



**Head Teacher
Newsletter
February 2020**

Welcome back to school, we're already half way through the academic year and looking forward to the rest of the year ahead. It is only a short half term this year and we have a lot to fit in which including Science Week, World Book Day and World Maths Day just to name a few. We also continue with our topic and fit in a bit of English, Maths and Science along the way.

Dates for your diary can be found on the back page as usual however I have also included the Academic Calendar for 2020/2021 for your information. Please book all holidays and family visits during the school holidays. We recognise that this can be an expensive time to travel however, as you know, we can't authorise absences during the school term except in exceptional circumstances. Absences taken can result in involvement from the Education Welfare Officer, the issuing of a fine or unfortunately, and as a last resort, being taken off role.

World Book Day – Thursday 5th March

It's that time of year again where children and school staff across the country dress up as people and characters out of books and come into school. This year our focus for the children is on 'anything goes' whether it be a non-fiction or fictional character from a book. The staff however will be dressed as **ANIMALS** from children's books so if your child would like to join in our theme they would be very welcome. I already know what I am coming as and my ears arrived before the half term!!



I am really looking forward to seeing all of the children dressed up and please remember you don't need to spend a lot of money on costumes and we have had the most amazing costumes made out of cardboard boxes over the years!

However if you do have any dressing up costumes, that no longer fit your child, and that you would like to donate to the school for us to re-gift to another child then please hand them in to your class teacher before the 5th March. We will also be collecting unwanted costumes after the day ready for other dressing up occasions.

To continue with the celebrations we will be holding a **Book Fair** in The Lodge from **Thursday 27th February to Wednesday 4th March** where the children can use their £1.00 World Book Day voucher against any book costing £2.99 or more. The Book fair will be open from 9am to

9.30am every morning and after school until 4pm. Please let your child's teacher know that your child is in school before going to the book fair so they can be marked in the register on time. For every book sold the school receives a percentage of the total amount back in books for our classroom collections.

Book Fayre Vouchers

Parents can once again purchase Gift Vouchers in advance of our Book Fayre on the 27th February from the Scholastic website. To do this, you simply need to go to the Scholastic website and type 'gift voucher' into the search box and then choose the amount you would like to buy.

If you do this, you will receive 20% extra free!

A £6 voucher for £5!

www.scholastics.co.uk

World Book Day Menu

For the first time we also have a special menu to celebrate the day. With Horrid Henry hotdogs, Harry Potter pizza or jackets potato filled with George's Marvellous Medicine. Followed by Wonka's chocolate sponge with Oompa Loompa river sauce, Gruffalo footprint cookies or James & the Giant Peach.

If your child usually has a packed lunch and you would like your child to have a school dinner on that day then please let your class teacher know and we will book them in. Please note that if your child is in Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 and they're not entitled to free school meals, school meals cost £2.00 a day.



Monday 9th March – Friday 13th March

We once again will be celebrating National Science Week with a weeklong focus around science, (with a little bit of English and Maths thrown in as well I'm sure)! The children will take part in Science challenges and all classes have exciting workshops planned with a surprise guest! I will also be opening my Science Gadget Shop. My shop will be open every morning when the gates open and after school in the school hall during Science week. The Gadget shop can be accessed from the big playground with my shop front opening onto the playground by the bi-fold doors.

We have also arranged for Year 1 to Year 6 to visit either The Science museum or The Natural History museum over the next few weeks to support work covered in Science week so please check the diary dates for your child's trip.

Year 6 Easter Booster Classes

Every year we hold Easter classes for Year 6 as revision for the Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) the children take in May. This year the classes will be from Monday 6th April to Wednesday 8th April. The children will be expected to be in school at 9.15am and finish at 1.30pm each day. Further details will be sent out in a separate letter and all Year 6 children are encouraged to attend.

School Photographs

The proofs for the class photos taken before the half term should be arriving tomorrow for you to order from. You will be able to order through the school enclosing the correct money in the envelope provided by **Wednesday 4th March** or online, following the instructions to the DSP website and inputting your class' unique reference number. Please look out for the proof in your child's bookbag over the next couple of days.

