



# Headteacher Newsletter

*Believe in yourself, Value others, Be proud of your achievements, Smile, Shine, Be happy.*



With only a short few weeks of this half term, we make our way into March quickly after the return from our breaks away.

We hope that you all had a wonderful half term break with your families and friends. I have heard lots of exciting trips have taken place during the week and some special memories made.

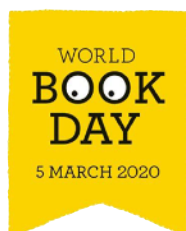
Along those lines can I say a huge well done to Lottie for her amazing effort for the Little Princess Trust having her hair cut and donated to make wigs. She also managed to raise an amazing £400 to go towards the cost of making it. Fantastic achievement, we are all very proud of you.



And secondly to Ema, for achieving a medal whilst away on her second round of skiing for the year! Way to go Ema!! Another fantastic achievement well done :)

As we came back from half term there was a lot of talk, and still is, about the Coronavirus which first originated from the Hubei province in China and has now began to sweep across the globe. As a school we take information received from the Local Authority and Health officials very seriously and continue to monitor the situation. The advice to schools is to continue to keep up high levels of hygiene in school and monitor pupil and staff closely for any symptoms. We have taken extra precautions but are confident that at the moment there are no confirmed cases in our local area of the Coronavirus. Currently in the UK there have been 7,690 tested and of those only 15 which have tested positive for the virus. We understand that some parents are very concerned about this virus and will continue to take active measures in safeguarding our pupils. The risk to the UK remains low and will be monitored closely. Any new information that we receive will be posted on our Class Dojo pages.

This week we have celebrated Pancake Day and held assemblies across the school. Did you have pancakes at home for your breakfast or tea? What are your favourite flavours? I absolutely love pancakes :) but we mustn't forget the meaning behind pancake day itself. Please ask your child to tell you all about what they learnt in assembly.



As we move into March, we have lots planned in just over four weeks. As you will all know, very soon we have World Book Day where the children can dress up as their favourite book character. Can you guess who the staff will come as? The day will be filled with lots of reading activities and the promotion of books throughout the curriculum. Alongside this we have our 'book swap' initiative. This is where children can bring in a book that they have read and loved at home and can exchange it for a different book. All the books will be collected in the morning and children will receive a token to use to swap for a different book in the afternoon to take home and keep. We hope this will enable lots of children to share and explore a range of stories they haven't come across before.



Not long after this event, we will be taking part in Sport Relief Week. This years theme is 'It's Game On.' Throughout this week we will be taking part in lots of different physical challenges and will end the week with a non-uniform day - wear your a sports kit - to raise money for this wonderful charity. Since 2018 Sports Relief has supported an incredible 13m people across the UK and around the world. A few examples of the work it has done includes improving mental health support, ensuring people have safe places to sleep, helping children to survive and thrive in Africa and Asia. The Sports Champion Pupils are asking for £2 to be donated for wearing your favourite sports kit with £1 going directly to Sports Relief and the second £1 going to school to purchase an elite athlete to come into school for a whole day to work with the children running workshops. Please help us by supporting this day organised by the pupils :)



For the rest of this term we have our run up to Easter with all the usual Easter fun, both Year 3 and 4 have their residential visits, the NSPCC visit upper KS2, Year 2 present their Mothers Day Assembly, Reception classes visit Sacrewell Farm and we end our term with Parents Evenings on the final three days of term. Letters will be sent out accordingly regarding these visits and evenings.

In the last newsletter I mentioned our new appointment Mrs Kapler who will be joining us to teach in Year 5 from April. Alongside this appointment we have also appointed three additional experienced teachers in preparation for September. we are very excited and happy to announce that Miss Newns, Mrs Ashton and Miss Jones will all be joining us and we look forward to welcoming them in the Summer term when they come for their Induction and Move Up Days.

## Maths all around us

In our last newsletter we talked all about reading and vocabulary development. Linking in with this, since September 2018, we complete Power Maths which focuses on vocabulary, discussion and embedding a range of strategies to support learning. This is all linked in to the mastery approach to teaching.

Each lesson of Power Maths begins with a picture displaying a real life situation for children to discuss. The children spend time exploring the picture and picking out the different methods they might choose to help them solve a particular question or even make up some of their own.

Mathematics is such an important subject as it relates to many every day activities such as reading the time, doing the shopping or driving a car. Supporting your child with different elements of maths can help promote the importance of this subject. Find out what focus your child is looking at in maths and then use some of these handy tips to support further development at home:

Number and calculations: how many red cars can you spot on the journey? How many spoons have we got in the draw? What if I take 2 away? Can you read all the numbers on the remote control? How many teddies have you got? Can you line them up in twos? How many sets of 2 do you have? So 2 lots of \_\_\_ is \_\_\_.

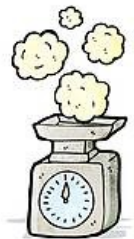


Fractions: cutting up a cake into halves/quarters, sharing smarties between siblings - how many does everyone have? Is it equal?

