



Markeaton

Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 14th February 2020



To all Parents/Carers,

Another half term flies by and suddenly we are fast approaching the season of Spring!

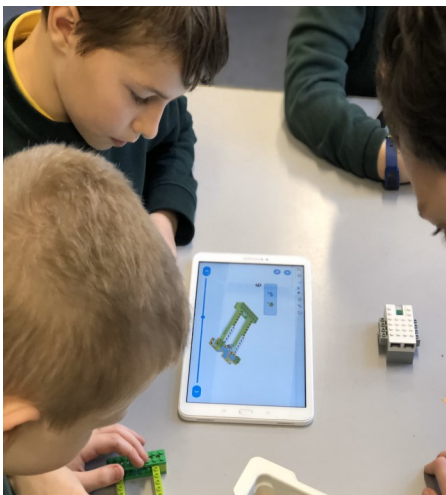
Definitely three of my favourite tweets from the last six weeks have been those on the left. Not many people forecast snow on Monday but it was a welcome addition to the day nonetheless. It's been a while since we have had any kind of blanket covering so going outside with the children was lots of fun (although I am not sure snow angels were the best idea!!). To be honest, as a child, when you see it snowing out of the classroom window it doesn't matter how amazing the lesson is, your attention has been compromised!

Some things just aren't on the curriculum timetable but, on occasions such as this, those are the types of experiences which live long in the memory. One child in Y6 actually said it was the 'best 20 minutes of her entire school life'! Sadly, I feel that is it in terms of snow for another year but you never know!



The middle tweet really encapsulates some of the great work which is going on in classrooms around Art, Tanzania and Technology. Using our recently purchased green screen, and under the expert stewardship of Mr Campbell, children in FS2 were able to showcase their traditional masks whilst taking a leisurely stroll through an African savannah! Tanzania Day, organised by Mrs Beddington, Miss Gaskin and Miss Hughes was a huge success and thank you to all the parents/carers who managed to get into the hall and share some of the work that had been going on throughout the day. I think a particular highlight was being able to watch a video of our three teachers delivering an English lesson at Living Hope Primary.

And the final tweet, taken in Y5, again highlights how we are moving forward with computing and technology. Here are three children using a coding app on our new tablets in order to control a Lego crane. It's a slow process, for one reason or another, but our provision and resources are gathering momentum.



And finally, Miss Hawley, who is leading on our Emotionally Healthy Schools Project, has recently sent out a short questionnaire about wellbeing for you to take a look at. It is very straightforward and shouldn't take you more than two minutes to complete. Once the information has been collated, Miss Hawley will then have an accurate baseline to work from. There's lots we do in school to support children's mental health but your feedback is really important if we are to keep improving.

Have a lovely half term,

Mr I. Johnson

Arts Week

Our Arts Week this year is taking place on the 15th – 17th July and the theme is 'The World Around Us'. Have you got a talent, a skill or a hobby you would be willing to share with us? Could you spare a few hours, or even a day, to help lead or support a session? If the answer is yes, please get in touch with Miss Gamble via admin@markeaton.derby.sch.uk

Thank you for your support.

Miss Gamble (Art Coordinator)



School Dinners

The cost of school dinners for half term Monday 24th February to Thursday 2nd April is **£63.80**. Payment can be made half termly or weekly and is due in advance.

Please refer to our School Dinners - Payment and Arrears Policy on our website.



May Bank Holidays

Just a reminder - The May bank holiday has changed this year to commemorate VE Day. This year May bank holidays will fall on Friday 8th May and Monday 25th May. For more term dates and holidays, please go to our website

[http://www.markeaton.derby.sch.uk/
Dates-For-Your-Diary](http://www.markeaton.derby.sch.uk/Dates-For-Your-Diary)

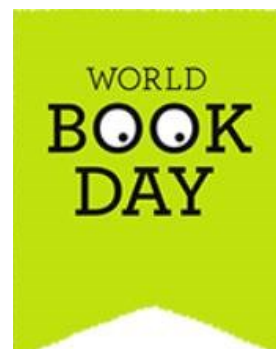
Parents Evenings

Parents Evenings will be held next half term between 9th—11th March. If you have not already booked your slot, please go to your Parentmail account to reserve.

World Book Day

This year World Book Day will be held on **Thursday 5th March**. To celebrate the occasion, we would like pupils to either dress up as their favourite book character **OR** wear a book (use Sharpie pens to cover a T-shirt on the back and front with drawings, quotes etc. to convey your favourite book).

If you would like more information regarding this event, please speak to your child's class teacher.



We are a Nut Free School!

Due to children who attend Markeaton Primary School that have a severe allergy to nuts, we kindly request that you do not send your child to school with nuts, or products containing nuts, for their snacks or in their packed lunches.

