



Whitley Chapel Church of England First School
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Dear Parents

13th February 2019

£1 Jumble Sale

Thank you to everyone who donated clothes and who came to our £1 Jumble Sale last Friday. We made a total of £226 for School Funds, so that was a lot of items bought! A particularly big thank you to Sophie and her team of helpers who made it all happen. It is very much appreciated.

Teacher Training Day and Half Term Week

Please be reminded that school is closed to pupils this Friday, 15th February, as there is a Teacher Training Day. The children will be breaking up for the Half term holiday on Thursday 14th February, and school re-opens to pupils on Monday 25th February. Swimming on Thursday afternoons will continue until the end of term.

Ash Wednesday Service

There will be a whole school service at St Helen's church on Wednesday 6th March at 9.15 am to mark the beginning of Lent. Please come and join us in our act of worship.

Book Week

Book Week is the week beginning 11th March. There are a number of activities happening, so here is an outline of what is going on each day with information about anything you need to do or bring. If you have any questions, please do ask!

Monday 11th March – all children come to school dressed as a character from a book (not a film!). Can they also please bring the book with them to school that day. We will have a whole school assembly at 9.15 am where all the children can show us who they have dressed as. Parents and grandparents are invited to stay for the assembly. We have re-scheduled this from the original date planned to enable us to fit in the other events of the week and allow as many members of staff as possible to attend. Please can Class 1 also bring their Forest School clothes for the afternoon.

Tuesday 12th March - there will be a whole school visit to Wallington with a book theme! Children will visit the house and learn about the people who lived and worked there, and collect pictures and materials to make a class story book. This is a whole day visit, so we hope that Nursery children who would normally be collected at lunchtime will be able to attend all day and be collected at 3.15 pm.

Wednesday 13th March – whole school art activity. Children will work in mixed age groups to create a large display on the theme of Traditional Tales which will be hung on the board in the hall.

Thursday 14th March – there will be a special assembly where we will be looking at the books and book marks the children have made and awarding prizes. This is a voluntary competition for children in Year 1 – Year 4 who want to make their own books at home. Reception and Nursery will be making book marks. Please make sure the children send their entries in on Monday morning at the latest.

Friday 15th March Whole School trip (Reception to Year 4) to Hexham to visit Cogito Books and Hexham Library. Children will be able to spend their World Book Day vouchers and prize winning book tokens. Can Class 2 please bring library tickets if they have them, and they can choose books while we are in there. We will get the bus there and back and return to school in time for lunch.

Please use your Half term holiday to get ready for Book Week. Competition entries need to be ready for:

Monday 11th March - **Dress up as a Book character**

Wednesday 13th March – **Make a Book (Year 1 – 4) and make a Book mark (Early Years) competition**

Parent consultations

There will be an opportunity to talk to teachers about pupil progress and ways to support your child in the 3rd and 4th week after Half term. Please look out for appointment letters in your child's bag.

Enjoy the Half term break.

Yours sincerely

Miss Jenny Morgan