



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely having the children back in school this week, I do hope that you had a restful break with them over the half-term. Its been a busy week, with such a lovely day on Tuesday when the children celebrated their countries and towns of origin. We loved seeing their presentations! Edie in 2NW writes: 'I learned that we are all from different countries. My favourite thing was dressing up.' Luca in 2NW writes: 'I liked all the presentations and my favourite thing was to sing a song. I liked dressing up.' Thanks to the School Council for organising this 'Language and Culture Day', and to all of you for your help and support – hopefully we can make this an annual event!

World Book Day

Next Thursday, 6th March, we will be celebrating World Book Day at St Walburga's! Your child is invited to come into school dressed as their favourite book character. For those who don't want to dress up – mufti is fine but please bring in your favourite book! Home learning this week is to prepare a poster or presentation about a favourite book. We are really looking forward to celebrating all things reading on the day, and the staff are busy planning some activities for the children. The KS1 Reading shed will be open for parents to share a story with their child every day next week. Many thanks to Mrs Cunningham for organising this for the children.

Book Fair

While we're talking about books, we will be holding a Book Fair from Wednesday 12th to Friday 14th March. The children will have a chance to browse the books with their class during the school day, and then the Fair will be open for parents and carers to purchase books with their child after school. This is a great fundraiser for the school, as we receive books in commission from all sales. Please support us if you can! If you are able to help us run the Fair after school on any of these days, please let us know via the office or tell Mrs Crutchley or myself on the gate. Many thanks in advance!

Lent

Next week we will mark the start of Lent in school with a Celebration of the Word for Key Stage 1, and a Mass for Key Stage 2 on Ash Wednesday. Father Anthony and Deacon Barry will be joining us for both of these services, and the children will receive ashes during the service. We will also be launching our Lenten 'Sowing the Seed' project, so look out for more information about that next week. The children's learning in RE will also focus on Lent for the next few weeks. They will learn about Lent as a time of repentance and preparation, and about the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert in preparation for his own time of ministry. They will also learn about the three 'pillars' of Lent – fasting, prayer and almsgiving – and hopefully putting these ideas into practice.

School uniform supplier

Our school uniform supplier, QDOS, have updated their contact details – new phone number: 07774 679472, and email: info@gdoschoolwear.co.uk Please keep these details safe in case you need to order!

Bay run newsletter

I am attaching a flyer about the Bay Run, taking place on 23rd March. Parents can run free of charge with their child (but will not get a T shirt or medal if they are not registered).

Second hand uniform sale

We will be holding a pre-loved uniform sale on Friday 7th March from 2.30pm – thanks to Mrs Arthur and her team of helpers! Come along and snap up a bargain!

Volunteering opportunities

We have been made aware of two great opportunities for adults to get out and about and make a difference locally- one is in our local parks - <https://parksfoundation.org.uk/> and the other is a variety of groups at the Henry Brown Centre offering a range of courses - <https://www.skillsandlearningpace.com/locations/the-henry-brown-youth-centre/>

Dissertation help!

Kat, who used to work in our SWOOSH club. has asked if any parents or carers can complete a short survey about their child's eating habits. It is entirely anonymous, and the information does not come back to the school. If you are able to complete this, please see the attached flier which has a QR code and here is the direct link to the survey: <https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/bournemouth/children-s-eating-behaviours> Thanks in advance for your help!

Attendance

We are half way through the year now and I am pleased to tell you that our attendance at the end of Spring Half Term 1 was 96.03%. We are really pleased that we are on target.

Here is the attendance breakdown for each year group;

Year Group	Attendance
Reception	95.47%
Year 1	96.51%
Year 2	96.21%
Year 3	96.04%
Year 4	95.79%
Year 5	96.06%
Year 6	96.12%

Well done to those year groups above target!

Well done to our Stars of the Week

Super Role Model:

RP: Liliana RJ: Sofia; 1JC:Alisha; 1WH:Florence; 2NW: Emmanuel; 2MS: Freddie; 3DB: Malika; 3NL:Connie; 4DC:Lindsay; 4PM: Esme; 5JC:Freddie D; 5RH:Zack; 6KB:Joel; 6HT: Mieszko.

Learning Champion:

RP: Jessie, RJ: Caleb; 1JC:Ozi; 1WH:Sienna; 2NW: Liyana; 2MS:Kenji; 3DB: Jessica; 3NL:Paisley; 4DC: Klara; 4PM:Navish; 5JC:Maty; 5RH: Malena; 6KB: Zac; 6HT:Kathleen .

Dates for your diary:

Mon 3 rd March	2.25	1JC Celebration of the Word Parents welcome!
Tues 4 th March	2.25	1WH Celebration of the Word – parents welcome!
Wed 5 th March	All day	Ash Wednesday
Thurs 6 th March	All day	World Book Day
Fri 7 th March	All day	Great Fire of London Day Year 2
Fri 7 th March	2.30pm	Second Hand Uniform Sale
10 th March	All week	Year 3 'Stone Age Week'
12 th -14 th Mar	2.50pm	Book Fair

Wishing you a lovely weekend with your family,

Veronica Woodward
Headteacher