



IMPORTANT DATES:

* **Monday 9th March ~ INSET day (School closed to all pupils)**

* **Tuesday 10th to Friday 13th March ~ STEM (Science, Technology and Engineering Learning Enquiry**

* **Tuesday 10th and Friday 13th March. Explorer Dome in school, 'Human Body' interactive shows including Autism friendly show ~ £2.00 donation per child please**

* **17th March ~ Silly Potted Sports afternoon for Sports Relief**

* **Tuesday 24th March ~ DANCE UMBRELLA for MCC & Yrs 4,5 & 6**

* **Wednesday 25th March ~ DANCE UMBRELLA for Yrs 1,2 & 3. Further details to follow**

*** EASTER HOLIDAYS**

Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April 2020

* **Wednesday 29th April ~ rags2riches4schools clothes collection day**

* **Year 6 Residential 15th to 17th June 2020. Please Pay deposit by 6th March.**

Parents Consultations for

Year 5 & 6 only on

Tuesday 10th March

4.30 pm to 6.30pm and

Thursday 12th March

3.30pm to 5.00pm.

Sign up sheets outside classrooms

All other Year groups will be in Term 5. Thank you.

INSET days for 2019/2020

School closed for all pupils

Monday 9th March 2020

Friday 10th July 2020

Monday 20th July 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

In my last newsletter, I promised that this week would be an action packed one and we have certainly kept our promise! We have had a lovely **Reading Matters Learning Enquiry Week** that started with a visit from Jeremy Strong last Friday and has ended with story sharing across the school.

In classes across the school the children have thoroughly enjoyed their visits from a Mystery Reader over the week. Our Year 5 and Year 6 children have also spent some time this afternoon reading and sharing stories with our younger children. As a school we have dedicated even more time this week to talking about books, authors and illustrators that the children may enjoy or wish to borrow from our library.

As part of our **Reading Matters** challenges we are taking part in the **World Book Day Reading Revolution**. This is supporting their challenge of sharing one million stories by **Sunday 29th March**. We have uploaded all our shared stories to the World Book Day website. So far we have **4880** story shares. As a school we would love to reach **15,000 shares by the 29th March**. The National total is currently 700,000 only 300,000 short of their one million story challenge. If you share any stories at home please let us know through your child's reading diary and we can add them to our total.



Each class has explored a different book written by the incredible children's Author, Oliver Jeffers. They have discussed their text and produced written work and creative art that will be displayed around the school over the coming weeks. I would just like to thank the staff for planning a wonderful week of learning around his texts.

On Thursday, I enjoyed my first **World Book Day** at St Martin's Garden Primary School it was lovely to see such a wide range of book characters in school. Thank you for supporting us with this and the amazing fruit and vegetable book characters that have arrived in school over the last few days. Mrs Barrow our Librarian will be helping me to judge them. It is going to be very difficult to choose an overall winner.

Continuing with our reading competitions...

Some very impressive **Reading Selfies** have been sent into school this week. They are also going to be very difficult to judge and I will certainly need some help from the staff next week to choose winners. Remember you can still submit a Reading Selfie as the closing date for entries is **Monday 9th March**. How creative can you be? Please email your selfie to school@smartinsgarden.org.uk.



Message from Mrs Parfitt continued

Next week is our **S.T.E.M (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)** Learning Enquiry Week at St Martin's Garden and the theme is **Protecting our Environment**.

On Tuesday and Friday next week we have our **Science Explorer Dome visit**. Every child at St Martin's Garden Primary school will be taking part in a Human Body Exploration workshop. Thank you for supporting this fantastic opportunity.

As a school with plenty of hall space and extra dining room facilities we have the Explorer Dome on site for two days, this means that children from St Philips Primary School can experience this wonderful opportunity as well.

Our **new Climate Leaders** from across the school will be talking to the other children in their class next week about the ways in which we can reduce waste as a school and our carbon footprint.

Schools across the Palladian Academy Trust are very much looking forward to coming together to celebrate the STEM learning in all our schools. Coordinators from every school have been working together to develop a series of lessons linked to the theme protecting our Environment.

At the end of the week representatives from every year group in every school across the Trust will display their work at a special event at **Ralph Allen School on Tuesday 17th March (EYFS & KS1) and on Wednesday 18th March (KS2 and KS3) from 5pm – 6pm**. Further details to follow.

Remember we are all back in school on **Tuesday 10th** next week after our **Inset Day on Monday 9th**.

I hope the sun continues to shine all weekend and you are able to enjoy the Spring weather. Have a restful long weekend.

Kind regards

Claire Parfitt, Head teacher

Well Done to **Year 5/6** who raised **£72.02** for the WWF Australian Bush Fire relief during their Movie night. Thank you to everyone who participated and donated.

Don't forget to take your **£1 World Book Day token** to a Book shop or Supermarket to get a special World Book Day book for FREE or £1 off another book.



We will be celebrating **Sports Relief on Tuesday 17th March** with Silly Potted Sports. Please bring £1 donation and PE kit. Thank you.

Attendance stars this week:

Gold ~ 100%

Plum ~ 98.75%

Pine ~ 98.93%

Bronze ~ 98.33%

Silver ~ 98.33%

Oak ~ 96.52%

Amazing. Well Done!

Department for Education Coronavirus helpline

DfE have launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

- Phone: 0800 046 8687
Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk
Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY ~ Are you having a Spring clean/Clearout? We have signed up to the [rags2riches4schools](#) recycling scheme, to raise money and help others around the world benefit from our **good quality unwanted clothes and shoes**. We will get 50p for every kilo we collect of reusable items and would be most grateful if you could help us with this challenge.

Our collection day is Wednesday 29th April so please keep good clothing to donate to us on this date. (We can not store items before this date).

A [rags2riches4schools bag](#) will be given to every child for you to recycle as a family just before our collection day. Additional bags may also be used if needed.

Clean and reusable items that can be donated:

Good quality clothes and accessories.

Adults, children's and babies clothing such as Jackets, Jumpers, hoodies, trousers, skirts, scarves, gloves, belts, handbags, paired shoes and other footwear etc.

They cannot reuse the following items:

Worn out shoes or clothes, clothes that are wet or have holes in.

Curtains, pillows or duvets, bric-a-brac or books. Personalised items.

Work uniform, School uniform or school sports kit. Thank you

St Martin's Garden Primary has agreed to be a collection hub for Crisp Packet recycling. Please bring your empty crisp packets into school for recycling. Pass this information on to all your family, friends, neighbours and the local community. Thank you.

