



# Headteacher Newsletter

***Believe in yourself, Value others, Be proud of your achievements, Smile, Shine, Be happy.***



So February has already arrived, how can it already be 6 weeks since Christmas?!

With a month down and only a few days until half term we all already starting to think about what we will be doing after the break and towards the Summer term.

Over the next few days the Year 2 Pupils are off on their residential visit

to Stibbington. We are having a bit of a cold spell with the weather so I hope they have all packed their thermals! This week we will also be doing some work on E-Safety in line with Safer Internet Day. Please can you all spend some time thinking about the importance of online safety and ensuring children are only accessing those sites that are appropriate for their age. You may be surprised to hear the age restrictions for many different sites. I have posted some of these on the next page for your information.

Towards the end of this week the Year 3's will be having a History off the Page day celebrating and exploring the lives of the Ancient Greek's and the Year 5's will be visiting Peterborough Cathedral. Last week the Year 5's also visited Hampton Court Palace which has provided some invaluable knowledge and understanding and we look forward to seeing the impact of this visit in their writing this week.

Before we know it we will be back to school for the second half of the Spring Term and as per Southfields style, it is jam packed full of events in and outside of school to enhance our children's learning. To name just a few we have: the Growing Readers programme starting with a few of our Reception families; Year 2 will visit Peterborough Museum; Year 4 take part in a performance workshop; we celebrate World Book Day in school; Year 5 and 6 take part in a swimming gala; some pupils will be singing at the Cresset; Year 5 and 6 Gymnastics Team will be taking part in competitions; Year 1 visit the Dinosaur Park; Year 4 visit the Harry Potter Studios; we take part in Sports Relief as a school; Year 3 visit the 999 club at Peterborough City Hospital; we go to the church for our annual Easter services; Year 4 go off on their residential visit to Horstead and we also hope that the Easter Bunny will make his hopping debut here at Southfields too. Before I carry on with this newsletter, please can I pass on a huge thank you to all of the staff who plan, organise and take pupils on day and residential visits. Without these members of staff giving up, voluntarily, their time, the pupils wouldn't be able to take advantage of such wonderful experiences. A special thank you to Mrs Afford who completes all of the background work and produces all of the risk assessments and paperwork to make sure we are all safe on our trips. You are all amazing. Thank you also to those parents who thank staff personally after such outings, I know all of the staff appreciate it.

On a side note, please can we remind all parents that children should not be riding their bikes and scooters on the school premises before or after the school day. We obviously, as a Healthy School, promote walking, biking and scootering to school but ask that children walk from the gate with their bikes or scooters and lock them up appropriately in the bike and scooter areas. Some staff members have observed children misusing their equipment and have spoken to some children to stop an accident occurring. We remind you that children are the responsibility of parents or carers until they have moved over the door threshold into the school and we ask that you remind your children of your expectations in keeping themselves and others safe. We will be monitoring the playgrounds and entry from either end of the school and reminding parents and children to walk safely in and around school, please support us with this.



## Highlights from the past few weeks

The Year 6 children were evacuated to Stibbington

The Book Fair arrived in school and was very successful raising £1521

The Year 5's have already enjoyed a successful Tudor day in school. Thank you to all the parents who came to support the event - the feedback has been fantastic!

Year 5 visited Hampton Court Palace to enhance their Tutor topic

Year 6 took part in some Growth Mindset workshops

A group from our Computing crew visited the Apple Store in Cambridge and were lucky enough to get some great gifts

## Chinese New Year

### Spring Festival

As you will all be aware, we have an International Cafe based in the Upper KS2 area which changes every half term to support a different culture and language. This half term we are celebrating the Chinese New Year and the children will have the opportunity, through their Morphus and Nonsense Day, to explore the Chinese culture and learn a bit more about the celebration of the New Year. The New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is marked by the lunisolar Chinese calendar, so the date changes from year to year. The festivities usually start before the New Year and continues until the Lantern Festival on the 15th day of the new year. Each Chinese New Year is characterised by one of 12 animals which appear in the Chinese zodiac. The Chinese zodiac is divided into 12 blocks (or houses) just like its western counterpart, but with the major difference being that each has a time-length of one year instead of one month. This year it is the year of the Dog, the 11th animal in the cycle. The next year of the Dog will not be until 2030! According to Chinese element theory, each zodiac sign is associated with one of the five elements: Gold (metal), Wood, Water, Fire and Earth. This year is said to be the year of the Earth Dog and people born in the Year of the Earth Dog are characterised as communicative, serious and responsible in work.



## Snow Day?

### School closure information



With the cold weather continuing, please could I take a little time to remind you of the school's weather closure procedures.

If in the event that the school needs to close we will parent pay in the first instance, update the school website, teachers will send a Class Dojo message and parents can listen to 'Heart FM' on 102.7 where all of the Peterborough school closure announcements will be made. This can also be found on their web site [www.heartpeterborough.co.uk](http://www.heartpeterborough.co.uk). Posters will then also be put on the external gates by the caretaker.

We try not to close the school as we are very aware that child care arrangements can be very difficult at short notice and unless the weather is very severe the school will endeavour to stay open (also I love playing in the snow with the children!). This is also very dependent on staff being able to arrive at school as we have many staff who drive as long as an hour to reach us.

