

March 3rd 2017

Headteacher's News

It has been lovely to see so many of you this week sharing in our Book Week. The children have been involved in a wide range of activities linked to books and we hope it has inspired them to read more and read books by different authors! I enjoyed reading to a number of classes, including reading to year 3 in our fantastic new outdoor classroom! A big thank you to Miss Greaves who organised the event.

We are continuing to develop children's learning skills and this half term our learning power is 'creative thinking chameleon'. Ask your children if they remember the mantra that was shared in an assembly and see if they can think of ways of becoming a 'creative thinking chameleon' at home.

We were delighted to see Mrs Gavin yesterday with her new baby daughter, Heidi. Both looked very well!

We wish to say 'Goodbye' to Mrs Quinn, one of our teaching assistants in Key Stage 1, who is leaving us on Monday. She will be greatly missed by the staff and the children and we wish to say how much we appreciate all she has done at the school.

Book Week

What a wonderful week we have had celebrating books! The children have had lots of fun! We had cushions, tents and fairy lights in the library. All the classes based their writing on a book called 'Tuesday' by David Wiesner. We also received some fantastic pictures of children reading in unusual places. World Book Day was truly amazing! All the children and teachers looked brilliant and the children loved being dressed up all day. We also had a Hogwarts banquet with some very interesting dishes for the children to eat.

Foundation have had a busy week this week doing lots of activities associated with books.

They would like to say a huge thank you to the Association for paying for their new story books and story sacks. The children were very excited to receive a big delivery this week to add to our foundation story collection.

World Book Day Costume Winners



Important Dates

Fri 3 rd Mar	Association School Disco
Wed 22 nd Mar	2.40 Spelling Parent Workshop Yr 1
Wed 15 th Mar	Yr 3 Natural History Museum
Wed 15 th Mar	2.40 Spelling Parent Workshop Yr 2
Wed 15 th Mar	Music for Schools
Fri 17 th Mar	Closing Date - Nursery Applications
Tues 21 st Mar	Rhodes Music Festival
Wed 22 nd Mar	9.30am Aspects – Self-Esteem
Fri 24 th Mar	Association Cake Sale
Wed 29 th Mar	2.40 Phonics Parent Workshop Yr 1
Wed 29 th Mar	2.30pm eSafety talk for parents
Fri 21 st April	Association Film Night

Work Sharing

Reception:

Tues 21st Mar 2.45-3.15pm – coffee at 2.15pm

Nursery:

Wed 22nd Mar 9.15-9.45am followed by coffee

Thurs 23rd Mar 2.30-3.00pm followed by coffee

Thurs 23rd Mar 2.45pm Year 1 work sharing

Mon 27th Mar 2.45pm Year 2 Work sharing

Mon 27th Mar 2.15pm Year 6 Talk on Y6 SATs

Mon 27th Mar 2.45pm Year 6 Work Sharing

Tues 28th Mar 2.45pm Year 4 Work Sharing

Wed 29th Mar 3.00pm Year 3 Work Sharing

Wed 29th Mar 3.00pm Year 5 Work Sharing

Fri 31st Mar End of Term 2pm

Tues 18th Apr First Day of Summer Term

Fri 26th May Inset Day

Mon 5th June Inset Day

*Red = New Items

Safeguarding

Is your children playing Roblox? Were you aware that there have been numerous reports in the press about adults using the game to target young children by sending rather unpleasant messages and worse? Please be aware of the games they are playing.

If you would like to learn more about supporting your child with technology, there is a session on Tuesday 28th March 2017, 4.30pm- 6.30pm at Hillmead School. Please find information attached.

Foundation Stage News

Following feedback from Parents we are now sending a weekly Nursery and Reception letter to your **e mail accounts**. **Reception** have been sending the letters via e schools and we are conscious that not all parents are logging on and getting them. These are important as they form the main communication from us to you and there are often important notices that you need to know about. So from this week, **reception** will send the weekly letter **via e schools** (as usual) **as well as** to your **e mail** accounts and **nursery** parents will just get the letter **via e mail**. We are aware that some nursery parents do not have an e schools login yet, and we endeavour to get this sorted as soon as possible, but everyone will still receive a weekly Nursery or Reception letter via e mail. If you have any questions regarding this, or you do not receive a letter via e mail, then please speak to the class teacher.



