



25th February 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

Reading Initiatives and World Book Day

At New Close School we recognise the vital importance of encouraging children as readers. The most important step in a child's reading journey is the opportunity that they have to read at home. It is the expectation of the school that children are reading at home at least four times a week.

Reading Races

To make this expectation fun we are introducing reading races. We have a set of five different reading races, each one relating to a popular author. Children can read books by any author in all of the reading races. They should be reading books appropriate to their reading ability, the author is just the sponsor of the reading race. When your child has completed a reading race they will get to choose a book related prize and will be given the next reading race to complete. When your child has completed all five reading races they will be presented with a book of their choice.

Each time a child reads at home they can colour in and date one of the circles on their reading race. When they reach a yellow circle they can complete one of the reading based tasks detailed on the back of the reading race. The children will get to start the reading races on the week following World Book Day.

World Book Day

On Thursday 5th March, New Close will be celebrating World Book Day. On World Book Day we will be doing a wide range of activities including poetry writing and art work linking to our dressing up words, teachers will be sharing their favourite books with the class and the children will be sharing books with each other.

This year we are taking the dressing up theme of 'Vocabulary'. We would like the children to choose a word (not a noun/object) and dress in the style of that word. We will spend time during the day talking about the different words chosen and we hope it will really enrich the children's vocabulary. In addition, all participating children will be entered into our Vocabulary dress up competition; two children from each class will be selected as 'best dressed word'. They will each receive a book from the visiting book fair that will be in school that week. The outfits do not need to be shop bought, the simpler the better. If you need some inspiration – see website below:

www.st-james-church.primarysite.media/media/vocabulary-parade

Book Fair

As part of our World Book Day celebrations we will be hosting a book fair in the school hall. The book fair will be open after school from 5th March to 9th March from 3:00-3:30. Here you will have the

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opportunity to come into school and purchase books with your child. For every book purchased the school will get commission to purchase more books for the school. On Thursday 5th March your children will also have the chance to view the book fair with their class.

Bedtime Story Night

Finally on World Book Day (5th March), children will be invited to return to school, dressed in PJs to listen to bedtime stories, drink hot chocolate and eat biscuits in the Nursery. On this occasion, you must remain on the school premises during this event, we have organised a short presentation in the hall about how we teach reading at New Close and how you can support your child at home with their reading. The event will start at 5.30pm and should be finished at approx. 6.00pm.

We look forward to the many exciting activities that are planned for World Book day and thank you in advance for your support with the reading races and the dressing up.

Please complete and return the slip below, by Friday, if your child will be attending the Bedtime Story Night.

If you have any questions please speak to your child's class teacher.

Have fun reading,

Yours faithfully

Miss H Elson

BEDTIME STORY NIGHT – THURSDAY 5TH MARCH AT 5.30PM

My child in class will be attending the Bedtime Story Night at 5.30pm on Thursday 5th March.

I understand I must stay in school for this event.

Signature of parent/guardian

Please print name