

The Beacon

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Headteacher News

World Book Day: World Book Day is a celebration! It's a celebration of authors, illustrators, books and - most importantly - of reading. In fact, it's the biggest celebration of its kind, designated by UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) as a worldwide celebration - being marked in over 100 countries. This is its nineteenth year now and, on 3rd March 2016, children of all ages will come together to appreciate reading. The main aim is to encourage children to explore the pleasures of books and reading. There's plenty of evidence suggesting that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. In fact, there's evidence to suggest that reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than either their social or economic background. As parents, you can make a huge difference; you are by far the most important educators in a child's life and encouraging and sharing in their reading will have a massive impact on their learning. So please do share in our World Book Day celebrations next week.

eSchools Parent-Teacher Consultation Online Booking System: Due to popular demand, we adopted an online booking system for our parent-teacher consultations. Many parents found it difficult to attend school in order to book a slot and therefore requested they be able to do it online. We've facilitated this through our eSchools portal but I am aware there have been teething problems — many apologies for this (I guess you might expect it when introducing a new electronic system). We're keen to further improve this service for you though, so if you have any helpful feedback for us we'd really like to hear from you. Please email us with any thoughts or comments at admin@mpsplymouth.net. Many thanks.

Parent View: Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think about us. The survey can be completed at any time; you don't have to wait until the school is being inspected. Ofsted use the information when making decisions about which schools to inspect and when. People often don't complete such things when they're happy with everything but it is nice to receive positive feedback. Could I please ask that you take a few moments to complete the online questionnaire – it's only 12 questions and literally takes just a few minutes to do. Visit www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk. Thank you.

Foundation News

Foundation are very excited about the trip to the aquarium next week. Class S on Monday, Class M Tuesday and Class P on Wednesday. If you decided to provide your child's packed lunch, please could you send it in a named lunch bag. The children will wear school uniform. We also have a fun filled day planned on Thursday for World Book Day where the children can dress up as a character from 'The Three Little Pigs' and come back to school for Bedtime Stories.

Year 2 News

Welcome Back, It was lovely to see so many of you at Parent's Evening this week. As always, thanks for your support at home. Look out for a parent maths workshop coming soon. The children have started their 'Little Red Riding Hood' unit of work, where we will be collaborating with Year 5. There are some pictures on eSchools. The children showed off their explorer skills on our trip to The Eden Project, we were very proud of them all.

Year 3 News

It has been a busy week back for year 3! The children have risen to the challenge as usual, creating their own Three Adventure Pigs stories ready for World Book Day (next Thursday), learning how to use inverted commas and also working out fractions of the Three Little Pigs' food. It was great to see so many of you at parents evening to share how the children are getting on. If you haven't been able to come it yet please see class teachers to arrange an appointment. Thanks for the response to the canoeing experience, please can all contributions be paid online, using the normal system, by Monday March 7th March at the latest. Any questions regarding the activity, please see class teachers who are happy to help. Fundraising events to support the funding of the activity will start from next week (Cup Cakes for Canoes- 4th March, Clothes for Canoes - 7th March, Cycles for Canoes-11th March).

Year 4 News

What a full on week for us in Year 4. The children have been really focused and have been pushing themselves all week. In English we have been working with Year 1 to learn the fairy tale 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. We have been looking at the different events that took place for Jack, writing a police report on the break in at the castle. In Maths we have been continuing to look at fractions, revisiting equivalent fractions, then adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator.

Bude Payments

The next Bude payment of £50 is due by Monday 1st March 2016 bringing monies paid to a minimum of £300. Please contact Mrs Simpson on 216160 if there is a problem with meeting any of the deadlines.

Diary Dates Fri 4th Mar 2016

 Tempest Photography – Foundation & Yr6 Class Group Photos

Thursday 24th Mar 2016.

- 'Wear a Hat' Mufti
 Fri 25th Mar Fri 8th Apr 2016
- Easter holidays
 Mon 11th Apr 2016
- Non pupil day
- Mon 2nd May 2016
- Bank holiday
- Mon 30th May 2016Bank holiday

Tues 31st May - Fri 3rd June Inc.