For some, contact with nuts could be life-threatening!

Thank you for your co-operation in making our school environment safe for all.

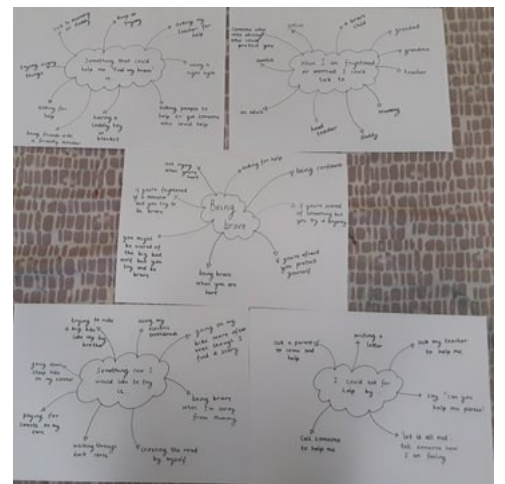


Highlights from this half term

A great start to 2020!

We've had Internet Day, Fire Safety talks for Year 2 and Year 6 by Derbyshire Fire and Rescue, Children's Mental Health Week as well as trips to Coventry Transport Museum for Years 1 and 2 and Cromford Mills for Years 5 and 6. Years 3 and 4 have created their own Viking villages, Year 1 have celebrated Chinese New Year and in Year 5 and 6, the children concluded their 'Derby at War' topic with a celebration of 'Evacuee Day' where we saw some creative costumes. We've even had a good covering of snow last week which meant the children could go outside and have lots of fun!





Why not follow us on Twitter [@Marketon Primary](https://twitter.com/MarketonPrimary) to view more of our fabulous activities and events throughout the school year.



Tanzania Day!



In our last newsletter (December 2019) we mentioned Mrs. Beddington, Miss Gaskin and Miss Hughes' visit to Living Hope Primary School, located just outside Morogoro in Tanzania. This is part of a British Council led initiative called 'Connecting Classrooms'. In the lead up to our Tanzanian friends visiting us here in the UK in May/June, we held a Tanzanian inspired day at school on 6th February. Children were invited to come to school dressed in the colours of the Tanzanian flag (black, blue, green and yellow). During the day they participated in various African themed workshops where they drummed, made African animal masks, wrote penpal letters and created their own African inspired artwork. Their work was showcased in our Parent Pop-In after school on 7th February—for those able to attend, we hope you enjoyed it!





Attention all parents!

Download the ParentMail App for the best way to pick up school messages

**FREE
DOWNLOAD**

"Nice simple little App but such a great, effective way of accessing important school information"



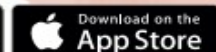
"Great communications tool - makes life a bit more organised"



"Brilliant! I don't have to go back to all my emails to check up what's going on at my children's school, 10 out of 10"



Search "ParentMail" in your App store...



Please note: If you are not already registered, you will need to register online on the ParentMail website before trying to access the App. Please ask the school office to send you a registration message

Problems receiving Parentmail emails?

We have recently been made aware of a problem whereby some parents are no longer receiving Parentmail emails in their normal email inbox; they have to log into Parentmail to view. We have raised this with Parentmail and this is their response:

We are aware of an issue with Outlook and Hotmail inboxes incorrectly classifying our emails as malicious or phishing. We have made contact with the provider directly to rectify this false message and are treating it as a high priority. An update will follow once we have been able to resolve the problem.

Please try this guide on whitelisting the email address for ParentMail (info@parentmail.co.uk) and see if this resolves the matter. It should force the emails into the inbox rather than an alternative folder.

<https://help.parentmail.co.uk/faqs/how-to-whitelist-or-add-email-addresses-to-your-safe-sender-list>

YMCA Wrap-Around-Care

Based at Markeaton Primary School

In partnership with Markeaton Primary School we provide a safe and friendly environment for your child that provides lots of exciting activities before and after school, including: problem solving, arts and crafts, a range of sports, help with homework and much more. Our wide range of activities will support children's natural stages of development and interests alongside ensuring healthy and nutritious food is provided.

We support daily routines to enable children to become alert and ready for the school day and then offer time for homework and fun and games after the school day so children go home relaxed.

The Breakfast Club includes a nutritious breakfast and the After School Club includes a nutritious tea.

To book your place, please visit:

<http://ymcaderbyshire.org.uk/about/what-we-do/family-work/markeaton-primary-school/>



You can now follow us on Twitter at https://twitter.com/YMCAD_YKidz



**YMCA Holiday Club will be running from Monday 17th—Friday 21st February.
To book your place go to:**

<https://ymcaderbyshire.org.uk/y-kidz/markeaton-primary-school/activity-club/>