



The Grove School Newsletter

Wonder – Explore - Grow

Newsletter 1st March 2019

Issue 7/2018-19

Headteacher: Ms K Martin

Deputy Headteacher: Miss H Owen

Key Diary Dates

Spring 2

MARCH

4th Mar – 8th Mar Reading and Writing Week including World Book Day.

7th Mar - World Book Day including dressing up as a book character

8th Mar - Year 5 trip Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology

13th Mar - Reading Cafe 8.45 – 9am

15th Mar – PTFA School Disco

21st Mar – Reception Class trip to Shepreth Wildlife Park

27th & 28th Mar – Mother's Day Lunch

29th Mar – Year 1 trip to Mountfitchet

APRIL

3rd APRIL - Reading Cafe 8.45 – 9am

5th April Easter Celebration led by Y3/4 to parents at 2pm

5th April – School Closes at 3.15pm for the Easter Holidays

Easter Holidays

8th April – 22nd April

23rd April School reopens to pupils

23rd April St Georges Day Lunch

MAY

6th May - School closed (May Day Bank Holiday)

7th May – School reopens to pupils

24th May – School closes at 3.15pm for half term

JUNE

3rd June – Inset Day

4th June – School reopens to pupils

JULY

24th July – School Closes at 2.15pm for the summer holidays

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope everyone enjoyed their half term break and took advantage of the unseasonably warm weather. For me, it was lovely to be able to spend time in the garden, enjoy reading a few new children's novels and get out walking in the sunshine.

The children have settled back well to their learning. We are fortunate to have many links with the University Colleges and already Year 6 have visited the Zoology Museum, Year 3/4 have worked with scientists from the university and next week Year 5 are off to the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. We are so lucky to have these facilities on our doorstep and they help our children to develop an even deeper understanding of the curriculum.

There has been lots of discussion nationally on social media about World Book Day and dressing up as book characters. Our children seem to enjoy this aspect of our Reading and Writing Week and it gives us an additional opportunity to talk about books with them. Remember costumes don't need to be complicated or expensive, there are many school children found in children's novels. For example Matilda, Charlie and James are in Roald Dahl books, Percy Jackson and Tom from Tom's Midnight Garden to name just a few.

Teachers are constantly keeping themselves up to date with current children's literature so that we can recommend books to our children. My goal, which I will be launching with the children as part of World Book Day, is to read a children's novel each fortnight. **Can you set a challenge for you and your family in relation to reading and build in regular time to talk about reading?** My current book is *The Boy at The Back of the Classroom*.

Kind regards,

Ms Karen Martin, Headteacher



Attachments

- Mother's Day Lunch menus
- That's Non-Sense – Science Festival flyer
- Reading Gladiator Poem
- E-safety Letter

Our Value for this Half Term is **HONESTY**



**TO MAKE YOUR CHILDREN
CAPABLE OF HONESTY IS THE
BEGINNING OF EDUCATION**

JOHN RUSKIN

Respect is
earned.
Honesty is
appreciated.
Trust is
gained.
Loyalty is
returned.

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Reading and Writing Week



There are lots of enjoyable and exciting reading and writing activities taking place next week. Each year group will be focusing on a beautifully illustrated picture book, thinking about the narratives, examining the images and pictures by making inferences and making predictions, using our skills from Guided Reading sessions. *(Do take a look at the 'Reading' – 'Curriculum' tab on our school website, for more information on reading skills such as these!).*

All children will be participating in various Reading-for-Pleasure activities, including 'book blether', Mystery Readers visiting classes and 'D.E.A.R. Time' (Drop Everything and Read).

There will be a number of opportunities through the week, for the children to buddy-up with their peers to discuss their favourite reading materials in the B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Book), so please encourage child to bring in what they love reading at home, to share with their class and teacher.

The Grove's Book Aid International donation for Christmas



Following the amazing response from the generous parents and carers at The Grove, we are now able to share where and to whom the children's suggested books have been sent to. Please see the attached letter, sent to us, directly from the Book Aid International charity.

Don't forget Wellington Boots!