Nursery Applications: Parents of children born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014, please note that applications for our Nursery close on Friday 17th March 2017.

If you know anyone thinking about applying to our Nursery for September, there are tours on Wednesday 8th March at 9.30am and Tuesday 14th March at 1.30pm - just ask them to contact the school office.

Year 6 News

In book week, year 6 had a fantastic time solving a very unusual crime. In the new outdoor classroom we set up a scene, the children had to solve what had happened in teams. Some were scientists, some a detective and they had to write from another perspective. News reporters, witnesses and police with dogs had to find out what had happened to the frogs.

Years 5 & 6 Netball at Birchwood

Two teams competed successfully on Thursday morning against 20 other teams. The weather was extremely windy and cold, however they persevered and, even with frozen hands, they managed to score. Caitlin Neill was the star player for scoring 5 goals in 1 match. The A Team missed out by 1 goal in order to qualify for the semifinal! "It was a really great tournament – the best ever" *Tom Class 11.*

Music for Schools: A chance to blow your own trumpet, toot your own flute or learn to play clarinet, cornet or saxophone! Music for Schools is a charity that gives music lessons in schools and we are coming to your school on Wednesday, 15th March at 6.30pm. Your child will have the opportunity to try each instrument and we will tell you all about how to sign up for lessons. Come and see our Music Man to find out more – no obligation, packages to suit all budgets.

Attendance: Please note that children should not be taken out of school, including at lunchtimes, without a legitimate reason and appointment letters should be brought to the office to copy of our records. Parents cannot pick up other children early for appointments without written permission from their parent. Thank you

Northgate Association

School Disco - Friday 3rd March

Please remember the school disco this evening:

KS1 6.00pm-7.00pm

KS2 7.15pm-8.30pm

Please note children must **NOT** bring mobile phones or devices with them.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, 7th March at 7.30pm

Celebration of Achievements

This week's stars of the week in Foundation Stage were:

Nursery: Abigail
Reception: Zachary (R1)
Kiki (R2)

This week our 'Learner of the Week' focused on participating in book week.

In our assembly today we shared some of our writing linked to our book week book, 'Tuesday' by David Weisner. Well done to:

Class 1: Abbie	Class 8: Evie & Koko
Class 2: Dylan	Class 9: Toby
Class 3: Isla	Class 10: Rene
Class 4: Kimball	Class 11: Millie, Jessica E, Luca & William
Class 5: Andrei	Class 12: Alice, George & Lewis
Class 6: George	
Class 7: Ruby & Abby	

SEND

Last term, I took part in the Autism Education Trust's audit for all schools to assess our competency in meeting the needs for pupils with autism <http://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk/>. This was provided through DSPL3 (Delivering Special Provision Locally <http://dspl3.co.uk/about-dspl3/>) which is a vital resource for me and has fantastic information for parents. I was delighted to share this document with a parent and also a member of staff (as per the guidelines). The audit highlighted the need for staff training that is specific to what we see in our school and more 'bespoke' than a general awareness. I am pleased to inform you that all teachers and some TAs received training from Sheila Kitchen and Alison Lindsell from Amwell View this week. The feedback from staff was very positive and they were able to engage with the trainers to gain further knowledge in specific areas of need. Continuing on from this, I was also able to attend the course 'Good Autism Practice' with an SEN TA yesterday which was provided by advisory teachers from the Communication and Autism team and Educational Psychologists. All of this specific training has strengthened our knowledge and added to our 'toolkit of resources' to support our children and we continue to look for ways to improve our understanding. Look out for our participation in World Autism Week which is coming up in March.

Northgate are pleased to be hosting a lite bite parenting session on building self-esteem in children, hosted by Sharon Lawton of Natural Flair and Aspects. Please see flyer attached.

Community News

St Clare Hospice

St Clare Hospice are holding a Race Night at Canons Brook Golf Club on Saturday, 29th April. For further information please contact Goolmohr Cantel (Georgie) on 01279 504343 or email gcantel@btinternet.com.