Money: calculating the shopping list, looking at take away menus and working out the change, paying at the till in notes and coins, looking at the coins in their piggy banks - how much have they got?



Measures: can you measure your hand or foot? Can you measure something using your hands? Where would we need to start? Can you weigh out the ingredients for a cake? Can you tell me what the temperature it is outside?



Shape: what shapes can you spot at home? What about when you are on a car journey or walk to the park? Can you find any different angles? What about right angles (90 degree angle)?

## BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH



Dominiq, Joshua, Grace, Archie, Harry, Mason, Kaike, Nyla, Isla, Jack, Levi, Alex, Alisha, Szymon, Pavel, Chloe-Louise, Amelia, Katelyn, Mariss, Aaron, Michal, Madison, Amelia, Ethan, Cailin, Kian, Paige, Cady, Katelyn, Danielius, Amelia-Rose, Poppy, Ruby, Mylee, Lillijana, Ousman, Courtney, Marco, Aleksander, Sophie, Isla, Nihaal, erin-Mae, Caysee, Amelia, Alexandra, Tyger Rei, Finley, Poppy, Anaya, Oliver, Liam, Alise, Archie, Kaiden, Rocco, Luca, Emilia, Massimo, Zara, Alfie, Lewis, Emma and Alex.

Happy birthday everyone!

## Portion sizes - how much food should my child be eating?

A question that we get asked quite a bit is, how much food should I be feeding my child. The answer isn't always clear but here is a handy guide to help you. So depending on the size/age of your child, look at their hands and use this guide to help you. For any meal children should have approximately:

- a small fist-sized serving of carbohydrates such as pasta or bread
- a full fist-sized portion of vegetables
- a palm sized amount of meat or fish
- a handful of fruit or berries
- a small handful of nuts
- a thumb-sized serving of peanut
- no more than a fingertip of fats such as butter/ margarine
- about two fingers worth of cheese

Hands-On Nutrition for Kids!

A thumb-sized serving of peanut butter.

No more than a fingertip of butter.

A small fist-sized serving of carbohydrates such as grains or pastas.

About two fingers worth of cheese.

A fist-sized serving of veggies!

A palm-sized amount of meat or fish.

A small handful of nuts.

A handful of fruit or berries.



## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### March 2020

Monday 2nd - Y5/6 Swimming Gala  
 Thursday 5th - World Book Day  
 Thursday 5th - PTA Meeting  
 WB Monday 9th - Sports Relief Week  
 Wednesday 11th - Governors in School Day followed by FGB Meeting  
 Wednesday 11th - Friday 13th - Y3 Aylmerton Residential  
 Tuesday 17th - Y1 to Dinosaur Park  
 Wednesday 18th - Y3/4 Gymnastics Competition  
 Wednesday 18th - London 2021 Parents Meeting  
 Monday 23rd/Tues 24th - Early Years classes to Sacrewell Farm  
 Wednesday 25th - Friday 27th - Y4 Horstead Residential  
 Wednesday 25th - Aylmerton Feedback meeting for parents  
 Friday 27th - Inclusion Cafe  
 Monday 30th - YR+Y1 Easter service  
 Monday 30th - Wednesday 1st - Parents Evenings  
 Tuesday 31st - a special visitor bounces into school 🐰  
 Tuesday 31st - Y2+Y3 Easter service

### April 2020

Wednesday 1st Y4-6 Easter service  
 End of Spring Term  
 Thursday 2nd - Friday 3rd - Staff Professional Development Days  
 Monday 20th - Summer Term begins  
 Tuesday 21st - Y4 to Peterborough Museum  
 Tuesday 21st - Easter BINGO  
 Wednesday 22nd - Horstead Feedback meeting for parents  
 Wednesday 22nd - Aylmerton Residential meeting 2021 (current Y2)  
 Wednesday 29th - Y3 Ancient Greek Day  
 Wednesday 29th - Horstead Residential meeting 2021 (current Y3)  
 Thursday 30th - Y2 Coronation workshops in school

### May 2020

Friday 1st - Parent Rep Meeting  
 Tuesday 5th - Thursday 7th - Y5 London Residential  
 Wednesday 6th - May Day Festival  
 Thursday 7th - PTA Meeting  
 Friday 8th - May Day Bank Holiday  
 Monday 11th - Y6 SAT's Week  
 Wednesday 13th - London residential feedback meeting for parents  
 Wednesday 13th - Full Governing Body Meeting

## PARENT'S COMMENTS TO THE HEAD

As always we really value your opinions about our school. Please add your comments here for the Headteacher. You can return them in the 'Comments Box' located in the main school office.

## 2019-2020 TERM DATES

### Spring Term 2019

Opens Monday 6th January  
 Half term - Monday 17th to Friday 21st  
 February  
 End - Wednesday 1st April

### Summer Term 2019

Opens - Monday 20th April  
 May Day - Friday 8th May  
 Half term - 25th to 29th May

