

Dunmow St Mary's Primary School

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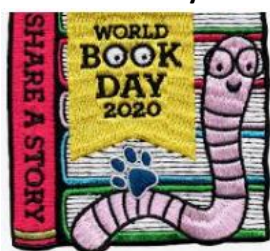


Friday 28th February 2020

Dear Parents

I hope you all had a lovely half term break.

World Book Day



Share a Million Stories - 27th February – 27th March

We have registered as a school as part of a countrywide initiative to share a million stories during World Book Month. Every time a story is shared (with adults, siblings, pets etc) the children can add a sticker to their class poster and at the end of each week the totals will be put on our 'Share-o-meter' on display in the hall and added to the nationwide total.

Scholastic Book Fair - Thursday 5th March and Monday 9th March

We shall be holding a book fair after school in the hall to help raise funds for our library. The books start at £3.99 and the children can use their World Book Day vouchers enabling them to get a £1 discount. **Please note payment will be by cash only.**

Decorate a spud on World Book Day - Thursday 5th March

This year we are asking the children to bring a potato into school where they can decorate it as a book character. This will be done during the school day and they will be displayed during the book sale on Thursday and Monday. There will also be a prize for the most original spud.

The Big Book Giveaway - 27th February - 27th March

The library has organised a KS1 and KS2 raffle with every child having an entry. Each day a name will be pulled out of the box and that child will be able to choose from a selection of books selected by the library. Each week the winners will be published by the side of our 'Share-o-meter' and the children informed.

It should be a fun filled month!

Online safety concern – Fortnite

Some children in Y1 have been talking about playing the game Fortnite. As with many online games, Fortnite: Battle Royale comes with risks to children and young people. The game is PEGI rated at 12+ however, there is no proof of age required, which can expose younger children to inappropriate content and comments from older users. The National Online Safety Service has put together a guide for schools and parents with more information about the game to help keep your children safe which can be found here: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/fortnite-battle-royale-parents-guide/>

Term Dates 2020-2021

Please find attached the term dates for the academic year from September 2020 to July 2021 including the INSET days.

Parent consultations

Parent consultations for Year R to 5 will be taking place on Monday 16th March and Wednesday 18th March between 3.30pm and 6.30pm. Booking for these sessions is currently open and will close on Sunday 15th March. Please be aware that there are issues with using the system via mobiles and tablets so where possible please use a computer/laptop. You are unfortunately not yet able to use the Scopay app. For families with multiple children we advise leaving 10 minutes between appointments to move around the school and unless there are exceptional circumstances it would be really helpful if split families could arrange to meet teachers together. There are a limited number of slots available and we believe it is important that teachers are able to deliver the same feedback to both parents.

Suitcases and other items required!



The Pastoral Care team are planning on setting up themed suitcases for Y1 and Y2 to use at lunch time. They are therefore in need of any of the following items or items connected to the themes:

- Suitcases
- Holidays - sunglasses, towels, plastic picnic equipment, sarongs, buckets and spades
- Vets - any medical equipment, soft animals, white coats, toy pet carry cases
- Nature spotters - nature books, magnifying glasses, nets, camouflage stuff
- Pop stars/music - any toy instruments, play microphones, popstar wigs and glasses, feather boas, glitzy gloves
- Workmen/women - toy tools and tool belts, hard hats, clipboards

We will collect all items in the unused class room next to 1RF/GM, so please deposit your donations there. Once the suitcases have been sorted and filled we will store them in the lunchtime shed.

Thank you for your support.

Y6 parent meeting with HRS

Daniel Gee and Neal Foster, the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher of HRS, will be hosting a “meet and greet” event on Monday 9th March at 3.15pm. The session is designed to meet parents and children at the end of the day and answer any questions that they may have, following their offer of a school place at HRS. This will take place in our school hall. Refreshments will be available. For those parents who are unable to make it, HRS will be hosting a Q&A evening at HRS on 17 March between 5pm and 7pm.

PTA

Fundraising opportunity: **Do you shop in the Co Op?** If so you can easily help raise money for the school by nominating our school as a charity and each time you swipe your card when you shop you can add to the fund. Please click on this link to sign in or sign up to start raising money!

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/42530>.

Lego

The school is also in need of unwanted Lego pieces/sets. If you have any that children no longer play with could you please pop it into the school office?

Unwanted football shirts

If anyone has football shirts that their children have grown out of, we are collecting them for children in Kenya. Miss Rogers will be visiting Kenya during the May half term and will be taking these with her. Please hand them into the school office over the coming months.

Events

Please find below the event calendar for next week:

Week commencing Monday 2nd March	
All week	Assessment Week
TUESDAY	Y1 Trip to Hatfield Forest
WEDNESDAY 10.40	3SC Class Assembly
WEDNESDAY 2.55	2BR Class Assembly
THURSDAY	World Book Day – please bring in a potato
THURSDAY 3.15	Book Fair – school hall
FRIDAY	Y6 School Journey – instalment 7 out of 9 and instalment 5 out of 6 now due

Please note that the Open X-Country run on 5th March has been cancelled.

Yours sincerely
Clare Griffiths