

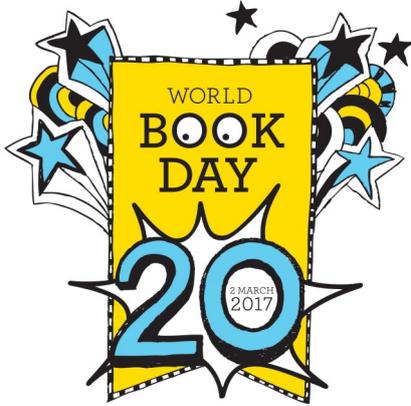


Fountains Earth CE Primary School

Newsletter—Friday 10th February 2017

Message from the Headteacher—

World Book Day!



World Book Day will take place in most schools on Thursday 2nd March but due to our Beverley Park activities we will be celebrating on Friday 3rd March. Here at Fountains, the theme will be 'bedtime stories,' and so we invite the children to come into school in their pyjamas with their favourite bedtime story on Friday 3rd!

Are there any parents who would like to come into school in the afternoon and read a story/ extract from a favourite story of your own or just come in and hear stories being read on this day? If so, please contact your class teacher. We also have an author visiting in the morning so there will be no celebration assembly on this day.

This is an ideal time for families to reflect on where/if bedtime stories are a feature in your house. At the termly North Yorkshire Heads meeting I attended on Wednesday, they talked about a county-wide survey of under 10s where only 24% said they had a bedtime story. When I asked our Fountains Earth children, about 50% of them said they did. Not bad—but something to work on.

I never thought that my Martha (in Year 7, age 11) would still crave and value a bedtime story. We are now at the stage where she reads a page and I read a page. I have read and enjoyed books I never thought I would – The Hunger Games, Wonder, Glory Be and The Mother-Daughter Book Club have all been surprise hits. I am however determined to have a nostalgic read of Little House on the Prairie, The Magic Faraway Tree and The Secret Garden.

It is of no surprise to me that she finds herself in the top set for English at secondary school despite a loathing of spelling and shockingly poor handwriting (nearly as bad as mine!). Her love of books has been the pivotal factor (I'd like to think fuelled by my bookworm tendencies).

Let's use World Book Day as a springboard to encourage bedtime story reading!

Local Authority Review

Thank you to all the parents and Governors who spoke to Simone Bennett and Steven Holmes on Monday 30th January during our Local Authority review. We have now received their extremely positive report which provides us with further guidance as to the further evidence we need to gather in the lead up to Ofsted which will take place at some point this academic year (usually 24 months after the last inspection). One of their recommendations is to help the children's learning resilience and independence and so this is something I would like to discuss at Coffee and Chat after Sharing Assembly on Friday 17th February. If parents are able to join me for a coffee and a chat, they would be most welcome.

Here are some of the things they said:-

'Pupils say the school is caring and supportive. They feel safe.'

'Parents are overwhelmingly positive about all aspects of school and see Fountains Earth as the heart of the village community.'

'Standards have improved over time and end of Key Stage results compare favourably to National.'

'Children are very well behaved and they enjoy learning.'

In preparation for Ofsted, we would very much like you to submit your views of the school online. This is the main method by which the inspectors will gather the evidence of parental views. Go to <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Thank you in anticipation.

Miss Lynette Brammah

School Forum News

Next week, we will be doing a Fit Week and all of the children will be included.

On Monday, we will be doing a circuit of activities including: running, dancing and army fitness. At the end we will put all the activities together for an obstacle course.

On Tuesday, Otto and Emily will lead a cooking event which will include making smoothies and kebabs.

On Wednesday, we will learn to relax through meditation!

On Thursday, we will all be doing outdoor activities with Bewerley Park.

We will share our successes with you in sharing assembly on Friday.

This event has been organised by the School Forum to help make our school a healthier place.

Written by Joe Warrington

Swimming

Please note there will be no swimming on Tuesday, February 28.

Bewerley Park Adventures!

The children had a wonderful time exploring the outdoors with Bewerley Park. Please can all the children bring a spare of socks in case their feet get cold or wet next week? Thank you!



Diary Dates

Monday 13 February—Healthy Week starts.

Friday 17 February—Sharing Assembly followed by coffee and chat; School closes for half term.

Monday 27 February—School opens after half term.

Wednesday 1 March—Year 5 & 6 Hockey at Nidderdale High School, 3.45pm-5.30pm.

Wednesday 8 March—Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby at Nidderdale High School, 3.45pm-5.30pm.

Friday 17 March—Staff Training Day—school closed.

Friday 7 April—School closes for Easter.

Tuesday 25 April—School reopens after Easter.

Maths Passports

Congratulations to:

- ◇ Jessica for completing Scotland
- ◇ Mark for completing Europe
- ◇ Heather for completing Europe

Please keep working towards your targets at home. We are all really noticing an improvement in mental calculation skills in the classroom.

Active Kids Vouchers

We are now saving Active Kids vouchers from Sainsbury's. Our School Forum will choose what to spend these on to add to our playtime equipment so please send any vouchers in to school by 1st July. Thank you!

Milk Bottles

Many thanks to Kate Parker for building the foundations of Class One's igloo. Please keep sending in any clean 4 pint milk containers with lids so that we can continue with our Arctic structure. Thank you!