

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimple Primary School

Number 192

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We hope you all managed to enjoy some activities over the half-term break. This is just a brief edition with a few reminders and more information about our Readathon.

World Book Day

World Book Day is next Thursday, March 2nd. The authors chosen by the children as a theme to the day are: Beatrix Potter, Jacqueline Wilson, J K Rowling, Roald Dahl, Cressida Cowell and Oxford Reading Tree - many of these have celebrated recent anniversaries of their works.

This will also be used to launch our 'Readathon' supported by Julia Donaldson and we'd like your child to join in.



Reading to help children in hospital

Readathon is the UK's national sponsored reading event for schools. **Readathon** encourages children to read for pleasure - an activity proven to increase children's chances of success and personal happiness for the rest of their lives. (Source: OECD)

Readathon motivates reluctant readers to give reading a go, and keen readers to read more widely. It works because children choose what they want to read - they are not being assessed, it's all about reading for fun. We would like you to support them, in particular by sponsoring them. The money raised helps the charity Readathon to regularly give brand new books and storyteller visits to children's hospitals across the UK. For more information, check out your child's sponsorship card and visit www.readathon.org

Sponsors can pay by cheque or cash, or pay online by www.readathon.org/sponsor. Please do support your child's reading efforts. Research tells us again and again that children who read for pleasure are more likely to have successful outcomes. Above all, we hope they have fun!

As well as encouraging pupils to read for fun, our school will get free books worth 20% of our sponsorship total - so there really is something in it for everyone.

What we'd like you to do:

1. Your child will be given a **Readathon sponsorship card** on which to list whatever they will enjoy reading. Books, e-books, poetry, comics - anything goes! Take a look at what they plan to read, or help them complete their list of books - sharing books is fine too (in fact recommended!), as well as listening to audio books.
2. **Help your child find sponsors among family and friends.** Sponsors can pay directly on line at www.readathon.org/sponsor or by cash or cheque made out to Readathon and sent to school. Please also encourage UK tax payers to tick the GiftAid box - Readathon will then be able to claim an extra 25% from the Government at no cost to the donor.

For any more information please visit www.readathon.org.

Thank you for your support - and happy reading!

Comic Relief

Red Nose Day is back on Friday 24th March. The school council met this week and they are very keen to support this charity.

Their ideas are:

- 'mufty' day - encourage children to wear red for a £1 donation
- cake competition - the cakes must include a red nose somewhere (they want to taste and judge them!)
- design a nose competition on a template provided
- find the nose competition

School Library

We are looking for a small group of people to help assist in running our school library. The idea is to initially open up the library to all children one afternoon a week from around 2 pm until 4 pm. Our Year 6 librarians do a fantastic job but are limited to a couple of lunchtimes a week which makes it difficult for all children to have the opportunity to choose and change books. Training would be provided so if you feel you are able to help out please let Mrs Smith in the School Office know.

Fantastic Fridays

Many thanks to those parents who have supported and assisted with our Friday curriculum. We are running for the next four weeks this half-term 24th February to 17th March. In order to help manage the activities it would be helpful if you could let us know which weeks you are available (so I don't need to chase you round the playgrounds on a Friday morning). Thank you.

Christmas Stamp Competition

Don't forget to submit your entries by the end of next week so they can be posted off.

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