

Ashby Hill Top Primary School Newsletter

Belong Thrive Succeed



Friday 10th March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The weather was particularly awful this week, but I hope you managed to find some time to enjoy the bit of snow that we have had!

World Book Day

Last week, the children and staff came to school in a wide variety of fantastic outfits all ready for World Book Day. Well done to everyone for making such an effort. Children took part in a range of activities in class and everyone had a fun day. Your child has been given a book token which will enable them to either, choose a book from a set selection, or get £1 off any book worth £2.99 or more at participating retailers. A particular highlight for me was the Book Raffle, planned and organised by the Reading Ambassadors- the children absolutely loved it and everyone who entered left with a new book to enjoy!



Strike Action

The next dates scheduled for industrial action are Wednesday 15th March and Thursday 16th March 2023, **I am writing to let you know that school will remain open to all children on both of these days.** Thank you for your continued support and understanding.



PE

I have noticed that some of our Year 5 and Year 6 girls are becoming a little self-conscious when it comes to participation in PE lessons. As a school, we want to do all that we can to ensure that there is no barrier for girls to participate and I am concerned that the current PE uniform may be a barrier. With this in mind we would be happy for the girls in Year 5 and Year 6 to wear a plain black t-shirt for indoor and outdoor PE and 'Skorts' (a mix between a skirt and shorts) for indoor PE. These items can be sourced cheaply at super markets, M&S sell skorts for between £6-£9.



Trips

Our EYFS children had a wonderful time when they visited the Curve in Leicester to watch 'Room on the Broom'. It was a truly fantastic experience to see story telling brought to life. So many of the staff and members of the public commented on the impeccable behaviour of our children too! Well done everyone!

Our Year 3/4 children were also out and about at Carsington Water- they had a wonderful, if a little chilly, day. Well done children!



Thank you as well to the staff who supported on both of these trips!

Time keeping

Over the last few weeks, we have seen an increasing number of children arriving late for school in the mornings. This is incredibly unsettling for the children and does not allow them to enjoy a smooth start to the school day with their peers. We always give any late comers a warm welcome, however it can make the reception area very congested and busy first thing in the morning. Please be aware that teachers often focus on some of the most important things for children early in the morning because research shows this is when they are at their most receptive. If your child is regularly late for school, they will consistently miss this important part of their learning!

Red Nose Day – Friday 17th March

As stated in the letter earlier this week, we will be supporting Comic Relief in raising money for their Red Nose Day campaign. The theme this year is 'The Mr Men & Little Miss'.

Our School Council have been meeting to plan and organise our Hill Top fundraising. They would like to invite your child to:

- Come to school dressed as either a Mr Man or Little Miss on the 17th March. This can be as simple as you wish – a yellow t-shirt and a smile would give the perfect Mr Happy vibe! We will be asking your child to bring a small monetary donation to join in with this. If your child does not wish to dress up, then they will need to come to school in their school uniform.
- Enjoy a Red Nose Day themed Golden Time. Staff will facilitate activities such as Mr Men art tutorials, Mr Silly party games, Mr Bounce basketball, Mr Chatterbox chill & chat, Mr Calm yoga and Little Miss Brainy quizzes!

Stay Safe Online

We are constantly updating our thoughts and actions when navigating the online world. Building digital resilience and the ability to recognise when you are at risk is a key element to being safe online. A resilient child is more likely to stay safe if anything bad happens and benefit from the opportunities the online world provides.

How can we help to develop this? It is important that while we may not understand all the apps or devices they use, we do have thoughts about what is good and bad/ right and wrong, in the world, and sharing these values is a fantastic way to process their experiences. By shutting down on difficult issues they become more, rather than less frightening. What has been seen cannot be unseen. However, talking together and making sense of the information will make a difference. We can teach our children to be critical thinkers so that they can make sensible judgements about what they are seeing and doing. Children do need to take risks and learn that they



can recover when things go wrong and with our help and guidance they will develop ways to recognise when they are at risk.

Ways you could guide your children:

- Talk to your children about the risks (particularly sexting).
- Explore ways, with your child, to report things to the app/site that have worried them.
- Create 'screen-free time' for the whole family. Enjoy time together doing something outdoors or creative.
- Be curious and better understand the online world they live in. Find time to show an interest in the sites they use and discuss times they have felt uncomfortable online. Talk together and if you feel that parental antennae tingling: delve deeper.

You are the parent. What you say goes. Make sure you stick to boundaries and build a healthy relationship with digital media.

These are the modern troubles our children face. They may not be issues we can understand but it is our job to find out so that we can guide and empathise. Their future happiness may well depend on how good their relationship is with digital media.

Further information can be found here:

www.childline.org.uk

Tel: 0800 1111

Parent helpline 0808 800 5000



End of Key Stage SATS

SATs week for our current Year 6 children will take place from

Tuesday 9th May 2023 with the last test being on Friday 12th May. National testing for Year 2 children will take place during the month of May 2023. We will be sharing information regarding testing arrangements for Year 6 and Year 2 later on in the school year.

School Closure for use as a Polling Station– Thursday 4th May 2023

We have been notified by the Local Authority that school will be closed for use as a polling station on **Thursday 4th May**. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

Additional Bank Holiday – Monday 8th May 2023

Following the announcement of His Majesty's Coronation on Saturday 6th May 2023, an additional bank holiday has been announced for Monday 8th May. School will be closed on this day and will reopen on Tuesday 9th May.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact school.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Sylvie Newman'.

Sylvie Newman
Executive Headteacher

Diary Dates Spring 2023	
14 th March	EYFS & KS1 Movie merit treat – yellow team
15 th March	KS2 Movie merit treat – yellow team
17 th March	Red Nose Day
21 st March	Mrs Newham and Miss Frances rescheduled Parents Evening 3.30-6pm
22 nd March	Mrs Newham rescheduled Parents Evening 3.30-6.30pm
	Class Photographs
	Friends of Hill Top Chocolate Bingo
24 th March	Y6 Dental Survey
29 th March	2.45pm Sound Start concert – Mrs Poxon and Mrs McAuliffe's class
31 st March	School breaks up for Easter