



# Newsletter

24th February 2017

Coming up next week:

Tuesday: Year 3 & 4 swimming

Tuesday & Wednesday: Parent's Evening

Thursday: World Book Day

## Dates for your diary:

Thursday 9th March: Reception class trip to the zoo

Friday 17th March: Quiz Night

## PARENT/TEACHER MEETINGS

If you have yet to do so then please book your appointment over the weekend!

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

from 1pm-7.30pm

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March - Reception, Years 1 & 2

## NOTICES & REMINDERS

- We would like to remind parents that school skirts and trousers should be grey and not black.
- There have been a few cases of head lice reported. You may like to check your child's hair and treat as appropriate.
- Chicken pox seem to be doing the rounds as well. Should they strike in your house then we would like to remind you that children are most welcome in school once their spots have crusted over.
- Please could parents refrain from parking across the road in the bus & taxi area at drop off and pick up times. We would like to remind you of the home-school agreement that you signed at the start of the academic year.



## Football Club

Due to the wide range of activities taking place on a Wednesday after school it is not possible for the footballers to be in the hall if it is raining. With this in mind, in bad weather conditions, please ensure your children have appropriate wet weather clothing. They will take cover in the gazebo in a torrential down pour but every effort will be made to keep playing where possible.

## Lent Lunches in aid of USPG

Thursday 2nd and 16th March at 12 noon in the Cross Tree Centre.

There will be a choice of two soups, bread and cheese.

USPG is a church-based charity working in direct partnership with Anglican churches around the world. It supports the development of local skills and the empowerment of communities, leading to change from within. Their programmes help people to unlock their potential and make use of the skills and resources they already have. As a result, lives are being transformed.

## World Book Day—Thursday 2nd March

This year, instead of dressing up, we are asking every child to bring in one of their favourite books. Please ensure your child's name is inside the cover.

In school, on Thursday, the children will be designing a 'new' cover for their book and writing a 'blurb' for it.

We are also inviting parents, especially dads, to make an appointment with Beth to come into school for about twenty minutes during lesson times next week, Monday 27th—Friday 3rd (up until midday) to share/answer questions about their favourite book. Please try to join us dads!

Dear Parents/Carers,

After the madness and fun that was the end of last term, it was rather pleasant to get back to some good, old fashioned boring lessons this week. Do not want to make things too interesting for them now, do we?

Number bonds to 10 has been a focus for Reception this week. This is a key skill and underpins so much of their mathematical understanding. If they know that  $7+3 = 10$ , then they also know that  $27+3=30$  or that  $70+30=100$  etc. It really is important. In this instance, the children had to match the number on the flower with the number on the pot to make 10. However, Reception being Reception, things did not stop there. Once they had begun to master these pairs of numbers, things quickly developed into magic tricks being performed (hey presto, a flower has appeared out of thin air – you get the idea); which led onto fairy dust being required (?) to aid the quality of the magic; to Mrs H becoming a touch testy when the bucket of fairy dust vanished! I fear the Spanish Inquisition tomorrow if the barrel does not turn up soon. Personally, I would frisk Mrs Davies; she has always looked a bit furtive if you ask me.

Year 1/2 have been continuing with their work on Little Red Riding Hood; writing their own version of the children's classic. As part of their holiday homework, they were tasked with retelling the story orally to a member of their family. If they cannot verbalise it, the chances of them being able to write the story are very remote indeed. Armed with their new found confidence and under strict instructions not to allow the wolf to blast off into space in a rocket or some other such erroneous detail, the children have set to, particularly concentrating on their use of adjectives. They have really persevered and should be genuinely proud of what they have achieved. Before I share some of the sentences which particularly caught Mrs Yandall's eye, I just need to run my favourite piece of description past you: 'Little Red Riding Hood was called that because she wore a silver cap.' Quite so, Benny, quite so ;-)

*'Don't do that again wolf, or you're going to eat sprouts!' Kristina*

*'There was once a little girl called Red Riding Hood. She wore a garnet-coloured cape.'*  
Martha

*'The wolf put on his thinking face... he stripped Grandma's clothes off and locked her in the deep scary cupboard with spiders inside.'* Max

It is that time in the school calendar (no, not when Beth has her yearly bath) when Farmer Nick brings in his eggs and incubator and Year 3/4 become Guardians of the Chicks. When he delivers them, Farmer Nick spends a considerable amount of time helping the children understand the life cycle of an egg; how long the whole process will take and the conditions they need to thrive. For example, did you know that chickens wet their feathers before sitting on their eggs so that the moisture can be taken in through the shell and to the embryo and that this is why there is water in the incubator? Yaz asked a brilliant question: how can the water get in through the pores in the shell, but the embryo not leak out the other way? One needs to consider if she would have asked this question if the eggs were not with us? Possibly not and that is why these experiences are so valuable educationally. Now, obviously, I am quite capable of explaining the science behind this to you all...I am, er, just choosing not to as I, er, don't want to appear to be showing off... you understand!

As part of their Mayan topic, Year 5/6 have been assuming the identity of Victorian explorers, hacking their way through the South American undergrowth, discovering the ruins of the long lost civilisation. Once they had written their recounts of their discoveries, they were allowed to draw a picture of the temple/pyramid/altar they had 'found'. The originals were meticulously created using a camera obscura (think image, projected onto paper using mirrors and traced) and Luke managed to bring in a modern day equivalent for everyone to have a go with. It was so successful that even Ollie's drawing looked like a work of art.

This time our Stars of the Week are Emme in Reception, Arabelle & Finley in Year 1/2, April & Ethan in Year 3/4 and Ivan & Issy in Year 5/6. What lovely way to start the term.

The house with the most conduct marks was Dragons while Griffins had the highest number of work marks. Bronze badges were awarded to Sophie & Rafael. Silver badges were awarded to April, Molly W & Eve and Gold badges were awarded to Ben W & Frankie. Well done to you all!

This weekend it is that fiercest of local derbies: Bath vs Bristol in the rugby premiership (which Mrs T has allowed me out to watch for good behaviour!). The result will have a profound effect on my disposition next week (and by extension every other single persons who is connected with our school). Whatever your allegiance, it may well be worth cheering for a Bath win, if for no other reason than the sake of your children! Have a lovely weekend. Play safely and take care,

Mr Tucker