



Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020

## Newsletter Number 4 – spring term 2020

Dear families,

### Spring term Parent/Carer meetings

A final reminder that our Spring term parents/carers meetings will be held this Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 8.30am to 9.30am, and from 1.30pm to 5.30pm. At the meetings on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February you will receive information about the huge overhaul of the reading curriculum in school, as part of our overall curriculum improvement work.

The online booking system for the appointments is now closed so if you haven't made an appointment you will need to contact the school directly to arrange an alternative appointment. Alternatively, the office will email you if you haven't made an appointment to remind you to make one.

### Giraffe!!

Next week we will be having a very special visitor in school. The British Ironworks has loaned the Federation an iron giraffe. This is designed to be filled with plastic bottle tops, that will be taken away to be recycled. The giraffe will spend one week in each Federation school starting this week in Gayton, next week in Pensby then off to Heswall, Barnston, Thingwall and finishing in Irby at the end of the term. So please collect your plastic bottle tops and bring them into school on Monday – watch out for the appearance of the giraffe in the library!

### Car bumper sticker competition

This information was sent out in the last newsletter:

As a group of schools we have been lucky enough to secure funds from 'Wirral Together', courtesy of Mike Collins (local councillor for the Thingwall/Pensby ward). We are holding a car bumper sticker competition where we will invite children from all identified schools to design a car bumper sticker asking grown-ups to remember to park sensibly, in particular around our schools. Each school will identify winning entries from each year group and all finalists will then be judged by Councillor Collins, PCSO Alison Inman and representatives from Wirral's School Crossing Patrol Team. Following the judging, a first, second and third prize will be awarded. Prizes and certificates will be given to those lucky winners and the overall first prize will be made into a car bumper sticker for every family in the identified schools.

### Key Dates:

- Closing Date for competition entries – **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February**
- **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March** – Winning year group entries will be dropped off at Thingwall Primary
- **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March** – Judging process
- **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March** – Overall 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> winners will be announced

The entry form has been emailed to you with this newsletter.

## **Big Reading Week!**

Next week is Big Reading Week. This is such an exciting week. The letter about the Readathon was shared with you just before half term. Please 'go for it' with getting sponsorship – we really need more books! A copy of the letter is below.



Dear Families,

To celebrate and encourage a lifelong love of reading at home and school, we will be running a 'Sponsored Read' between 17<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

The project is being organised in conjunction with our local Usborne Organiser, Claire Rowley, and all the money raised will go towards brand new books for our school.

In addition to the sponsorship money, Usborne will also donate up to 60% of the total raised in EXTRA FREE BOOKS to the school. So for every £600 raised, we will get an extra £360 in FREE Usborne books!

Please help us to enhance our reading resources for pupils by encouraging your child to spend a small amount of time each day either reading to themselves, to others, or being read to. They can read books, comics, magazines, newspapers, menus, websites, recipes, poems, leaflets, instructions – anything with words!

If you are able to support our sponsored read, please find enclosed a sponsorship form for your child and a reading log, to record the minutes they have spent reading.

After the sponsored read, please send all the sponsorship money that your child has raised to the school by 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

Cheques should be made payable to: Claire Rowley.

We look forward to having lots more books in school for your child to read, share and enjoy.

Happy Reading!  
Miss Grant/Mr Klausen  
Literacy Learning Team

Miss Grant and Mr Klausen also wrote to you to let you know what would be happening during Big Read week and what you could do help your child at home.



**Pensby Primary School**

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## World Book Day (or rather week) 2020

2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear families,

Reading is a big focus for our school this year so we want to make a big impact in World Book Week. We have planned a timetable of events and activities for the week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> March, ending with 'slippers and stories' on the final Friday.

### Staff Story Sharing (daily)

Each day there will be two sessions in the hall, one for EYFS/KS1 and one for KS2. During these sessions a member of staff from each class will share their favourite book with the children.

### Stop, Drop and Read (daily)

At 3pm each day every class will stop what they are doing and just read.

### Whole-School Shared Story (daily)

Each class will take part in contributing to a whole-school story, starting with Year 6 and ending with Nursery. Each class will write a paragraph of the story and pass it on to the next class. The finished story will be shared with all the children on Friday morning.

### Book Swap - Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Each child is to bring an old book they no longer want or read to school on Tuesday. They will be set out in the hall and during the day each class will visit the hall and choose a different book to take home and keep. Children can only choose a new book if they have brought an old one in to swap.

### Book Token Books - Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

On Thursday we will be asking every child to bring the new book they have purchased using their World Book Day token to school with them to share with the rest of the class. Many of the books on offer are only £1, meaning your child can get a book for FREE by visiting one of the participating retailers. The tokens were sent home today and are valid from 27<sup>th</sup> February to 29<sup>th</sup> March.

### Slippers and Stories - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March

On Friday the children can bring their slippers and a teddy to school with them. They also need to bring their favourite book to read. The children are to wear their school uniform.

Thank you,

Mr Klausen and Miss Grant

### **Lost property**

The lost property box is overflowing with lovely items abandoned by children! We will be sorting through the box and displaying any unnamed items on a table in the hall during the parents meetings on 27<sup>th</sup> February. After this date, any remaining items will be discarded.

### **Blue Planet Aquarium**

I know that many families visited the Blue Planet Aquarium during half term and took up their very generous offer of £1 entry per child for our Federation schools. They were delighted that so many pupils attended. The art exhibition in the Blue Planet Aquarium comes down this week!

### **PTA**

At parents evening you will receive some information from the PTA about the work they do and how crucial their support is for your children. The PTA have been working hard to try and organise Easter events for the children. They include:

- A Spring term disco on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March – 3.30 to 4.15 for EYFS and KS1 and 4.30 to 5.30 for KS2. Cost to be confirmed.
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March will be Children's Bingo Night. The children can stay in school and enjoy bingo games. The cost will include food and will be confirmed nearer the time.
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Commando Joe/PTA Easter Egg hunt – an egg for all children, plus lots of fun! Cost to be confirmed.
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – PTA Easter Colouring competition to be sent home. There will be a prize per class with winners announced on 3<sup>rd</sup> April.
- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – final treat of the term, PTA doughnut/biscuit decorating. Cost to be confirmed.

One of our PTA has secured free Easter eggs as prizes from Whitfield Business Hub on Pensby Road. It is lovely to be supported by such a prominent local business – thank you Whitfield Business Hub!

And finally,

I know that there is daily news about Coronavirus. The link below is regularly updated with guidance if you have concerns,

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public?qclid=EAlalQobChMIm5rVtrvs5wIVjLHtCh04DgScEAYASAAEqJkGPD\\_BwE#history](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public?qclid=EAlalQobChMIm5rVtrvs5wIVjLHtCh04DgScEAYASAAEqJkGPD_BwE#history)

Thank you,



Mrs K. Brown, Headteacher