

March 9th 2018

Headteacher's News

The children all looked fantastic on World Book Day and we had a variety of activities throughout the day to share books and costumes. We really value your support with your children's reading. Research on reading indicates that of those children who do not read outside school, just 6% are above the expected level of reading for their age. There is good evidence that parents reading with their children as little as ten minutes a day, can make a huge difference. On our website, under the Our Learning/ English/ Reading you can find a list of recommended books and ideas how to support your child's reading at home. Audio books are a great way to support children who are reluctant readers to increase their exposure to stories, a wide range of vocabulary and grammatical structures, so important to their writing. Have a lovely Mother's Day and a restful weekend.

Book Day

We had a wonderful Book day yesterday. The costumes were all fantastic and it was lovely seeing a wide variety of book characters wandering around school. Hopefully you managed to see lots of the costumes during the parade. I think the staff enjoyed the day just as much as the children! One of the highlights of the day was the story run-around. Each of the teachers prepared a two minute story. They had to read it and when the bell rang they sprinted to the next classroom on their list and read the story in that class. This was done six times! The children loved waiting to see who would be next and there was a lot of giggling as some very out of breath teachers tried to read stories.



The Daily Mile

As part of the Everyone Active initiative, we have decided that, from the beginning of the summer term, the daily mile will take place during the school day instead of before school. We would like all children to benefit from this activity. Therefore, the gates will open at 8.45am every morning.

Important Dates

12/13th Mar	9.00am EYFS Mother's Day Breakfast
12th - 16th Mar	Dazzling Discovery Week Science activity with parents:
13th Mar	9-9.30am KS1
14th Mar	9-9.30am Lower KS2
15th Mar	9-9.30am EYFS
16th Mar	9-9.30am Upper KS2
16th Mar	9.00am Happy Bag Collection
12th Mar	11am Prospective Parent Tour
14th Mar	2.50pm Year 3 Work Sharing
19th Mar	11.20am Nursery am Work Sharing 2.45pm Nursery pm Work Sharing 2.45pm Reception Work Sharing 2.45pm Year 2 Work Sharing
20th Mar	2.15pm Year 5 Instrumental Concert
22nd Mar	3.00pm Year 5 Work Sharing
23rd Mar	2.15pm Year 6 Instrumental Concert
23rd Mar	3.00pm Year 4 Work Sharing
23rd Mar	3.15pm Association Cake Sale
26th Mar	2.45pm Year 1 Work Sharing
27th Mar	2.45pm Year 6 Work Sharing
28th Mar	Years 3/4 Show (afternoon and evening performances)
29th Mar	Break up for Easter
16th Apr	Children Return to School
20th Apr	School Association Film Night
28th May-1st Jun	Half Term
4th June	Inset Day
9th June	Summer Fayre
6th July	Sports Day
20th Jul 2018	Break up for Summer 2018
3rd & 4th Sep	INSET DAYS
5th Sep	Children Return to School

*Red = New Item

Safeguarding

The latest eSafety Newsletter for parents is attached. It gives you information about a new campaign called 'Digital 5 a Day' to help parents encourage their children to have a good digital diet which includes a balance of being connected, active and creative, together with current eSafety news and tips.

Enriching the Curriculum

Sport Relief

The week beginning 19th March will be Sport Relief week. Each day the children will be taking part in a different sporting/PE event: Hula Hoop Monday, Skipping Rope Tuesday and Hockey Wednesday (this will be in memory of Mrs Shillito who played Hockey for Bishop's Stortford. Throughout the day, coaches and members of the Bishop's Stortford Hockey Club will be running sessions.), Boogie Thursday and Footy Friday. These will not be sponsored events but if you would like to make a donation towards Sport Relief, please bring this in on Wednesday.

Gymnastics Competition

This week saw the turn of the year 3 and 4 gymnastics competition. The children had been in training for the competition since September and all children were well versed and prepared for their routines and vaults. Due to some unforeseen circumstances only 3 of the gymnasts were able to perform on the day and they did the work of 6 team members. They performed above and beyond anything that could have been expected and demonstrated maturity beyond their years. I am incredibly proud of their efforts on the day and they should also be proud of what they did on the day. If you see any of these children around please give them a big well done they most definitely deserve it.



Football

On Thursday, Northgate Gold Team played their penultimate match of the season and continued their recent good form with a 1-1 draw against Summercroft. In a highly entertaining game, the team tried very hard to get the winner but could not get the ball past an inspired goalkeeper. Well done to all the children who took part.

Children's Cake Sale

Chloe, Elizabeth, Grace, Marcy, Melanie and Eva from year 5 are running a cake sale for KS1 on Thursday, 29th March. The cakes will cost between 50p and £1.00. The children have chosen to give the money raised to Cancer Research.

Reminders and Updates

Science Week and Parent Workshops

Please remember next week is Science Week. There are science activities with parents running throughout the week. Please see the Important Dates list above for the date and time for your child's year group.

Happy Bags

Happy Bags will be coming home in the children's book bags today. The collection will be on the morning of 16th March. Filled bags can be left in the bike shelter the day before or by 9.00am on the morning of 16th March.

School Association

Cake Sale

The PTA is organising a Spring/Easter cake sale on Friday, March 23rd. This term it's the turn of KS2 to bake goodies to sell in the playgrounds after school. The Foundation/KS1 sale last term raised over £260 so come on KS2, let's see if you can beat them! Plates will be sent home 1 week before. Thank you for your support.

Casino Night

The Association are excited to announce a new event for the calendar, a Casino Night! So save the date and book your babysitters for Saturday 12th May. More details to follow soon.

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week were:

Nursery: (am) - Matilda
(pm) - Marco
Reception: (R1) - Rose
(R2) - Abigail

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on being a fantastic sports person.

Our Star Learners were praised by their class teachers for developing new skills and working as part of a team.

Well done to:

Class 1: Thea	Class 7: Poppy
Class 2: Jack	Class 8: Tom
Class 3: Ruby	Class 9: Callum
Class 4: Charlie H-W	Class 10: Archie
Class 5: Bede	Class 11: Olivia
Class 6: Sam	Class 12: Pearl

Independent Enquirer Elephants

We are celebrating our new Learning Power this half term. It is focussed on children researching their own interests and developing an enquiring mind.

Part of the mantra is to 'nurture the researcher.' Maddie (CL12) was congratulated for researching more about the year 6 topic on the Victorians; specifically Victorian fashion. Tom (CI7) was praised for always finding out more facts and information on his class topics.

SEND

Aspects have the following workshops arranged. Please see the attached flyers for details and to book a place:

- Transition to Secondary School
- Managing Anger and Conflict in the Family
- Enough of the Huff

Community

Rotary Young Musician 2018

Rotary Club of Bishop's Stortford are organising their annual Young Musician Competition to be held on 21st April 2018. Please see the attached document for rules, information and the entry form.

NHCVS Breakaway Special Needs Playscheme's and Saturday Clubs are currently recruiting. Please see the attached advert for further information.

The Community Church, Bishop's Stortford are running a free Crafty Easter Event on Saturday, 24th March at The Charis Centre for children and their families. For further information, please find a flyer attached.