Big Sing Soul – Years 3 & 4

We are excited to inform you that The BIG Sing SOUL Charity have been coming into school to run weekly one-hour workshops over 8 weeks for our children in Year 3 and 4. The children now have the opportunity to perform in an amazing concert, uniting with the **Walthamstow BIG Sing Community Choir at Buxton School, 234 Cann Hall Rd, Leytonstone, London E11 3NN on Monday 30th March at 7pm** to show their families/ friends what they have learnt.

A letter has gone out today in Year 3 and 4 for you to order your tickets, T-shirts and a DVD copy if you wish to. Please check your child's bookbag for the letter and return your order form by Thursday 27th February so that we can pass on your order to the charity.

National Online Safety

National Online Safety have just released their brand-new platform, and as a Certified School – our whole school community has now received a complimentary upgrade to their new website.

If you already have a National Online Safety account, you'll shortly receive an email inviting you to activate your new account- providing access to the new platform. The new platform will include your Online Safety Course for Parents and Carers and National Online Safety's Resources (which includes a huge range of online platform guides on the latest social media channels and games).

If you do not have a National Online Safety account yet you can sign up with the below link:

<http://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/jenny-hammond-primary-school>

Please ensure that you select the correct account type from the drop-down menu - 'Parent' - to allocate you the correct courses.

We have put a basic user guide to help you navigate the new website on our school website. If you have any trouble using the platform, or do not receive your account activation link- please contact support@nationalonlinesafety.com or 08003688061.

And finally

I have included our school calendar for 2020 – 2021 which is based on the Council's agreed dates for the new academic year. We are having 3 INSET days at the beginning of the year so children in Year 1 to Year 6 come back to school on Monday 7th September with Reception children starting school on Monday 14th September for half days for the first 5 days. Reception children will start fulltime on Monday 21st September.

Please note the children break up for this academic year on **Friday 17th July at 2.30pm**

Best wishes
Deborah

Dates For Your Diary

School Nurse Drop In
Tuesday 25th February – 2.30pm

Year 6 Trip – Brazilian Embassy
Wednesday 26th February

Year 5 & 6 Trip – Orchestra Unwrapped, Royal Festival Hall
Thursday 27th February

Book Fair – The Lodge
Thursday 27th February to Wednesday 4th March

Year 5 Trip – Natural History Museum
Wednesday 4th March

Photo Return Date
Wednesday 4th March

WORLD BOOK DAY - Thursday 5th March

Science Week
Monday 9th to Friday 13th March

Year 4 Trip – The Tate
Wednesday 11th March

Year 6 Trip – Science Museum
Thursday 12th March

Year 3 Trip – National Gallery
Tuesday 17th March

Year 1 Trip – Natural History Museum
Wednesday 18th March

Sports 4 Schools Olympian Sponsored Event
Friday 20th March in school

Year 4 Trip – Natural History Museum
Tuesday 24th March

Year 5 Trip – Walthamstow Wetlands
Wednesday 25th March

Year 1 Trip – Museum of Childhood
Monday 30th March

Year 5 Trip – National Gallery
Tuesday 31st March

Year 2 Trip – Natural History Museum
Wednesday 1st April

Easter Holidays
Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April

Easter School for Year 6: Monday 6th to Wednesday 8th April

School Calendar for 2020/21

Autumn Term 2020

**Staff INSET Days, school closed to children – Wednesday 2nd, Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th
September**

Year 1 to Year 6 Children Start – Monday 7th September 2020 at 9.05am

**Reception Children Start – Monday 14th September 2019 at 9.05am (Half days for the first
week)**

Half Term - Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

Children Break Up – Friday 18th December 2020 at 2.30 pm

Christmas Holidays - Monday 21st December 2020 to Friday 1st January 2021

Spring Term 2021

Staff INSET Day, school closed to children – Monday 4th January 2021

Children Start – Tuesday 5th January 2021 at 9.05am

Half Term - Monday 15th to Friday 19th February 2021

Children Break Up – Thursday 1st April at 2.30pm

Easter Holidays –Friday 2nd April to Friday 16th April 2021

Summer Term 2021

Children Start – Monday 19th April 2021 at 9.05am

May Day Bank Holiday – Monday 3rd May 2021

Half Term - Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2021

Children Break Up – Wednesday 21st July 2021 at 2.30 pm

Staff INSET Day, school closed to children – Thursday 22nd July 2021