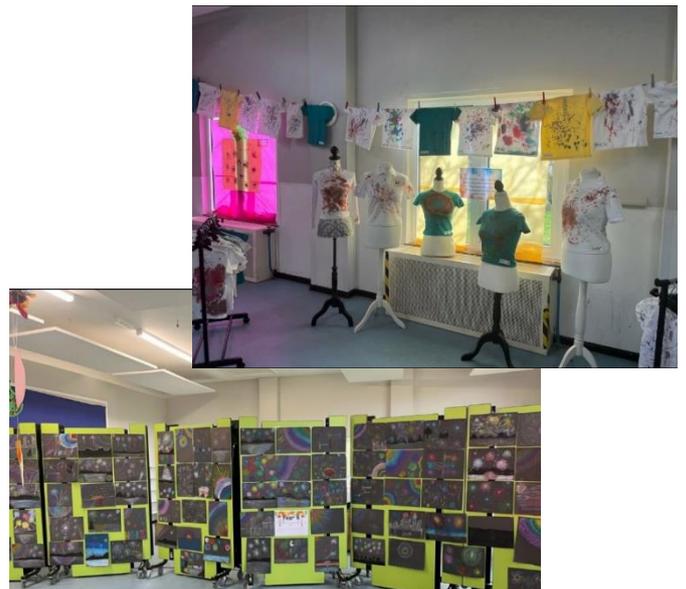
Enjoy the Easter break.

Take Care,  
Mrs Holmes

A HUGE thank you we raised  
£500 to support the Turkey  
and Syria Earthquake appeal.

## Holi Celebrations

Holi is a Hindu festival to mark the start of Spring. It is also known as the festival of colour. This year to celebrate, Overdale Pre-School, Infant and Junior Schools collaborated to create a multi-sensory RE exhibition. Over the course of two days, children learnt about the core religious beliefs, stories and how people celebrate Holi. Each class worked to create a piece of learning to reflect the day. Some of the Art included Holi paint t-shirts, cooking samosas, creating rangoli patterns and dancing. Year 2 and Year 4 children worked collaboratively to create a pattern raindrop which was hung from a decorative hoop. All Art was showcased in the dining hall for parents, staff and children to enjoy. Next year, we will be working collaboratively to celebrate the Islamic festival, Eid.



Lighting the hearts & minds of our community

## Reading

Visiting your local library is a great place to drop in and enjoy reading a book or two, as well as borrowing books to take home. Find your local library and sign up by clicking the link below:

[Libraries \(leicester.gov.uk\)](http://libraries.leicester.gov.uk)

Have you ever heard of Borrow Box?

Borrow Box is an app you can download on any device and borrow digital and audible books for free from the library. It is a great way to access books from home. Listening to audio books is a great way to encourage reading and enjoy stories.



[BorrowBox – Your library in one app](#)

Next term our Reading sessions will change to Tuesdays at 8:50am. We look forward to you joining us to support your child's reading in school.

## Dates for your diary

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	School opens
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Reading sessions begin 8:50
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Leicester Children's Holidays Colour Dash fundraising event.
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Bank Holiday – School closed
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Pre-school closed to children.
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday – School closed
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Coffee afternoon for parents and carers of looked after or adopted children. 1.30pm
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	School closes for half term
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	School opens

### Half term Highlights

We asked our children what they have enjoyed this half term!

#### Reception

"the giant climbing up the beanstalk in our story" Aila

"cutting out palm leaves to use in the Palm Sunday story" Ralph

"writing a different version of Jack and the Beanstalk" Bea

#### Year 1

"going on a litter pick" Talia

"making a moving windmill" Alex

"Learning basketball in PE" Teghy

#### Year 2

"learning about fractions in maths" Dylan

"all our maths and English work" Gabrielle

Thank you we  
raised £133 for  
Comic relief

## Museums and Galleries

During the Easter holidays our local museums and galleries are holding a variety of family friendly events. Many of these are either free or have a minimal charge. Check out their what's on page via the link below.

[Whats On – Leicester Museums](#)

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## Ofsted Action Plan

We continue to work hard on the areas of improvement identified by Ofsted and will continue to do so next half term. Please find below a brief action plan with the areas we have been working on recently.

Area for improvement	Action	Progress to date
Curriculum	All subjects to be clearly sequenced	All curriculum subjects have been clearly sequenced and we are in the process of finalising all documents. Teaching staff have met to review the timetable and curriculum coverage.
Phonics	Address inconsistencies in teaching. Improve attainment in Phonics	Our SLT have been visiting classes regularly to observe phonics and hear readers. Inconsistencies have been addressed and SLT are working with staff to ensure books are appropriately matched to the children's ability. Phonics screening checks have been carried out again and we are currently analysing results and will be informing parents about this after Easter. Phonics interventions have taken place consistently this half term.
SEND	Ensure all children with SEND have access to the curriculum through scaffold and additional resources.	Mrs Howard our SENDCo has been monitoring the planning for children with individual needs and has been supporting staff to create scaffolds. SLT have met with our pastoral team to identify the pastoral support some of our children need to access the curriculum. Our Nurture group Sunbeams has started this half term. Mrs Taylor and Mrs Smith have attended School Based Assessment training to help identify learning needs as early as possible.