



Dear Parents,

'Book Week' is always one of our favourite weeks in school and this week has been no different. We are, of course, lifelong readers all year round – but it is great to have the opportunity to talk about our favourite books and texts. From some brilliant bakes during the 'Book Bake Off' on Monday, to establishing links with Castle Hill Books in Richmond for our book fair to all of the stories and book-talk, in between we have fully immersed ourselves in reading. A big thanks to Mr. Cope for organising the week.

There are many events to look forward to over the next four weeks – including our British Values Day, the whole-school art visit to Newcastle, our Spring Concert and the Easter Labyrinth. Please keep an eye on the diary dates on the second page as well as separate letters / emails which will be coming out.

As always, if you have any questions or we can help in any way please do get in touch. Have a good weekend.

Dodgeball Success

A big well done to our Y3/4 Dodgeball team who came 2nd place in a cluster competition last Friday. As well as some fantastic wins, the staff were very impressed with their excellent sportsmanship and super attitudes!

Bags2School

Our Team Captains are fundraising for this term's chosen charity, Shelter. Please bring any Bags2School in on Tuesday 7th March. We appreciate it!

Staffing Update

Today we say goodbye to Sue Flannigan who we will all miss- I know that Mrs. Flannigan has made a big impact on pupils in school, and pupils who have left over recent years. We wish her lots of luck in her new position at Bedale High School and are sure we will stay in touch. Thank you, Mrs Flannigan.

Following interviews last week, we have successfully appointed two new teaching assistants to join our team. Mrs. Rachael Thewsey joined us on Monday and will be working closely with Robin Class – alongside the existing team. She has already made a great impression and we hope she has enjoyed her first week. We will also be joined by Mrs. Abigail Kennedy in a couple of weeks' time – she will be predominantly working with Year 3 and 4 initially. We are sure you will join us in welcoming them both and making them feel part of our school family.

Let's Celebrate!

Find out who has been caring, aspiring or excelling this week!

	Robin Class -Rec	Robin Class – Y1	Kingfisher Class - Y2	Partridge Class – Y3/4	Woodpecker Class – Y5/6
Above & Beyond <i>(Care – Aspire – Excel)</i>	Cora	Rose	Poppy	Charlie	Anna
	Woodpecker Class (Y5/6)	Partridge Class (Y3/4)	Kingfisher Class (Y2)	Robin Class (R/Y1)	
Curriculum Award	George- Computing	Isaac- Writing	Noah- History	Leo- Phonics	
Aims Award	Emily (Y6)- Reader	Sam-Reader	Holly- Change Maker	Evie- Inquisitive	
Team Points	Middleham				
Tidy Classroom	Robins				
Golden Spoon	TBC				

Diary Dates

When?	What?	Who?	How?
Monday 6 th March	Reception Parents Phonics Session	Reception	Information sent
Friday 10 th March	British Values Day	All	Information sent
Wednesday 15 th March	Spring Concert	All	Information sent
Friday 17 th March	Red Nose Day	All	Information to follow
Saturday 18 th March	PTFA Coffee Morning – Newton Le Willows	All	Information sent
Mon 20 th / Wed 22 nd March	Parents Evenings	All	Information to follow
Thursday 23 rd March	Class Photographs	All	See newsletter
Wednesday 29 th March	Whole School Visit to Baltic Centre, Newcastle	All	Information to follow
Thursday 30 th March	Easter Labyrinth	All	Information to follow
Friday 31 st March	Break Up for Easter Holidays	All	See newsletter
Friday 31 st March	Easter Egg Competition	All	Information to follow
Monday 17 th April	Staff Training Day	All	See newsletter
Tuesday 18 th April	Start of Summer Term	All	See newsletter
W/C Tuesday 9 th May	Year 6 SAT's Assessments	Y6	Information to follow

Governors' Corner

As governor responsible for Safeguarding I visited school last week to talk to staff and children. Safeguarding systems are robust, efficient and a priority throughout the school.

It was lovely to talk to the children who said they felt safe and happy at school. They also could tell me how to be safe when using the internet.

Louise Wyatt – LEA Governor

Around the Classes...

Robin Class - Reception: Our Book Week has been fantastic- we've discussed our favourite books, explored various small world trays to retell well known stories and acted out in our role play! There has been some very delicious Gruffalo crumbles and cups of tea with the 'Tiger Who Came to Tea'. We've also been delving deeper into finding lots of facts about animals in our non-fiction texts!

Our story of the week is 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Can You See?'. We have been ordering the sequence of the story.

In Maths we've been looking at measurement - the children have been measuring height, length and distances using non-standard measurements (blocks, feet and hands!). We particularly enjoyed measuring each other to see who was the tallest!

We ended the week noticing something has happened to our egg in the outdoor classroom tree... a crack has appeared...

Robin Class - Year 1: What a great feeling there has been around school this week with our Book Week themed activities, the Robins have thoroughly enjoyed participating in lots of different activities. We kicked off the week with an exciting launch in assembly and the Book Bake – just WOW! Those exciting creations were incredible! We were given a brand-new basket of 'curriculum spine' books, these have been great to start exploring. A huge thank you to all the grownups who managed to share some reading time with us on Tuesday, and if you didn't, do know you were missed, but we did join up with other grownups and teachers. We've had teacher swop, Mrs Webster came and read a book about a dragon... it had a very funny ending! Happy weekend!

Kingfisher Class: What a busy week in Kingfisher Class. After finishing our statistics learning, we have moved onto learning about shape – the children amazed me with their vocabulary. In History we have begun to travel back in time to 1914 and consider why animals were useful during World War 1. In English, we have completed our letters to the Big Bad Wolf – again, the children used great quality vocabulary. We have really enjoyed the Book Week celebrations and thank our Reading Ambassadors for a great carousel this morning.

Partridge Class: Another fantastic week for Partridge Class! We have been learning all about fractions in maths, using concrete resources to find equivalent fractions. In English we have written some amazing diary entries, based on a story all about life as a refugee. We thought carefully about how the character would be thinking and feeling at each point in the journey. In History we have continued our learning about the Stone Age, looking at how life has changed over time from the very early Stone Age, to the start of farming.

Woodpecker Class: This week, we have been celebrating our annual 'World Book Week' and the children have thoroughly enjoyed the range of activities planned. The creations for our 'Bake Off' competition were absolutely amazing and it was great to welcome so many adults into school on Monday to work with the children. In the classroom, we have been working on letters of complaint this week which will feed into the children writing their own next week, so I apologise in advance if they start to complain at home! In maths, we have been converting fractions, decimals and percentages and the children continue to take it all in their stride. Another great week!

Safeguarding Reminders

Mr. Sam Donaldson is the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Mr. Gavin Cope is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Mrs. Louise Wyatt is the Safeguarding Link Governor.

If you have worries or concerns about a pupil, please don't hesitate to speak to one of the people named above, in confidence.