

A Message From Miss Stevens

We have had a brilliant half term, developing the children's curiosities and investigational skills. The Buttercups began their adventure by exploring the season 'winter'. The children enjoyed going on a winter walk and discovering the effects of the cold weather, making comparisons to other seasons. They noticed that the water on the trees and ground had frozen and so we investigated the process of melting and freezing. As the Buttercups moved through the topic they learnt about the UK and the values we follow in Britain. The children then branched out and began learning about China, Africa and Antarctica. We enjoyed comparing the differences in weather, landscapes and animals. Did you know that Antarctica is a desert just like some parts of Africa?

Throughout this topic we also learnt to retell two stories, using the talk for writing approach. We started with Mr Gumpy's Outing, focusing on the story language; once upon a time, next, then and after that. The Buttercup's then moved on to Handa's Surprise. This time the children were encouraged to use descriptive language when describing the animals, such as the stripy zebra. The children enjoyed creating their own stories and even had a go at writing them down.

In maths we have been focusing on measure. The Buttercups have been learning how to measure height, weight and length using non-standard units. Throughout these lessons the children were encouraged to use key vocabulary such as; short, shorter, shortest. We also focused on numerical patterns and the relationships within numbers.

It has been a very busy term and we are so excited to explore our next topic 'How Does your Garden Grow?'

Dates for the Diary

Date	Event	Information
28.2.2022	INSET	Training day for staff. No school.
1.3.2022	Term 4 Starts	Please ensure pupils come to school with their half term reading logged and all reading books.
3.3.2022	World Book Day	Pupils to dress up in their favourite book character costume. It is always nice when pupils bring in a copy of the book that their character is from [but not essential].
7.3.2020	Forest School Day	To ensure that pupils have warm clothes [leggings / jumpers / coat] and wellington boots in school in addition to their school uniform.
30.3.2022	Forest School Day	As above.
6.3.2022	Easter Celebration 2.15 – 3.00pm Chellaston Fields Hall	An opportunity to invite parents into school for an EVOLVE assembly and to share some Easter fun.
8.4.2022	Break up for Easter	
25.4.2022	Term 5 Starts [Summer Term]	

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Our topic this half term is How Does Your Garden Grow. More information about our topic can be found on the website.

Clover Leys School Website

We hope that you use our Twitter Page to look at pictures of some of the activities in which the children have participated. We also have a curriculum page, digital copies of our newsletters and policies on our school website.

www.cloverleysspencer.com

Twitter: @LeysClover

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Clover Leys Building Update

Derbyshire County Council is very conscious of the anxiety and concern caused by the delay of the new school but is working hard to overcome the unprecedented difficulties. To explain the background to the site, the school was originally planned to be located within the phase 1 development site but was moved to its perimeter. Persimmon owns the school land but does not own the access to that site so the council has been working with both Persimmon and the second land owner to procure the site and the access agreements to allow the school to be built. This process has taken significantly longer than was expected.

In early 2021, a further difficulty arose concerning a small section of land at the top of the school site. Various options were discussed with the two landowners but the only solution was to make an alteration to the site through a legal amendment to the developer agreement. That work is in hand and hopefully it will remove the final block on the development.

The change will not adversely affect the facilities on the new school site. The council is pleased to say that new planning permission was approved just before Christmas. The school is designed and the contractor is on standby to start as soon as the legal ownership and access issues are resolved. The build will take approximately 12 months so it is more likely to open in September 2023.

The council appreciates how disappointing this will be for the children and families but it remains committed to building the new school and there is total confidence in Spencer Academies Trust to deliver the high-quality education you seek for your children. Chellaston Fields Spencer Academy is a new purpose built school and additional facilities are planned to help with the additional pupils from Clover Leys Spencer Academy that will attend the school on a temporary basis.

Derbyshire County Council

