

Dear Parents & Carers,

We hope that you enjoyed a safe and happy half term. There were many great homework projects shared by children on their return and some fantastic costumes for World Book Day yesterday, thank you! There are many ways we look to parents to support home learning and we encourage all of our children not only to learn the mechanics of reading but also to learn to enjoy reading for pleasure.

We are constantly refreshing our home reader libraries so that they have something new to read but please help us with this by making sure that they read every night and record their reading in their home school diaries. Don't forget that there are also example questions that you can ask them about their reading in their home school diaries to help them to develop their understanding and comprehension skills.

We also invest in annual subscriptions for Mathletics and Times Table Rock Stars online learning programmes so that children in Years 1 to 6 can access them at home as well as at school for free. All children have their own password to log on to the site (usually in their home school diaries). These both offer fun and interactive ways to learn key reading and maths skills such as phonics, times tables and number bonds so please encourage your children to access these at home.

This newsletter is sent home every other Friday but we also still occasionally send home other letters to inform parents of information related to their class for example trips and assemblies. Please can you check your child's book bag every day for any letters that might be in there as we have found some children with many old letters lurking in the depths! We also have an online calendar on our website and a section for letters to help you keep up to date.

On **Thursday 28th March** we are holding a parents evening, when you get the chance to meet your child's class teacher, look at their books and discuss their termly report. You should have received a separate letter inviting you to this, however if you have missed this please contact our admin teams or use the online booking systems with links from our websites make an appointment so that you don't miss out.

Thank you for all of your support

Ms Rachel Davie
Headteacher

Mr Stephen Hall
Executive Headteacher

WHAT'S THE TIME?



This week Reception classes have been learning about time. They have been discussing daily routines as well as the days of the week/month and year. They have also been learning how to read o'clock time.

URBAN DEBATE TEAM

The Debate Mate team took part in Round One of the Urban Debate League, which was hosted at



Orchard. Five schools debated two motions, including 'School holidays should be reduced to three weeks', a debate which proved highly controversial! Our Debate Mate children worked fantastically as a team, and were successful in winning 4 out of the 6 debates. Well done to all who took part!



SMART BLACK SCHOOL SHOES TO SCHOOL PLEASE!

STAY POSITIVE!



Hazel class took part in a workshop, as part of children's mental health awareness week. They played a game where they had to say

something positive about themselves or a friend and made stickers to celebrate this. They really enjoyed this game, as it made them (and others) feel good.

YEAR 1 POETS

This week Year 1 have been learning the traditional poem 'I Had a Little Nut Tree'. They organised themselves into groups, learned their lines, thought about their performance voice and gestures and rehearsed over and over again. On Friday they performed to their friends and everyone was very impressed by how quickly they had memorised the poem! Next week they'll be writing and performing their own poems, so watch this space!

FAIR TRADE FORTNIGHT

Fairtrade Fortnight got off to a great start with a thought-provoking assembly, lead by a local Fairtrade speaker. Fairtrade Friday was a huge success. Year 6 pupils worked together with Green Team, running a bake sale, a tuckshop selling Fairtrade snacks and hot drinks. We also had an information desk, raising awareness of Fairtrade amongst parents.



SPRING TERM COFFEE MORNINGS

As well as our **Friday morning stay and read** sessions for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, all parents are invited to drop into our sessions on various themes which are held in the flexi Space at 9:15am.

Friday 15th March	Wellbeing: How to support your child's well-being through conversation
Friday 22nd March	Healthy Eating: Find out how to provide a well-balanced diet at home and for packed lunches
Friday 29th March	Easter Holiday activities: Discover activities to try and places to visit during the holidays
Friday 5th April	Parent Reading Assembly for EYFS, Year 1 and 2.

Key dates

Spring Term 2019

Parents Evening:

Thursday 28th March

Finish Date:

Friday 5th April at 2pm

Summer Term 2019

Start Date:

Tuesday 23rd April

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 27th May (Bank Holiday) to Friday 31st May

Keeping Healthy Week (including sports day):

Starts Monday 24th June

Parents Evening:

Thursday 4th July

End of Term Finish Date:

Friday 19th July at 2pm

Autumn Term 2019

Start Date:

Wednesday 4th September

Half Term Holiday: Monday

21st to Friday 25th October

Children Start Date: Monday

28th October

Parents Evening: Thursday

28th November

End of Term Finish Date:

Thursday 19th December

Spring Term 2020

Start Date:

Monday 6th January 2019

See our website for up to date events.

You can also follow us on Facebook & Twitter!

ATTENDANCE

Children have only 190 school days in a year so coming to school everyday makes a real difference! Whole school attendance for last week was **97.28%**

Well done to Walnut, Cedar, Olive and Pine Class,
the weekly winners with 100%.

