

Newsletter #18 - Lent Term

Dear Parents,

This half term has certainly been a busy and active learning week to say the least. We are also pleased to welcome two families to school this week the Parker and Mills family. I hope you will all make them feel very welcome over the next few weeks.

Lily has joined Y4 this week and we look forward to seeing Ophelia in Reception, Hugo in Y3 and Freya in Y5, on Monday.

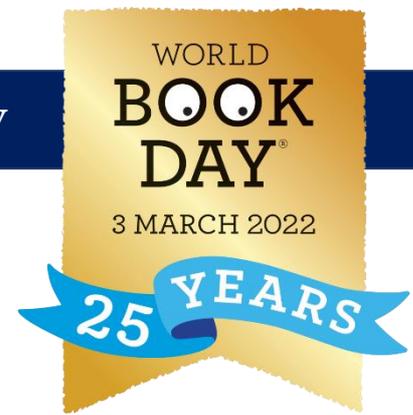
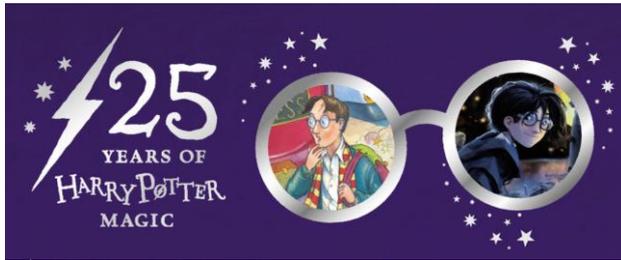
This week has seen a visit from some lambs, there have been mini rainforests being created, drones have been flying around school, twister has been played, a class visit to Walby Farm Park and so much more. It certainly has been a diverse and full week. <https://www.walbyfarmpark.co.uk/>



As we turn our heads to next week we have World Book Day on Thursday. I hope dressing up as a book character does not prove to be too challenging and we look forward to an exciting day of events. Some of our children are also competing in bowling against other schools which should prove to be interesting and fun.



World Book Day – Dress Up Day, Thursday



Dress Up

On this day all of our children dress up as a book character. We will be hosting a Reading Café in the school Hall, taking part in the Mystery Reader, asking the children to talk about their character and the school kitchen are having a special Harry Potter themed meal.

Competition:

This year coincides with the 25th anniversary of Harry Potter and you can enter a competition to win a chance to go to Warner Brother Studios for your family. Please follow the link below and enter. The prize includes travel expenses, 3 nights in a hotel in London, £500 spending money and of course some Harry Potter book goodies.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/harrypotter/>

We will also be distributing Book tokens on the day. There will also be some additional amazon vouchers given out on the day too.

Live online Events:

World Book Day Live are also offering events which will be recorded and available including Matilda and Friends – Live streamed from the Cambridge Theatre (11:00am) (Mon 28th Feb) and authors will be providing an insight into 'Using your Imagination' at 10:00am on the day.

Hopefully, once again we can continue to use this day to inspire our children to read for pleasure.

Two facts about reading:

- Reading for pleasure is more important for children's cognitive development than their parents' level of education and is a more powerful factor in life achievement than socio-economic background. 16-year-olds who choose to read books for pleasure outside of school are more likely to secure managerial or professional jobs in later life.
- Children who read books often at age 10 and more than once a week at age 16 gain higher results in maths, vocabulary and spelling tests at age 16 than those who read less regularly.

Honesty



Trust



Responsibility



Perseverance



Respect

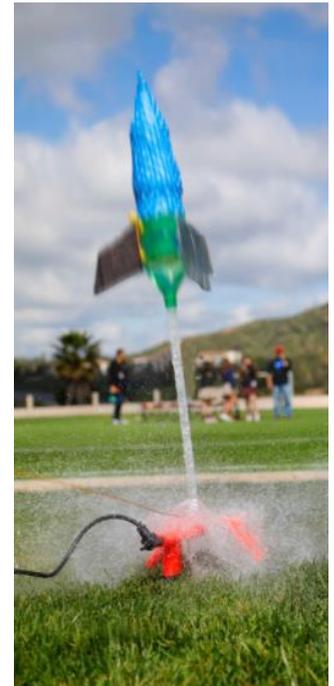


World Science Week 14th March

We are getting ready for Mission to Mars Day on Monday 14th March. Mrs Gates has requested the following to help with the many experiments the children will be taking part in on the day.

We will be running a school rocket investigation and it would be brilliant if you could bring the following in:

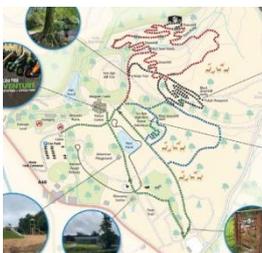
- **Nursery / Reception - variety of different plastic bottles of different shapes and sizes (one per child is plenty!)**
- **Year 1/2 - Cardboard kitchen/toilet roll tubes**
- **Year 3/4 - Small bottles with sports tops (such as fruit shoot bottles)**
- **Year 5/6 - Variety of larger bottles - 2 litre ones would be perfect (or if anyone happens to have a larger one?!) but some 500ml too if possible.**



Dressing up AGAIN.

March is one of those months, where we end up dressing up a few times at school to inspire our children. You may remember, we also dress up on this Science Day too. Children are asked to come into school as their favourite scientist. – Hopefully, they will be inspired by the many, good scientific role models in the world!

Maps – Thank you



Thank you so much for the wonderful maps collected and brought into school from your half term breaks. If you have any more, please do collect them throughout the year, we are keen to gather a range of maps to help our children become fluent in reading a range of maps.

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Board Game Request

Mrs Hackett (Y2 Class Teacher) is making a special request. She is hoping to set up a board games club for the children. If you have any board games (with all of the pieces) which are Y2 appropriate, we would love any donations. Sometimes, in having a clear out, families find the odd game that they don't use anymore.

The infants are hoping to set up this club and any additional board games would be very much appreciated.



Parent/Teacher Consultations

Next Week, you will receive a link to book your appointments for an online parent teacher consultation in the **week beginning March 14th**. Currently, we ask you to make an online appointment which will go live very soon. These are 10 minute per child appointments. Please note, it is important to look out for these as it works on a first come first served basis.

Nursery staff will make a separate arrangement for Nursery families.

Friday April 1st Parent Invitation

As we emerge from the pandemic, we are going to invite parents to come into school on the last day of this term. After we have handed over the children at 1:00pm on April 1st, parents can choose to come into school and look at the children's work between 1:00pm-2:00pm. This will be a chance to sit with your child for a little while and have a look at their work.

After which, teachers will be in a meeting and school will be closed to parents and children.

We hope you can make this event. Normally, we end term at 1:00pm however we feel this will be a ideal opportunity to welcome you all into school and share in the children's learning.

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