



Engage Develop Aspire Communicate
Our vision
Working towards successful futures

Principal's message to families – 14 June 2024

Next weeks Lower school word of the week is - [colourful](#)

The Upper school word of the week is – [complete](#)

[Better late than never!!](#)

Pupils from KS2 and KS3 had an absolute blast at the **Notts SEND School Games** last Monday at the University of Nottingham! They dived into exciting sports activities like archery, martial arts, and fitness workouts. The highlight was a thrilling workshop with a BMX world champion racer, who wowed everyone with his medals and an inspiring story of resilience and determination. The event was nothing short of amazing, and every pupil can't wait to go back next year. Plus, they were treated to a delicious free breakfast and got to rock a cool hoodie. We're already counting down the days until this becomes a staple in our annual sports trips!

The Alpaca trip was an amazing experience for the 15 students and 10 staff that attended.

The primary 1 students were paired with some of our older students which gave them some responsibility, throughout the different activities.

One of our SLTs said "the trip was an excellent experience for all ages and offered the children many opportunities for communication with a range of peers and adults."

One of our TAs said, "the alpacas gave a calming effect to our student's and found a sense of peace."

Primary 1 have already asked when they can go again! (And when we can have some alpacas of our own!!!)

This is what the children said about the trip;

"I loved the sheep because they were cute".

"I liked the alpacas because they were fun".

"I enjoyed walking the alpacas".

It's hard to believe that all the students could sit for a whole hour and just relax



Alton Towers trip (self-funded through an enterprise project)

Highlights from Ms Ward and Thomas (leaving this year)

"We had a lovely day, with great weather as the rain held off! It was great to get to see Thomas thrive on a trip he raised money for and helped to organise himself. He also used some of the great independence skills he has developed over the past few years, and I think it is a great celebration to end his time at Dawn House"

Thomas really enjoyed all the rides but especially 'Oblivion' (which he requested to go on 5 times - we only managed 2!) and 'Thirteen' as he enjoyed the drop!

Volunteer It Yourself project

Students from Sixth form and Chimes have been working on a Volunteer It Yourself project based at the Social Action Hub in Rainworth. They have helped to create a forest schools' area, put up a shed, painted fences and created benches. The students involved were a credit to the school and achieved City and Guilds qualifications in carpentry and health and safety. **Congratulations!**

Makaton Choir Event

We started off our school 50th Birthday Celebration with a Makaton Choir Event on Tuesday. We had 6 Primary schools attend with a total of 190 visitors. The pupils all sang and signed different songs.

We also achieved our '**Makaton Aware Award**' this week. This identifies us as a provision that recognises the need for Makaton and a setting that can use it to support our pupils. Our next step as a school is to achieve the 'Makaton Friendly Award' and we will send out some more information about this over the next half term.

Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy Survey

If you haven't already, could you please spare a few moments to fill in this parent/carer questionnaire to help us to inform our future training and drop in sessions. Thank you so much. Deadline is midnight - Friday 14th June 2024. <https://app.bouncetogether.co.uk/shrt/6V0SMGKIDX>

This week we look forward to welcoming some of the Speech and Language UK Trustees to have a look at all the changes we have made at Dawn House School, meet with pupils and staff and join some lessons. We look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday!

Have a good week everyone,
Jenny

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If your child leaves home in the morning a little unsettled and you want to quickly tell us, so we know to expect a tricky start to the day, a quick email (that we can follow up later) to the tutor and/or core team with **'Handle with Care'** in the email title will ensure that we are aware.