

## NEWSLETTER

**Rabbit Problem**

As part of our 'World Book Day' celebrations the children have been working hard on the Rabbit problem project. Most of the primary schools in the area have been involved in a Maths and English project with Hertswood Academy based around Emily Gravett's book the Rabbit Problem.

The children are working hard on lots of different activities relating to the book this week. Class 4LL were extremely lucky to be invited to join the author this week at Hertswood and take part in workshops led by the author. A selection of the children's work will be on display at the library in Shenley Road from the 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> March along with work from all of the other schools involved. We hope that lots of you will be able to visit this exhibition with your children.

**Science Week  
w/c 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014**

Science week commences on the 17th March. All children have been given a letter asking for a £2 donation towards animals visiting and our Mad Science day. On Thursday 20th March we will be hosting a science evening from 6-7pm. This gives parents and children the opportunity to come and try out some fun science experiments and learn about what we have been doing in science week. There will also be a Great Science Bake Off. We are asking children and parents to make some cakes and bring them in on Thursday 20th March in the morning to your class teacher. The cakes will then be on sale in the dining room during Science evening. All profits will go towards buying each class a planting/flower bed. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Year 6 Easter School**

We are planning to run an Easter School in the first week of the Easter holidays. This will be for year 6 children to help keep their skills sharp over the holiday period. The sessions will run from 9.00 to 12.00 am Monday to Friday week beginning 7<sup>th</sup> April.

We have found in the past that children's skills can dip during the Easter break and therefore attendance will give your children an advantage when it comes to their SATs after Easter.

This is a new venture for the school and we would like all children to attend if at all possible!

Further information will come out shortly.

**Class Attendance**

The classes with the best attendance from Friday last week to yesterday in Reception/KS1 is 2TS with 99.4% attendance and in KS2 5DP with 99.1%.... WELL DONE 2TS and 5DP.

Group – Reception/KS1	Possible	% Attend
Year 2 - Tara Sassoon	100	99.4
Year 2 - Jenny Gilbert	100	98.7
Reception - Jo Thomson	100	98
Reception - Grace Colhoun	100	95.6
Year 1 - Philippa Cooper/Heather Woodward	100	95.5
Year 1 - Yasmin Naher	100	93.8
Year 2 - Tara Sassoon	100	99.4
Year 2 - Jenny Gilbert	100	98.7

Group – KS2	Possible	% Attend
Year 5 - Sarah Day/Nadia Parker	100	99.1
Year 4 - Deborah Harris	100	98.7
Year 3 - Chris Marland	100	98.6
Year 5 - Moira McCarthy	100	98.3
Year 6 - Yesim Soyel	100	97.1
Year 6 - Andrew Penn	100	95.5
Year 3 - Melissa Newberry	100	94.2
Year 4 - Lougene Lillywhite	100	92.9

**Nursery Admissions  
for September 2014**

Children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2011 can register for a Nursery School place for next September. The deadline for applications is 21<sup>st</sup> March 2014. If you would like to look around the school please contact the school office to make an appointment.

For further information log on to [www.hertsdirect.org/admissions](http://www.hertsdirect.org/admissions)

For those of you who do not have internet access you are very welcome to use a computer in the school. If you would like any help please ask any member of the school office. **The closing date for applications is 21<sup>st</sup> March 2014.**

## Telling Stories (Part 1)

What's your favourite story? Is it one from when you were young? A fairy tale or something someone made up and told you? Did it come from a book, or did someone tell you the tale? We tell stories all the time at home, work or when catching up with friends. We talk about our day, what happened in the past, and what we hope will happen in the future. We build our thoughts and emotions into stories. But sometimes we don't see these as stories; stories are thought to only live between the covers of a book or an e-reader. In fact, being able to tell and understand stories is an important skill that children need to develop as they make their way in the world.

**Over the next week listen out for all the stories you and those around you tell as part of everyday life.**

Watch out for Part 2 'What skills do we need to tell stories?' in next week's newsletter...

*Taken from a blog posted by: Amanda Baxter on Wednesday 5th June 2013. Amanda Baxter is the Communication Advisor for I CAN, the children's communication charity.*

*The full blog can be found at:*

[http://www.motherandchild.co.uk/blog/telling-stories/?utm\\_content=bufferf4f97&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter.com&utm\\_campaign=buffer](http://www.motherandchild.co.uk/blog/telling-stories/?utm_content=bufferf4f97&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer)

## Message from The School Council

This year the school council have decided to raise money for the RSPCA. The first two events planned are to have an animal dress up day (e.g. painted faces and headband ears). This event will be on Thursday the 27th March and we will be asking for a donation. For the second idea we will be asking you to donate animal supplies. We are waiting for the RSPCA to email us back to tell us what they need. Look out for more details.

**Justus Badu**  
**SDP School Council Representative**

## Indoor Athletics

On Tuesday our 5/6 Indoor Athletics squad competed in the Partnership Finals. They competed in a range of track and field events. They competed with a real determination and passion throughout the event and were fantastic ambassadors for the school. Overall we finished in a very credible second place. Well done to everyone who took part we are very proud of all of you.

## Tag Rugby

On Thursday members of our Tag Rugby Squad competed in the Saracens Tag Rugby Festival. This was a great opportunity for them to transfer and apply the skills they have been learning in PE and Rugby Club. They played some great rugby and improved as the day went on. This was a great way to kick off the rugby season and judged on the performances at the festival it looks to be a very promising season. Well done to everyone who took part.

## Error on our Previous Dates Listing

There will be no Non-School Uniform event next Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March.

## Term Dates September 2014 to July 2015

### AUTUMN TERM 2014

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
Half-Term Week – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October  
Staff Training Day – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September (No School for pupils)

### SPRING TERM 2015

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January to Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April  
Half-Term Week – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February  
Staff Training Day – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January (No School for pupils)

### SUMMER TERM 2015

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April to Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July  
Half-Term Week – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May  
May Bank Holiday – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May  
Staff Training Day – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April (No School for pupils)  
Staff Training Day – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July (No School for pupils)  
Staff Training Day – Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July (No School for pupils)  
Occasional Day – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July (No School for pupils)

## Class Assemblies

Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March at 9.15am	Reception - GC
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March at 9.15am	1YN
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March at 9.15am	Nursery

## Spring Term Dates

Nursery Admissions Open for September 2014	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> February
Gala Concert at the Royal Albert Hall	Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> March
Science Week	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March
Chess Match @ Samuel Ryder	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March
Governor Day	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Science Evening	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Nursery Admissions Close	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March
Year 4 - Egyptian Day	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March
Full Governing Body Meeting	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March
KS1/2 Base Trip to Dinosaur Safari Adventure Golf	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March
Girls Football Tournament	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
KS1/2 S&L Base Tea	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April
Finish at 2pm for the Easter Holidays	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April

Jon Hood  
**Headteacher**