Even though the weather is unseasonably warm at the moment, unfortunately I am sure that more rain will be on its way before the end of winter! If your child has a pair of wellington boots in school they are able to play on the field during break and lunchtimes.



Do you have any Board Games that your children have outgrown?

As a school we want to replenish our wet play games. Do you have any cluttering up your house that your children no longer play?

If yes, would you be willing to donate them to our school. We can make good use of them for lunchtimes and playtimes. Please bring any donations to the office.

Thank you in advance

School Meals

**Year 3 – 6 meals cost
£2.25 per day**

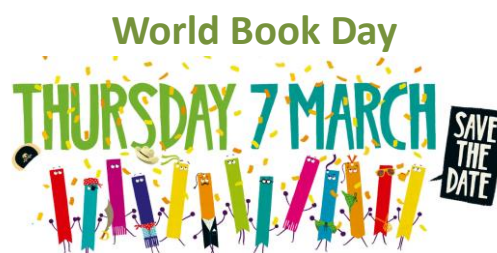
Reception and Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a universal free school meal.

Children can have soup as well as a main course.

There is always a vegetarian option available along with pasta/jacket potato followed by a dessert

Fruit, yoghurt and cheese and biscuits are available each day.

Please encourage your child to try one of our delicious lunches



World Book Day is a celebration! It's a celebration of authors, illustrators, books and (most importantly) it's a celebration of reading. In fact, it's the biggest celebration of its kind, designated by UNESCO as a worldwide celebration of books and reading, and marked in over 100 countries all over the world. The main aim of World Book Day in the UK and Ireland is to encourage children to explore the pleasures of books and reading by providing them with the opportunity to have a book of their own. Thanks to the generosity of National Book Tokens Ltd, publishers and booksellers, every child will receive a book voucher. They can take their voucher to a local bookseller and can use it to get £1 off any book or audio book costing over £2.99 at a participating bookshop or book club (terms and conditions apply).

On the day children can dress up as a well-known character from a book or magazine they have read. The children will be taking part in a fashion show, to celebrate their favourite characters and their favourite books within our community of readers. We look forward to seeing their marvellous costumes on Thursday.

Mother's Day Lunch Wednesday, 27th and Thursday, 28th March



Come along and enjoy a Mother's Day lunch with your child. This year the lunch is over two days and you can choose which day you would like to come.

The menu for both days is attached, please log into your Agora online payment account to book your meal. Your adult meal will cost £2.80 and if your child does not normally have a school meal you will also need to book their meal.

We look forward to seeing you.

Attendance

We are very pleased that some of our classes are very close to completing their Mr Potato Heads which in turn will entitle their class to a 'class prize'.

Our whole school attendance is currently **95.2%**. Our target is 96%.

We are hoping that now the warmer weather is on it's way we will have seen the end of the winter bugs! Regular attendance is very important for a child's education – don't forget classroom doors open at 8.45am.

That's nonsense!

The surprising science of our senses

Thursday, 7th March - 3.45PM - 4.45PM

At The Church of the Good Shepherd



Think you see with your eyes and taste with your tongue? Prepare to be amazed and confused as Ginny Smith takes you on a tour of your own brain! Then get stuck in and make your own illusion toy to take home.

FREE, EVERYONE WELCOME!

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Find out more by visiting www.sciencefestival.cam.ac.uk



Reading Gladiators

We would like to say a huge congratulations to the Year Four Reading Gladiators who have been awarded first place in a national competition. After reading a collection of poems by Brian Moses, they were asked to choose their favourite 8 poems, explain the reasons for their choices and present the poems in a creative way. The Reading Gladiators should be commended for their hard work and collaboration when working on their competition piece. The children received a prize of two beautiful hardback poetry collections for the school, A Poem for Every Day of the Year and A Poem for Every Night of the Year.

Each month we are aiming to say thank you to people who are supporting our school in a variety of ways. This month we want to say a big thank you to



Natasha Sanalitro, Margaret Winchcomb, Jody Symonds and Caroline Wilderspin, Elizabeth Cook are parent and staff volunteers who come in regularly every week to read with children across different year groups. Children always look forward to these sessions and their confidence with reading is developing well and helping them with all aspects of their learning at school.