

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020****Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Friends**

This week Year 6 children have been on the Isle of Wight for their 5 day residential visit. The children have enjoyed a whole host of activities, including quad biking, climbing, the giant swing, Jacob's ladder and evening entertainment. Helen Coupe, who is leading the visit, has been in touch with us throughout the week and has said it has been fabulous, the children have worked so well together. The children return around 5:30pm this evening and I'm sure will be looking forward to telling their adults all about it.

On Thursday, we celebrated World Book Day at Brindishe Manor. We had many children choosing to dress up as their favourite characters from the books they enjoy and many children also took part in the 'story spoon' competition. It was great to see so many children (and staff) getting involved. Thank you to the PSFA who hosted our annual 'book breakfast' and to the adults who were able to pop-in to the classrooms to share a story with your child.

We are always looking to refresh and replenish the reading material that we offer the children, throughout the school. If you have any unused books at home that are in good condition that you think we could make use of, then please do let us know. We would be more than happy to accept them.



**A huge well done to all of the Brindishe runners who took part in 'The Vitality big Half' last Sunday. It was a great success with many raising money for the school.** The money will now go towards the development of outdoor spaces at Brindishe Manor. If you are able to, a small donation would still be gratefully received:

<https://localgiving.org/fundraising/BrindisheManor/>

You can also pop any donations into the school office.



**Dina Asher-Smith  
visiting on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March  
Sports relief week**

Sports Relief Week is next week and the children's assemblies will be focusing on how taking part in sport can improve your wellbeing and mental health. We are not holding a particular event for Sports Relief, but if children would like to wear their PE kits/ sports kit of their choice on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March then please feel free to do so. There will be a collection box in the school reception area for any donations to this charity.

Last week I announced that the World Champion Athlete, Dina Asher-Smith will be visiting Brindishe Manor on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March to talk to the children about her athletics success and how being resilient has helped her succeed. Dina Asher-Smith is currently the fastest British woman in history. She currently holds British records in the 100m (10.83 secs), 200m (21.88 secs) and 4x100m (41.77 secs).



#### Attendance of the week...

Key Stage 1: Ruby - 97.9%  
Key Stage 2: Amber - 97.2%



### **Coronavirus**

We recognise there is public anxiety around reported cases of Coronavirus in the UK and locally. We as a school are updated by The Department of Education on a daily basis. They have informed us that they have set up a helpline to answer any questions parents/carers might have about coronavirus that is related to education. The contact details are:

**Phone:** 0800 0468687

**Email:** [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

**Opening hours:** 8am-6pm Monday-Friday

If you have any other questions or concerns, please come and speak to somebody either on the school gate or speak to a member of our team in the school office.

**Year 1 choir** will be starting again after half term on Thursdays from 3.15 – 4 pm. If your child was already a member, they will still have a place. If your child would like to join, please let the office know and they will let you know if there are any available spaces. The first session will be on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March.



**Rights Respecting at Article 24 (health and health services):** Next week we will be focusing on the fact that every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. You may wish to talk to your child/children about how they can lead a healthy lifestyle.



### Dates for your diary

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March** Sports relief week

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March** Y1 sewing workshop

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March** Y2 trip to Museum of London

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** Bikeability for some Y5 children

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** - Whole school EarthFest 2020 Art Exhibition

Please be reminded that The Government announced last year that the early **May bank holiday** would this year be moved from Monday **May 4** to **Friday May 8**, to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

**The 2020-2021 term dates are available on our website.**

Best wishes for the week ahead

Kate Porter  
Headteacher

**Nursery** - This week in Nursery we focused on the sounds that we have learned so far and how we can put those sounds together to make sensible words. Sounding out simple words can be very tricky so we used 'robot arms' to help us sound out and blend the words. The children have been doing some practical activities to help reinforce the sounds. We enjoyed dressing up for World Book day, reading stories with dragons, princesses, a group of Spidermen, fairies and a lot of other characters. Our Maths area has new games and activities. We measured the children and they can now all say how tall they are. We are starting to talk about who is the tallest, the shortest, who is taller and who is shorter.