Half term

Mon 6th June 2016

- Non pupil day
- Fri 22nd July 2016
- Last day of term
 Wed 7th Sept 2016
- First day of term

Tempest Photography 4th March

Foundation and Year 6 will be having their informal group photos taken on Friday 4th March.

Year 5 News

The children have been working hard in Maths this week finding the factors of numbers and learning about prime, squared and cubed numbers. During an English lesson we went to our forest area to search for clues regarding the disappearance of Little Red Riding Hood! In combination with year 2, the children of year 5 are looking at the fairy story, but from the perspective of the wolf. Next week on World Book Day, Thursday March 3rd, we will be dressing up as one of the characters from the story, either Little Red Riding Hood, Wolf, Grandma or the woodcutter, to share our stories with the year 2 children. We look forward to seeing everyone in costume.

Year 6 News

Year 6 came in to school Monday morning to find a crime had taken place in our forest area. Acting as police officers, each class made their way out to the scene to collect evidence and interview the only witness: Mr Tincan, the wood cutter. Thanks to all the parents that attended parents' evening; we apologise for the trouble some of you experienced logging on to eSchools. Thank you for your support during this week's sponsored read - we know some children have been real book worms! We look forward to seeing everyone in their 'Three Little Pigs' style outfits on Thursday for our World Book Day celebrations.

HeartSWell Wear it Red 11.2.16

Thanks to your generosity I am delighted to inform you that we raised a total of £632.34p, 100 Italian Lire, 9 Euro cents, 2 American cents, a stretched 2p coin and a Trago Mills leisure token. This donation will help support the great work that Heartswell are doing. If you would like to find out more about the charity please visit www.heartswell.org.uk.

Place your FREE Mother's Day message in the Plymouth Herald now!

We will once again be paying tribute to mums, mothers, grandmas and grandmothers across the region to celebrate Mothering Sunday 6th March 2016.

You can place your free message, or you can also make your message extra special and even add a photo from just £7.

All messages must be booked before 5pm on Wednesday 2nd March and will appear in print and online on Saturday 5th March, don't forget to place your message now at: plymouthherald.co.uk/bookonline

World Book Day Information

Thank you for all your support this week in raising money for new books for the school by taking part in this week's sponsored read and visiting the book fair today - it will make a huge difference! Please can we ask that all the sponsorship money is handed in to your child's class teacher (in a clearly labelled envelope) by Friday 4th March at the latest - thank you.

Just a reminder that it's World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March and all the children (and staff!) are invited to dress up as a character from the traditional tale that their year group is learning about:

Foundation, Year 3 and Year 6 - The Three Little Pigs

Year 1 and Year 4 - Jack and the Beanstalk Year 2 and Year 5 - Little Red Riding Hood Also, don't forget that it's also Bedtime Stories on Thursday 3rd March. This will take place in the classrooms. Please drop off and collect your child from the classroom as children will not be allowed to leave without an adult. The children will enjoy being told stories and there will be squash and biscuits too! Children are invited to wear their pyjamas and bring their favourite soft toy if they wish!

KS1 - 5.15pm - 6.15pm

KS2 - 5.30pm - 6.30pm

We hope to see you at the Parent Book Swap (KS2 hall) whilst your child/ children are enjoying bedtime stories. You can either, drop off books you'd like to swap at reception any time this week or bring them along on the night. There will also be refreshments available with donations to the PTFA.

Thank you for your support with this year's World Book Day celebrations.

Clothes for Canoes

Help Year 3 achieve their aim of going canoeing by donating the clothing items in the list below. Please place all clothes in a plastic bag and send in on Monday 7th March. Thanks in advance for your support.

WE DO ACCEPT:



WE DO NOT ACCEPT



Lost Property

Issac Pask (Class P) has lost his Montpelier PE bag. All the contents are labelled. Please notify the school office if you know of its whereabouts. Thank you.

Derriford Hospital Open Day

Derriford Hospital will be having an Open Day on Saturday 19th March Visit www.plymouthhospitals.blog.org for more information

