# **February Newsletter**



February 2019

#### Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Wow, what fabulous weather we are enjoying! I hope you were all able to get out and about with your children during the half-term break, to soak up some rather unexpected sunshine. On those cold February days before the sun arrived, there was much to warm our hearts in school ...

# Time to Talk Allyance Fundraising Day

On Thursday 7th February we donned our brightest clothes to mark the Time to Talk Day. Thank you to everyone who donated money towards the work of Allyance. This will help them to continue to support local schools with the emotional well-being of their pupils through counselling; a number of our own children regularly benefit from this service. During the day, each year group spent time learning to be brave and talk about their emotions and reflecting on who they can talk to when we need help or just need to talk.

# **Year 2 Parent Workshop**



Thank you so much to all the grown-ups who were able to join us on our maths treasure hunt this month. A great time was had by all using our maths skills to find the answers to amazing facts – and collecting letters on the way to determine where we would find our hidden treasure.

Did you know that, laid end-to-end, the number of Lego bricks sold in a year would reach more than **50** ÷ **10** times around the world? Or that the stegosaurus dinosaur measured up to **37-28m** long, but had a brain the size of a walnut?

### Year 6 Parent Workshop

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February, the Year 6 children welcomed members of their families to 'The Dark Side of the Moon' for their Parent Workshop. With the school hall full of junk modelling, PVAglue and sparkly paper, everyone worked collaboratively to create some amazing rockets for their classroom displays. It was fantastic to see the children working with their parents and grandparents to design their final models. We would like to thank those who attended - we are very impressed with the creativity and inventiveness of the final constructions!



## A problem shared on WhatsApp is not always halved ...

We pride ourselves on the positive relationship we have with our parents. School staff are always happy to meet with you if you have a concern about any aspect of school life. The most effective way of being reassured is to talk to us. Please remember that, the class WhatsApp is intended for passing on short messages and is not a forum for raising concerns or to discuss children.

# The Spelling Bee

Wow! What a fantastic spelling bee! We are so proud of all of the children who took part in every level of the Spelling Bee. We value all areas of the curriculum whether art, sport, maths, spelling or anything else and the Spelling Bee is a fabulous opportunity to celebrate the skills of our children.

On Wednesday, we completed the final round of the Spelling Bee with four children from each year group competing to spell words. It was a brilliant competition and the children did very well reciting their words.

Well done to all of our competitors and to the final winners; it was lovely to see the children cheering them on and congratulating them afterwards.

# **Online Safety**

I continue to be concerned about the safety of our children online. This week the press have reported a 'challenge' called 'Momo' that is being spread on social media and WhatsApp, between children. This may in fact be a hoax but some children have raised concerns about this and we are worried about how frightening this could be for many of our pupils. If your child uses any online services, please chat to them to ensure that they are safe from this. For further information please see the accompanying article.

# **World Book Day**

Next Thursday, 7th March, is World Book Day. We are inviting children and staff alike to dress up as a book character! There are lots of great ideas like Harry Potter, Burglar Bill, Gangsta Granny, Mary Poppins and many more. We think this is a brilliant opportunity to inspire our children to read even more. In the afternoon, each class will be holding a 'Reading Cafe' where there will be a menu of reading choices and some reading shared by children. We would like to invite parents along to our reading cafe from 3pm. We hope as many of you can attend as possible - please feel free to bring younger siblings along!

#### A few reminders:

Friday Club - Please remember that Friday Club finishes at 3:15pm.

5 A Day – You can access the fun fitness routines at home on <a href="http://watch.5-a-day.tv/login/student/8580/ma01c3">http://watch.5-a-day.tv/login/student/8580/ma01c3</a>
Lost Property – Can be found at the front office.

### And finally ...

Attendance is a key factor in determining a child's success at school. Our target is that our whole school attendance is 96% or above. At the end of December we were doing well with our attendance being 96.9%. Sadly, since Christmas this has dropped to 94.2%. This is a cause for concern. If your child's attendance drops, please be aware that the class teacher will make contact with you to see if they can support your child in being in school more regularly. We miss them if they are not here!

Mrs Stephanie Wilcox Headteacher

#### **Dates for March**

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Year 3 Fundraising Cake Stall
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> World Book Day All children are invited to dress as a book character Parents invited to Reading Café at 3.00pm
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Buttercup Parents Class Assembly 9.10am
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> PTFA Quiz Night
- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Science week
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Year 5 Parents workshop 2.15pm
- Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultations 3.45pm 7.15pm
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultations 3.45pm 6.15pm
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Year 3 & 4 Parents workshop PM
- Wednesday 20th Year 2 Trip to Cambridge Science Centre
- Thursday 21st World Down Syndrome Awareness Day Come to school in odd socks
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Year 1 Easter Activities Parent Workshop PM
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Robin Parents Class Assembly 9.10am
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> PTFA Discos



# Dates for the diary

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March – Quiz Night Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March - Discos



# Easyfundraising.org.uk

A reminder that you can help us every time you shop online by selecting your chosen outlet, holiday company or internet shop via easyfundraising.org.uk

Find us on FACEBOOK for further information and details about events https://www.facebook.com/mpsptfa/