

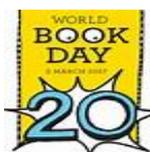
Willowbank Weekly



www.willowbank.devon.sch.uk

1st March 2017

Don't forget to order school dinners by tomorrow!



World Book Day

As it is World book day on Thursday 2nd March; we would like to invite children to dress up as a character from their favourite book-the children need to be able to talk about the character, and hopefully bring the book to school. At times during the day, the whole school (adults included) will drop everything and read. In the afternoon all classes will focus on books. Between 2.30pm-3.10pm we invite you to join us and read with small groups of children and just enjoy books in a relaxed atmosphere. Older siblings can join you in younger sibling's classes, if they wish. Years 5 and 6 will be in the hall. Please note: **World Book Day costumes should be based on a fictional character so we suggest that no football kits are worn unless linked to a book brought in with your child.**



Foundation

As always, this week has been a very busy week for learning in Foundation. We had a wonderful pancake day making (and eating!) over 60 pancakes; trying a variety of toppings; choosing our favourite and recording the information on a tally chart. We learnt all about Shrove Tuesday and the beginning of Lent, and had some fabulous pancake races, timing each team to see who was the fastest. We've also been celebrating St David's Day, making a dragon and flags for the traditional procession, and concentrating in order to produce some observational drawings of daffodils.



Years 1&2

We have had a great week in Year 1 and 2. We have enjoyed making pancakes and, of course, tasting them. We used our senses when tasting each different topping, and then decided on which topping was our favourite. Once we had decided, we created a bar chart to show our findings. In each class the favourite toppings were different. In Goldfinch class, cheese was the favourite; In Siskin it was sugar, and in Linnet it was golden syrup. We also used our maths skills to find $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$ and used repeated addition to find the answers to some Pancake Day maths problems.



Years 3&4

We are looking forward to the visit by the Steam horse Interactive group next Tuesday. The Stone and Iron Age may seem a rather dull period of British History, but this period produced some of the most fundamental inventions, such as the wheel and the use of fire, as well as the beginnings of civilisation. This experience will enable the children to handle real life exhibits from the Stone Age and Iron Age, and use stories and theatre to bring this history to life. Please check emails and ParentPay for more details.

Some of the children will be bringing scripts home for our play, The Firebird, this week. We would really appreciate your help in encouraging your children to practise their words so that they are ready for rehearsals. As already mentioned in previous letters, the play is due to take place on Wednesday 29th March at 2pm and 6pm. We will let you know about tickets in due course.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at Parents' Evenings. Please do not forget to sign up via e-schools.



Years 5&6

Years 5 and 6 have had a busy week! The end of last week saw us making pasta, and thinking about foods that are easy to cook when you are camping or out in the jungle.

Year 5 enjoyed their trip to CCC on Monday for a Fairtrade Conference. They spent the morning learning about Divine chocolate. A cocoa-bean farmer called Isaac, had travelled over from Ghana, to talk about his farm, his work and his family life. We enjoyed tasting and comparing milk and dark chocolate, as well as scrummy chicken, pizza and cake, provided by CCC, for lunch.

We are beginning to create our final news reports in English, and in Maths Year 5 have been developing their data handling, while Year 6 have been thinking about negative numbers and area. On Tuesday, Pancake Day was a delicious success! The children enjoyed trying different toppings - cheese and banana were unexpected successes. Beck's blog is setting us lots of questions to think about survival skills. Please log in and comment at home to help Beck on his survival journey. <https://willowbank201756.edublogs.org/>



Parent/Carer Contact details.

We have had several instances recently, where we have been unable to contact parents because the information we hold on our records is out of date or is incorrect. It is really important that we have correct and up to date contact details for you in case of an emergency, or if your child is unwell; please ensure these details are updated in writing and given to a member of staff in the office.



School dinners

If your child changes their mind and no longer wants the school dinner that has been ordered, please amend on ParentPay, if possible, or let the school office know. Otherwise a meal is cooked and thus wasted.

Morning Entry to School

We have staff on duty at the black and white gates in the morning to meet and greet children, parents and carers and to be available if you have any questions or queries. Please be aware that your children remain your responsibility until they have entered the school building or until the bell rings at 8.50am, when the teacher collects them from the playground.

Younger children need to be supervised at all times by their parent or carer.



Parents Evening

Booking is now available online until 7pm on Monday 3rd March, if you haven't already booked to see your child's teacher, please do so, by visiting the schools website and logging in to e-schools. If you require any assistance, please contact Mrs Ingram or Mrs Thomas in the school office.



Parking-Children's safety

The children enjoyed the assembly with our PCSO on Friday; I hope they shared some of what they learnt with you. Following this we would like to remind Parents that: The Highway Code is specific; there must be no parking on the yellow zig zag lines in the vicinity of the pedestrian gate. It further states that no parking is to take place opposite or within 10 metres of a junction, on a pavement (unless local signs specifically permit it) or across a dropped kerb. The PCSO will be a presence outside of the school more often,

and will be asking parents to move if parked inappropriately or inconsiderately. Siskin class are swimming on a Wednesday afternoon; the coach returns to school at around 3.15pm, so please ensure the coach bay is left clear.



After School Clubs

The last Mixed Sports session will be on 22nd March; this is due to the Year 3/4 play being on the 29th March.

Drama club will be holding dress rehearsals on Wednesday 8th March and 15th March, Children will be asked to stay until 5pm please, on both dates. There will be

NO drama club on Wednesday 22nd, due to the performance taking place; children will need collecting at the end of the school day as usual, and return at 5.30pm ready for the performance.



Blingo!

Get your glad rags on, adorn yourself with Bling, and help support our PTFA at Blingo on Friday 24th March. Tickets are £5, which includes entry, 5 strips and a glass of Fizz, and are on sale in the school office. Doors open 7.30pm, eyes down 8.00pm. Look out for posters around school for more information. (Please note that this is for over 18's only.)



Cake sale

On Friday 3rd March, some pupils from CCC will be holding a cake sale after school.

This is in support of the "tenner challenge" that they are taking part in at school. Look out for posters around school soon.

Help in the community –Food bank

"People Matter" is working in partnership with: the Doctor's Surgery, the Children's Centre, Citizen's Advice Bureau, Mid Devon District Council, Cullompton Community College, AGEuk, Willowbank and St Andrew's Primary Schools. If you are in financial hardship and are struggling to buy food for yourself or your family we advise obtaining a referral from any of these agencies, and then coming along to the drop-ins held at the Community Centre on Thursdays between 9:30 and 11:30"

Diary Dates

March		
Thursday 2nd	All day	World Book Day
Thursday 2nd	2.30pm-3.10pm	Parents to read in classes for World Book Day
Friday 3rd	3.25pm	Cake Sale
Tuesday 7th	3.30pm-6.30pm	Parents Evening
Thursday 9th	3.30pm-6.30pm	Parents Evening
Friday 10th		Mother's Day Gift Stall
Friday 17th		Mother's Day Gift Stall
Wednesday 22nd	6.00pm	Drama Club Performance
Friday 24th	All day	Red Nose Day
Friday 24th	Doors open 7.30pm-Eyes down 8.00pm	Blingo!
Friday 31 st		Last day of Term
April		
Tuesday 18 th		Non Pupil day
Wednesday 19 th		Start of Summer Term
May		
Monday 1 st		

w/b Monday 8 th		Year 6 SAT's week
Monday 29 th – Friday 2 nd		Half Term
June		
Saturday 10 th		Summer Fayre
July		
Friday 21 st		Last day of Term