



Newsletter

Margaret McMillan

Primary School

Issue February 2018

Dear Parents and carers,

Our school has been very fortunate to be involved in a two year project on maths mastery with the White Rose Maths Hub based in Halifax. Over the coming months there will be changes to the way we teach maths based on the latest international research and of high performing jurisdictions across the world. The focus is on developing reasoning and conceptual understanding alongside fluency in basic number facts. We will be holding parent maths information meetings to keep you updated.

Our very talented Year 3 and 4 Choir took part in the Big Sing at Sheffield Arena in January. They sang with thousands of other primary school children and thoroughly enjoyed their experience. We are very proud of them.

I recently received a complaint about the litter around our school site. We always try to keep our school site clean and tidy but the recent winds have not helped us as they often blow litter into our grounds. Our 2 caretakers , Mr Sheard and Mr Innes do litter pick regularly but it would be a great help if you put any litter in the bins on site or take it home with you. Our younger children are given any spare milk or fruit when they leave in the afternoon and we sometimes find the plastic bottles thrown on the ground. Please help us to keep our school tidy and encourage your child to observe one of our school values—"We look after our environment".

Best wishes,

Lorraine Martin
Headteacher

Phase updates

Phase One

The Nursery and Reception team would like to remind parents to keep contributing to the online learning journey. If you are unsure of how to use this or are having problems with the password please speak to a member of staff. Reception parent play takes place every Tuesday. Staff will be available to help you contribute to this during this time.

The Year 1 team would like to remind all parents about the weekly spelling test. These are sent home in their red spelling books. Please help your child to learn these. This half term we are demonstrating some of the phonics screening materials.

Phase Two

In RE, Year 2 are learning about different places of worship including worship at Hindu temples. On Wednesday 28th February we are visiting the Mandir on Leeds Road in Bradford.

In science we are focusing on animals, food chains and habitats. As part of this unit we are visiting Nell Bank on Monday 5th March. In literacy the children will then write a recount of their visit.

In Literacy, Year 3 have been looking at the reasons why Buttons (a character from the pantomime) would be a better husband for Cinderella. We have also been trying to persuade each other about our opinions on different subjects such as favourite authors and games consoles.

In maths we have been looking at the value of coins and finding different amounts. The children are going to be setting up their own shop so that they can practise their new skills with money.

All three classes are going to Bradford City to take part in a Positive Lifestyles trip where they will learn about self esteem and be thinking about what makes them happy. They may even get a tour of the stadium!

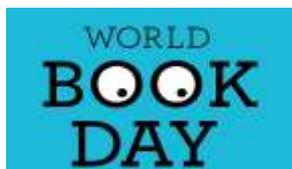
Year 4 have been busy working as journalists, investigating and writing articles about why there was a power cut in Bradford. The teachers were incredibly impressed with the level of work and are certain that we have some future news reporters in our midst.

We are looking forward to learning about the digestion system in the next few weeks and hope this leads to future dieticians and doctors.

Phase Three

Y5 are still enjoying their Rainforest topic and had a visit from Zoolab last half term where they were able to take part in a workshop involving live animals! Later this term we will be attending another performance, Jane Eyre, at the Grand Theatre by the Northern Ballet and they are taking part in workshops at the end of the week.

Y6 are still working extremely hard towards their SATs tests in May. They will be sitting Mock tests the week beginning 26th February 2018 and breakfast club will also take place for Y6 children that week. Breakfast club will start at 8am and the children will be provided (free of charge) with breakfast. **We encourage all Y6 children to attend.**



All children will be taking part in activities for World Book Day, which is on Thursday 1st March. Children are encouraged to dress up as characters from Julia Donaldson books and will take part in a parade to show off their costumes.

Attendance

		Mars	94.5%	Saturn	88.6%
Jupiter	93.6%	Mercury	94.1%	Neptune	95.9%
Galileo	94.1%	Sharman	95.3%	Hawking	96.6%
Bronte	94.6%	Hockney	94.0%	Nightingale	95.4%
Adams	93.8%	Armstrong	96.3%	Newton	95.4%
Turing	97.8%	Pankhurst	95.1%	Ennis	97.4%
Mandela	97.5%	Malala	96.8%	Rowling	92.4%

Well done to all classes with more than 95% attendance!

Diary Dates

Thursday 1st March	World Book Day
Monday 5th March	Y2 Trip to Nell Bank
Thursday 15th March	Y4 residential at Nell Bank
Monday 19th March	Y4 Trip to Old Trafford
Thursday 29th March	Break up for Easter

Maths Competition

This half term we are launching our first Margaret McMillan 'I see Maths' competition for children from nursery to Y6. As part of the competition we are asking pupils to take photos of maths around them at home, in the park, at the shops or in any other setting. We would then like pupils to create a maths question to match their photo and then submit their photo and question to their class teacher. The closing date for competition entries is **Friday 20th April**. All entries will be looked at and prizes will be issued for Phase 1, 2 and 3. Good luck and happy snapping!



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