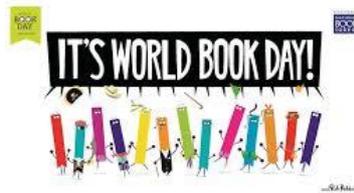




## PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

No 33- 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020

### WORLD BOOK DAY!



Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March is World Book Day. We are inviting the children to come in dressed as their favourite character from **any book!**

Here at school, we are going to do our own Parklands version of 'Where's Wally?' - We will run a treasure hunt for each class, which will be lots of fun. There will also be a range of book related activities taking place in the school. It should be an exciting day!

### WELLBEING – KEEP LEARNING

This term our wellbeing is focus is 'keep learning', where we will be giving the children the opportunity to learn a new skill and understand the benefits people get from doing this. Learning something new offers real satisfaction and keeping your mind active is very beneficial for your wellbeing.

Here's what new things the children will be learning this term:

Reception: Sign Language (a few phrases and a song)

Y1: Birdwatching in 1M and Irish dancing in 1L

Y2: String Art

Y3: Chess

Y4: Knitting

Y5: First Aid



Y6: Spanish

## VALUES - DETERMINATION



Building on 'Aspiration' from the New Year, we have chosen 'Determination' as our new value this term. Please do talk with your child about what it means to be determined!

## PARENT'S EVENINGS

Parent's Evenings are scheduled for Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. The booking system will open up in a couple of weeks.

## SCIENCE WEEK

As part of British Science Week (6th-15th March 2020), we will be taking part in a day filled with immersive, exciting and engaging Science on Friday 13th March!

Children will have the opportunity to take part in many experiments and investigations to explore this year's theme: 'Our Diverse Planet', focussing on the diversity that surrounds us. This theme encourages us to think about the amazing diversity we see on our planet, including different animals, people, places, materials habitats, cultures and more! Across the school there will also be a day full of workshops ran by James Boffin (Secret Science Agent UU7) from an out of school company where he will work with children on a mix of 'WOW factor' experiments.

We can't wait!



## SNOW...

It seems the cold weather is a bit reluctant to leave us! Hopefully we'll soon see Spring, but this is just a reminder that if there is any snowfall that impacts school, we will let you know on our website, Twitter and Facebook sites by 8 am.

## CURRICULUM ROUND UP! WHAT WE ARE DOING THIS TERM

### Reception



This term our topic is 'enchanted forest'. We will be exploring various traditional tales in our English lessons and afternoon story time. Our Focus text this term is 'bear's magic pencil', an exciting and unique picture book! Wherever Bear goes he takes his magic pencil with him. If ever he has a problem he just draws his way out of trouble – whatever he draws becomes real! The children will be developing their reading and writing skills throughout the topic, they will finish off the topic by creating their own storyline for the text!

The children will be immersing themselves in the enchanted forest in our role play areas and being scientists in our mini beast laboratory. Towards the end of term we will also be having some chicks into reception, we will watch the eggs hatch and learn all about the life cycle of a chick. The children will also have a chance to observe a caterpillar farm throughout the term, we will then release the butterflies into our outdoor area.

### Year One





Year One have loved learning all about Queen Victoria, and Victorian school life. We continue to develop the children's understanding further this term when we will take a closer look at houses and homes in this period (and compare them with our luxurious home today!) as well as exploring the differences between the lives of the rich and the poor Victorians.

### Year Two



We have completed the Civil War and cavalier section of the topic, and so we move on to the Great Fire of London this half term! We will look at how the fire spread, the impact it had on London and key landmarks and how it was eventually put out. The children will build on the knowledge learned last term regarding Charles II and look at the actions he took as King during the fire. They will step into the shoes of Samuel Pepys, and finally become little bakers themselves and make some bread!

### Year Three



In our Year 3 curriculum work we are continuing with the theme of 'Conquerors'. Now we are finding out about the Vikings and we had our 'Wow' day when 'Eric Bloodaxe' came in to school to tell us a little about Viking life! We shall look at the lasting influence of Viking culture in Britain, read about their beliefs and their myths, and then write some of our own myths!



## Year Four



In year 4, we will be continuing to study the Ancient Civilisations - focusing on the Mayans this half term.

Throughout this unit, we will be looking at key events during this time in history. We will learn what their beliefs were and why the Maya calendar was so important to them. We will then compare and contrast this with our learning about the Egyptians, exploring what similarities and differences there were between these two ancient civilisations.

## Year Five



This half term Year 5 will be continuing with their 'Mission to Mars' topic! During this, they will be creating their own marketing campaigns to persuade people to move to Mars! They will be using IT to create mini adverts, posters and a presentation as part of their campaign, as well as using their amazing writing skills to create a persuasive speech. Finally, they will combine all of their work to present their campaign!

## Year Six



Throughout term 4, Year 6's Creative Curriculum will continue on the very exciting topic of the Vietnam and the Peace Movement. Since investigating the geography of the country; finding information about the major cities; and reasons for the political division of North and South of the country during the period of war, we are now ready to focus on the anti-war protest movements. The children will learn about the change in mood of the US public and reasons for opposition of the conflict. Through art and music, they will explore the rise of movements supporting love and peace, learning about prominent music artists who dominated the US charts with anti-war songs e.g War by Edwin Starr. This topic will give children a great opportunity to understand the feelings behind many events in the world today, and understand the power of music and art in working for a peaceful world. We will finish this topic with an inter-school debate at Preston Hedges where we'll discuss the US's choice to go to War with Vietnam !

### HEALTH & HYGIENE

As per the letter that you received earlier this week, we have put sanitising gel, advice posters and had many discussions with children regarding how to keep good hygiene.

We continue to be updated by the DfE on Coronavirus guidance, and at any point that the situation changes, we will let you know.

### Dates for your diary:

Y5 Class assembly – **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – 9.05am & 2.30pm**

Parents Evenings - **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.**

Have a fantastic weekend!

Here are a few images from this week:



Learning something new in Y2, Y3 & Y5:



## Vikings in Y3:



## Finding creatures in the enchanted forest:

