



IF WE BELIEVE, WE CAN ACHIEVE

COLLABORATION - CONNECTIVITY – INDEPENDENCE – INNOVATION – QUESTIONING – REFLECTION - RESILIENCE

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to everyone! We had a very productive couple of INSET days refreshing training for Read Write Inc; reviewing and updating our science and art curriculums as well as training for all nursery staff in a new health initiative coming into schools (see Big Brush Club below).

We have also been busy relaunching our reading corners and ensuring that the criteria from the new reading framework (July 2023) is reflected in the selection of books available to the children- this includes reflecting and mirroring our children's lives and the world in which they live.

All children should be able to see themselves reflected in books, as well as reading about people whose social and cultural backgrounds differ from their own. The framework encourages practitioners to view school libraries as bookshops and classroom reading areas as mini-bookshops; making these appealing and inviting to the children is key.

You will see in the list of dates that we have 2 launch events and we would really like to see as many parents as possible to share the important information that will add so much value to your child's reading journey in school.

Thank you to those of you who responded with regards to sponsoring a shelf or series of books in the library – I will keep this information on the newsletter below and please spread the word to friends and families!



Sponsorship opportunity

As part of our reading audit which we requested following Ofsted last year there are some recommended actions to enhance the reading experiences of all our learners.

- To revamp class libraries with a greater range of books and remove any older/ well-worn copies
- Have shelving and display racks to ensure books are promoted forward facing (a bit like a bookshop)
- Restock and sort library and reading level books to add breadth
- Add additional RWI texts to allow children to access more books at their reading level which will aid fluency in KS2

If you are interested in sponsoring a series of books or a shelf please get in touch. We are looking for contributions of £50 or £100 . Please let the school office know and we can provide any relevant paperwork.



Big Brush Club

The Big Brush Club is a service provided by At Home Dental and supported by the NHS, who are committed to improving children's oral health by ensuring regular brushing with fluoride toothpaste once a day, ideally twice a day at home. The aim of the programme is for every child in Nursery and Reception to have the opportunity to have an additional, 3rd tooth brushing session each day, by setting up a supervised tooth brushing programme in schools. Our Early Years staff have all been trained as Oral Healthcare Champions and are able to run the programme successfully. All materials are supplied, including toothbrushes and paste as well as packs to take home for home use. On 18th January, a practitioner from the scheme will be visiting Explorers and Adventurers to introduce the programme to the children and are also staying on to offer a parental workshop after school, at 3pm, where they will go through what the scheme entails. Parents of Explorers and Adventurers are encouraged to come along to this meeting and find out more. Although this scheme is aimed at our Early Years children, At Home Dental and the qualified dental nursing team are on hand to provide advice or support to any children who attend out school and have encouraged parents to contact them should they need advice, via this email address: lily@bigbrushclub.co.uk.



Wonka – Into Film competition

Some year 3 and 4 children have come along to a writer’s club at lunchtimes to plan and write a competition entry for this ‘Into Film’ competition. Details are attached to today’s parent mail.

Maths workshop for Year 1 parents (new date –Thursday 11th January)

I have had to move this event to Thursday as I now have a trust meeting on Wednesday morning. I hope as many of you as possible can attend. I will send out a link on parent mail so parents can confirm attendance. Many thanks.

A snapshot of learning for next week:

In Explorers we will be thinking about ‘Darkness’ and reading Superworm!

In Adventurers we will be asking the question ‘What happens in winter?’ and exploring the school grounds to find evidence.

In Voyagers we will be building our lunar buggies and looking at our final planets to round off the learning unit.

In Navigators and Pioneers we will be launching our new theme ‘Rockin’ Romans’. We will be locating Italy on a world map and looking at where the Roman Empire appears on our history timeline. Ian Griffith, our local tennis coach will be teaching tennis this term to all years 3 and 4 and James Arthur will be starting a 10 week course of ukulele tuition next week too. Lots to be excited about!!

Celebrating success



Harris enjoyed an opportunity to perform live at the BSO concert hall alongside other musicians in the Wessex Youth orchestra with conductor Pete Turnbull. As one of the youngest players, Harris took part in their Christmas concert and really enjoyed the whole experience he says, “I’m a real musician now after my first concert!”



Veya has featured in Phoenix magazine as a competition winner. Here she is with her winning entry!

Upcoming Dates (Please see website dates which cover dates upto July)

Thursday 11th January Year 1 maths workshop for parents 9am (coffee and biscuits provided!)

Wednesday 17th January Reading launch for YR,Y1 and Y2 9am-10am

Thursday 18th January Nursery and Reception ‘Dental programme’ Meeting @ 3pm

Wednesday 24th January Reading launch for Y3 and Y4

Wednesday 31st January Skateboarding and scooter workshops for Reception-Y4

Friday February 2nd NSPCC Number Day

Monday 5th February Safety Week

Monday 12th February HALF TERM

Monday 19th February INSET (School closed)

Monday 4th March Fairtrade Fortnight

Thursday 7th March World Book Day

Monday 11th March Focus on Science/STEM week

Wednesday 13th March Years 1 and 2 Visit to Wimborne Museum

Tuesday March 26th Years 3 and 4 Visit to Fishbourne Roman Palace

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rachael Musselwhite', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs Rachael Musselwhite (Headteacher)