

CONTACT

The Newsletter for Whimble Primary School

Issue 5/18

2.02.18

Eamonn Riley - Author Visit

On Wednesday the children had a visit from the children's author, Eamonn Riley. He told the children about how he was a primary school teacher that started writing and the process involved. He was inspired to write after the children in his class enjoyed the stories he made up. He explained that his stories start with a character that the readers really care about and that it is important to head straight into an exciting part of the story. He read pieces from a selection of his books and told the children about his inspiration for each book. For instance, *The Look Out* was inspired by Enid Blyton's *Secret Seven*. His first book was published in 2000 - *Harriet the Horrible* and this was nominated for the 'Librarians Children's Awards'.

Eamonn also set the children some writing challenges (see below), some of which we will look at in school, but feel free to encourage writing at home as well. We can always share stories in our assemblies and they could be entered into Radio 2s 500 word competition.

- ⇒ Rashnu loses the most precious diamond in the world. Can you write a story about someone who loses something precious to them?
- ⇒ Watch a video about how to write a story and use the film to help you write your own story.
- ⇒ If you were a member of the British Spy School, what would be your secret mission?
- ⇒ From the book *The Look Outs* - Can you make up the ending to the burglary of the convent story?



The children talked enthusiastically about his visit and his books and this will hopefully inspire their writing in the future. Eamonn returned at lunchtime today and signed the ordered books in person with each child. Due to your fantastic response to his books he has given the school 8 books so children will also be able borrow them from the library in the future.

Inappropriate Content on Children's App called Roblox

Parents are being warned over a children's app called Roblox, which allows strangers to message kids and features 'inappropriate' content.

Parents are being advised to check if their children are using the app, which has been described as being 'by far the most popular game played' by kids aged between five and 10 years old, and monitor their account.



Roblox, which has more than 30m users, allows children between eight and 12 to play in 'virtual worlds'.

However, there are concerns that the game is letting children interact with strangers without their parents knowing, and also features 'naked characters' doing 'very adult things'.

World Book Day - Thursday March 1st

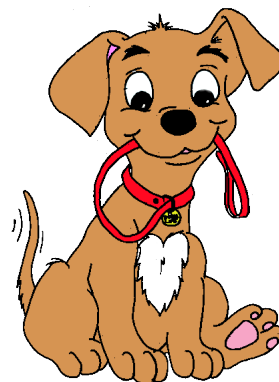
It's that time of year again, time for children and adults to get creative and put together some fantastic costumes.

The school council have consulted their classes and the following authors have been selected as a theme for the day: David Walliams, Julia Donaldson, Enid Blyton, Jeff Kinney, Michael Morpurgo and Eamonn Riley. We all had a great day last year guessing each others characters and I am sure it will be enjoyed by all again.

Next week, we will be launching our new suggested reading lists for children in year 2 upwards. The idea is to develop the breadth of books read. Each child will keep their own record and a box of books kept in their class.

Dogs in School

It has been brought to my attention by a number of parents that dogs have been either brought onto the premises or are being kept just outside the school gates, both the double gates at the top and the lower gate by the stream. Can I remind you that **dogs are not allowed** in the school grounds at all (not even being carried), and in order to help all our children we ask that those with dogs refrain from standing or leaving your dogs by the gates. We do have a number of children for whom just seeing a dog, let alone passing a dog, is an extremely traumatic experience. Just imagine if that was your child and how you would feel witnessing their distress. Please help us to keep all our children safe and happy. Thank you.



Message from Mr Brown

I would like to say a big thank you on behalf of Mrs Brown, Albie and Evie for all of the wonderful gifts that we have received over the past few weeks. The generosity of the parents from Whimple School never ceases to amaze - thanks again!

**Thank
You!**

Advance Notices

Please put the following March dates in your diaries - more information after half-term.

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| Thursday 1st | Open evening to view books and displays |
| Wednesday 7th | SATs information evening—Year 6 parents |
| Wednesday 14th | Reading Information evening for parents |



Dates for your diary

Friday 9th February Cake Sale 3.30

It's Oak classes turn to run and bake but as usual will happily receive cakes from anyone - do remember to bring some pennies!

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| Thursday 22nd March | Family Bingo at the Cricket Club (More info to follow) |
| Saturday 24th March 2pm | Easter Egg Hunt (More info to follow) |

Half-Term and Extra-Curricular Activities

The Whimpletons

Treasure Island 2 : The Curse of Bone Island

15th-17th February (matinee Saturday 17th @ 1400)

Starring ex Whimple Primary School pupils (Emily, Livvy, Ben, Max and Sam)

Tickets from Whimple Stores. Fancy dress prize for best dressed pirate.

Don't forget

Book Fair

Many have you have already visited our book fair in the library. If you haven't it is still here toady and next Monday and Tuesday 3.30pm until 5pm.

Dates for your diary

February

Tuesday 6th	NSPCC workouts
Wednesday 7th	Oak class multi-skills at Clyst Vale
Friday 9th	Reception reports home
Friday 9th	Oak cake sale (after school)
Monday 12th	Half-term
Week commencing 19th February	Reception parent consultations (date tbc)
Tuesday 20th	Synagogue Visit—Willow class
Monday 26th	Dental checks - Year 3 and Year 4

March

Thursday 1st	Open evening to view books and displays
Friday 2nd	Vision screening - Reception
Friday 2nd	World Music Workshop- Key Stage 2
Tuesday 6th	Shumba Arts - Key Stage 1
Wednesday 7th	SATs information evening—Year 6 parents
Wednesday 14th	Reading Information evening for parents
Friday 16th	Annual Reports go home (Year 1 to Year 6)
Tuesday 20th March	Parent consultations
Tuesday 27th	Troy Story performance
Wednesday 28th	Troy Story performance

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