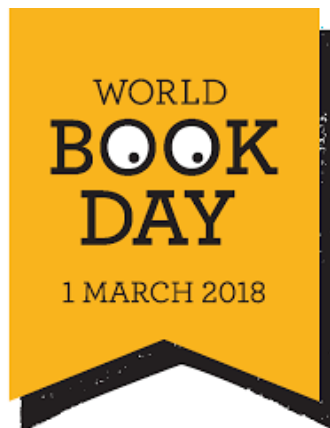
If we are able to remain open, please could children bring extra clothes, (warm jumpers, wellies, socks and trousers or snow gear if you have any, warm hats and gloves...oh and a carrot for the snow man's nose...we always run out!) two lots if they love being outside and then they will have a change if they get wet.

## World Book Day Updates

1st March 2018

As in the last newsletter I mentioned we will once again be celebrating World Book Day as it goes into its 21st year. You will receive a letter shortly detailing all of the important bits that you need to know. We will, as with every year, be setting up some fab competitions alongside the day and encourage everyone to get involved with this wonderful national event. A slight change that I would like to bring your attention to is dressing up. In the last newsletter I said that we had taken the decision not to ask pupils to dress up this year however many teachers have expressed how much the children enjoy taking part in this.

Therefore we have taken the decision to make this an optional extra. If your child would like to take part in dressing up as their favourite character please do so, if your child would prefer not to, that is also ok. We hope this will make a happy medium. Each year group are doing something slightly different for World Book Day so please look out for the upcoming letters giving you more information about this.



## Internet Safety

Please take some time to familiarise yourself with age restrictions of online platforms, particularly social media which you may be shocked to know start at 13 years. These age restrictions are in place for a good reason due to the mature content of the websites and the potential risks for younger children. Please make sure you take the time to discuss this with your children and ensure you are aware of what they are accessing at home. If you would like further information about protecting your child online, you can do so by accessing the following ThinkKnow link: <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

### Age Restrictions for Social Media Platforms

(Ages specified in terms as of 2014)



Twitter  
Facebook  
Instagram  
Pinterest  
Google+  
Tumblr  
Reddit  
Snapchat  
Secret



LinkedIn



WhatsApp



Vine  
Tinder



Path



YouTube  
Keek  
Foursquare  
WeChat  
Kik  
Flickr



## ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS:

### Punctual Achievements:

Kaden W, Sebastian W, Archie M, Scarlett H, Summer, Isabella T, Charlotte E, Marco, Lucy H, Oliver C, Peter TG, Sian A, Simone B, Shea F, Lexi J, Frankie B, Mia J, Keanna M, Brendon T, Kelsey S, and Dhiran J.

### Achievements:

Emily L, Kian TP, Scarlett, Leo G, Divyana P, Charlotte E, Zoe, Massimo, Risha P, Tymon J, Archie M, Paige C, Summer F, Edward B, Nell C, Ruby, Isabelle, Vanessa S, Tilly MD, Toby W, Oliver S, Temidaya O, Charlie H, Micah D, Elisha, Mason, Emma S, Roxas C, Alex S, Jake H, Robin W, Oliver TE, Lucy P, Summer M, Eliza S, Isla S, Ella B, Christian C, Caron H, Cameron P, Benjamin H, Robert G, Jakob B, Caitlin L, Kyla M, Nathan P, Evan H, Benjamin S., Trinity G, Tobius H, Reuben D, Harry S, Matei PM, Layla P, Haleema O, Keeley R and Katie N.

### Mathletes of the Week:

Eva, Alan, Victoria, Isla, Varnika, Zoe-Eliora, Luca, Bradley, Diana, Ruby, Bradley, Mia, Ajay, Amber, Gracie-Mae, Kaden, Freddie, Keira, Kaden, Cameron, James, Grace and Fatou.







## BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Villus K, Maria S, Nicolas DS, ,  
Rayne S, Toby W, Savannah-  
Rose L, Harry S, Priyanka S,  
Jake H, Myles F, Courtney C,  
Storm G, Lola-Belle TE, Cohen  
C, Jack D, Konrad A, Sienna-  
May D, Tilly-May D, Gabriel R,  
Lena S, Blake N, Fenton B,  
Orlando D, Lucas L, Connor T,  
Morgan T, Cameron W, Travis W,  
Saskia TD, Matas M, Faith S,  
Jensen R, Bartosz Z, Jan Z,  
Freya B, Kelsie-Leigh B, Luca S,  
Ella-Louise J and Sophie C.

## HOUSE WINNERS JANUARY RESULTS

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Robins</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Parrots</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Kingfishers</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Canaries</b>	<b>69</b>



## PARENT'S COMMENTS TO THE HEAD

As always we really value your opinions about our school. Please add your comments here for the Headteacher. You can return them in an envelope if you would prefer them to remain confidential.

Please use the remaining space to make any further comments about things you like, the things you think we need to develop or any ideas you may have and we will try to use them in school.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### February

Year 2 Stibbington residential  
05-09.02.18  
Year 3 History off the page 08.02.18  
Year 5 visit the Cathedral 09.02.18  
Class photos 22.02.18  
Year 2 to Peterborough Museum  
28.02.18

### March

World Book Day 01.03.18  
Parents Evening 05.03.18  
Parents Evening 07.03.18  
Horstead parents evening 08.03.18  
Park 14.03.18

### March continued

Aylmerton parents eve 14.03.18  
Year 4 to Harry Potter 15.03.18  
School Nurse drop in 15.03.18  
Year 3 999 visit 19.03.18  
Easter Services 20.03.18  
London parents eve 21.03.18  
Horstead residential 26-28.03.18

### Summer Term 2018 Opens -

Wednesday 18th April  
May Day - Monday 7th May  
Half term - Monday 28th May to  
Friday 1st June Year 1 to Dinosaur  
Ends - Tuesday 24th July