

Paternoster School **News**

July 2023

Paternoster pupils have done us proud Have a go attitude is fantastic

As another school year draws to an end, I look back with enormous pride at what the pupils and staff of Paternoster have achieved. Our older pupils have shown maturity and commitment in completing work experience projects, Duke of Edinburgh Awards and in mastering a raft of new skills including blacksmithing and woodwork. Our younger pupils have shown enthusiasm and flexibility in trying out a range of new opportunities - everything from Rugby Tots, to sailing and taking part in music performances. I am also so proud of the way our pupils have conducted themselves on whole school trips and during whole school events. We were lucky enough to take 92 parents, pupils and staff to Legoland, where everyone had a great – if exhausting – time! We also took part in the Academy-wide trip to Cattle Country.

I would like to say a massive thank you to our parents who again have shown us wholehearted support. We recently held a really well attended school fete, which was a huge success despite the best efforts of the stormy weather. We raised a fantastic £1300 on the day. It was also lovely to see so many parents at Sports Day. Having this kind of commitment to our activities makes a real difference to our school community.

This leads me on to thank the Friends of Paternoster School for all their hard work over the course of the year. Thanks to them our pupils enjoyed two visits from outside theatre companies which the children absolutely loved. The children also got the chance to take part in drama workshops after the performances. FOPS have also given a donation towards a new people carrier for the school which the Pied Piper charity have said they will fund.

FOPS have also funded our school prom, our celebration for the pupils leaving us at the end of year. This year we have 11 pupils leaving us and moving on to a range of colleges and post-16 units. Some of those pupils have been with us since they were small children and it will be very strange not to have them around next September. However, I feel confident that their time at



Our day out at Legoland was a huge hit. Children from Beech and Chestnut classes loved the Ninjago area.

Paternoster has provided them with the skills and confidence to move on to the next stage of their lives successfully. Good luck to all of them.

We have lots of new pupils coming to us in September, and they have had successful transition days with their new classes. It's been a delight to have them in and to see them already begin to blossom in their new environment.

Our parent support worker Sheryl has been supporting the families with their transition and the hard work she puts in to helping all of our families is invaluable. Again this year she has helped co-ordinate our Parent Voice forum, and has organised Stay and Play sessions during school holidays. There are sessions during the summer holiday and if you haven't already signed up please contact the school office.

Finally I would like to give a massive vote of thanks to the staff at Paternoster. Their creativity, hard work and willingness to go the extra mile make Paternoster a very special place indeed. We say goodbye this year to our learning partner Tori and teachers Joe and Cath, who is retiring. I hope you have a restful summer holiday and I look forward to welcoming the children back on September 6th for another exciting year.

Jennie

News from Elm Class

In Elm class, we enjoyed making cakes for the King's Coronation. All the children sat well and were offered a choice of colour for their cake. I think our favourite part was eating the cakes...

The children have also loved their Rugby Tots sessions. They enjoyed going underneath the parachute and feeling the air on their faces.

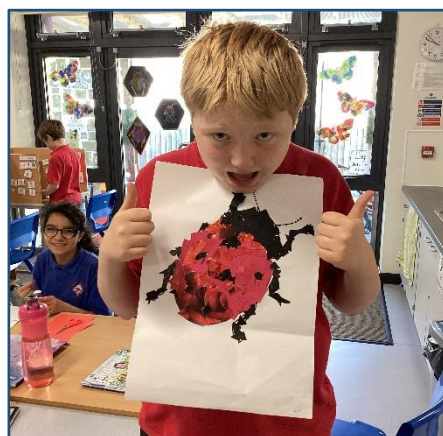


News from Pine Class

This term Pine Class have been very busy with school trips, we have been lucky enough to go to Legoland, Cattle Country, the Willowboat (far right) and Bournstream. Pine Class have liked going on many mini beast hunts around school as well as at Forest School (right). It's been a great term for exploring our environment and keeping it clean.



News from Beech Class



This term Beech class have been developing their art skills. We have used the topic to explore a wide range of minibeasts, observing the different colours and textures. We have studied the techniques of illustrators such as Eric Carle, and used this as inspiration.

News from Chestnut Class

Chestnut Class had a great time sailing at Whitefriars. The children tried steering with the rudder and setting the jib sail. In our science lessons this term, we have enjoyed searching for different microhabitats around the school grounds and using our observational skills to describe the variety of minibeasts there. We have also made our own 'Bug Hotels'.



News from Ash Class

In Ash Class we have been thinking about the value of shared experiences this term and so have enjoyed group activities such as toasting marshmallows together. We also had a great time on our canal trip on the Willowboat. Harry loved having the chance to steer the boat and he didn't crash once!



News from Willow Class



Willow class have been loving their sessions with the parachute, which allows them to come together as a group, sharing focus and following instructions and getting used to moving along to music. The class have also been making lots of art related to their story of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Here (left) Braxton is collaging a beautiful butterfly.

News from Maple Class

Maple Class have had a busy term, starting off with our Macaroni Wood residential. We have also had lots of fun continuing our work experience there. We have loved trips to Cattle Country and Legoland (far right). We have also prepared for our next adventure as many of us are moving on this year.



News from Oak Class

Oak class enjoyed a class trip to Westonbirt Arboretum. They explored the woods and admired the views from the tree top walkway! The class also enjoyed a visit from Reel Education where they learned fishing techniques. Two pupils had a brilliant time on a blacksmithing course run by the Ernest Cook Trust. They learnt lots of new skills, including how to forge and hammer iron.



Award scheme takes off

Paternoster pupils achieve Duke of Edinburgh's awards

This is the first year that Paternoster School has been a Licenced Organisation for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. As part of this, Headteacher Jennie Laird and Fiona Mitchell who runs the scheme were invited to Buckingham Palace to attend the Gold Award Ceremony. They had a lovely afternoon drinking tea and eating cake while exploring the Palace Gardens. Jennie also managed to do a video call direct to the school assembly while they were there!

This year, seven students have completed three out of the four sections involved with the Bronze Award. Several more students have



Bethany (above) learned puppet making as part of the DofE skills award, Oscar (bottom left) improved his woodworking skills. Jennie was invited to the Palace!



been enrolled and are working towards achieving their Physical, Skill and Volunteering awards. We are looking to run an expedition next summer to enable all of our enrolled students to complete their Duke of Edinburgh Award. If any parents have experience of the DofE Award and would like to help our pupils, we'd be very grateful if you could let us know!



Music comes alive

Pupils experience performance



Seven of our pupils took part in this year's Singing Festival at the Bacon Theatre along with schools from across the county. Children have also enjoyed live music in school from The Carducci Quartet and Filkin's Drift (above).

Paternoster gets physical

Sports day is loads of fun

Pupils had a great day at our school sports day on July 12th. Classes took part in a wide range of activities organised for us by DLK Inclusion Sports. Pictured are Chestnut Class battling it out in a hockey race.