**Reception** - We had a wonderful World Book Day this week, with all sorts of super characters in Reception, from dragons to fairies to superheroes! Thank you to all the children and families for your enthusiasm and creativity, and well done for the super story spoons you brought in as well.  
We have been making our own puppets this week and putting on puppet shows. It has been wonderful to see the children using lovely story language to tell their stories. We have also been making beautiful bookmarks and writing books about mermaids, mighty pups and bunnies, among other things!  
In maths we continue to build on our understanding of numbers to 10 and we are now looking at addition, combining 2 groups to make a new total.

**Year 1** - We had a fantastic World Book Day, all of the children loved dressing up as their favourite character. Thank you also to the adults that came in to share a story with the children in class.  
Onyx class have been researching different artist, particularly Vincent Van Gogh, and have been inspired to experiment with different painting techniques. Jasper class have also been getting arty in their role play, and have been focusing on lines and shading in their sunflower drawings. We have really been trying to get the children to think about what they can actually see, and which areas are darker than others. Jasper class have also been learning about verbs and imperative verbs in preparation for their instruction writing next week. We went out on to the field to see if we could identify deciduous and evergreen trees and researched the difference between the two trees on iPads, see if your child can spot any trees and explain which type of tree it is.  
In maths, Year 1 have been looking at numbers 1-20. Please practise these numbers at home, counting in order but also at random, so the children can become very fluent with them. You could also try some quick fire games such as 'what is one more than 14? Which number comes before 12?'

**Year 2** - This week, Year 2 have been diving deeper into our 'Great Fire of London' topic. Sadly our own 'Great Fire' had to be postponed due to the weather (hopefully we should be good to go at the beginning of next week). The children's outfits on World Book Day were fabulous! It was quite an experience teaching a class full of princesses, trees, cowboys, Artful Dodgers and Mad Hatters...For home learning this week, we would like families to fill out the survey we're sending home about bread (to tie-in with the bakery origins of the Great Fire of London). This will also link with our learning in maths, and the making of bread with our classes over the next couple of weeks.

**Year 3** - Year 3 have been learning about Howard Carter's amazing discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb. Sapphire class have recreated the discovery by creating freeze frames in drama, we used facial expressions to show Howard Carter's emotions. Sapphire class will be writing diary entries about the event and have been planning their diary entries this week. Pearl class will be writing biographies about Howard Carter and have been planning their biographies this week. In maths, we have continued with our learning about money. We have been identifying different coins and notes as well as making different amounts.

**Year 4** - It was wonderful to see so many children in Year 4 dressed as their favourite characters for World Book Day and sharing the books they love. We even had Mr Tiller (Topaz) and Mr Ahmed (Amber) come to speak to us about their favourite book, which they then read to us. Our reading response this week is also linked to discussions we had during this special day and the theme of World Book Day 2020 'Sharing Stories'.

In English, Topaz have completed their biography writing on William Kamwamba and we will begin investigating great speeches of the past next week for our new English unit. Amber class have begun to write their own narratives based on 'Race to the Frozen North' which tells the true story of Matthew Henson's expedition to the Arctic. They are sounding exciting.

Topaz class have also been creating their wonderful art pieces of the coral reef ready for their installation, for the Art Exhibition in a few weeks. There are lots of truly fantastic pieces being made, where many children have focused on detail using creative and imaginative ways to form these 3D sculptures. Amber class are beginning to plan and create an animation for the Art Exhibition which shows the impact of climate change on coral reefs around the world.

**Year 5** - This week in Year 5, the children have continued to learn about ratio. We've found missing amounts when given a ratio and moved onto solving word problems involving this - for example: *A baker mixes flour and sugar in the ratio 5:2. If he used 125g of flour, how much sugar did he use?* At home, continue to see if you can use ratio to work out quantities, especially when adapting recipes to feed a certain amount of people.

In English, we have started to write our own Greek myths involving the heroes and creatures we have created. We've focused on using relative clauses, semi-colons and brackets to add extra information. Ask your child about the characters and plot of their story to help them become more familiar with them.

In science, we have been separating different liquids and solids through filtering and sieving, thinking carefully about the properties of the materials to do this. Perhaps your child could identify everyday situations where these skills are needed.

Year 5 have also continued to get our artwork ready for the whole school art exhibition that will take place in the next couple of weeks. Just a reminder that if you have any small pieces of plastic recycling in the house that your child could bring in, it would be very much appreciated.