



Dear Parents / Carers

Term 4 Spring Newsletter.

Welcome back to the second part of the spring term.

I am pleased to launch into this term with a range of enrichment curriculum activities for the children to engage with.

Firstly, this week we are welcoming a representative from the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Each Key Stage will listen to an age appropriate presentation from a trained society member of their education team. The presentations will inform and raise awareness to the various ways that children can keep themselves safe from harm. This is a sensitive subject, but nevertheless one which is important to explore and provides children with the emotional literacy. This presentation is one that is used across the county and is well tried and tested for its appropriateness and awareness raising impact.

In addition, the children will be carrying out their sponsored activity challenge on Thursday 23rd February. Each class has been asked to gather sponsors and raise money for the NSPCC. You will recall my letter to you at the end of last term, outlining the different events chosen by each class and the sponsorship forms. The NSPCC has provided a new sponsor form for the children to use and post money collected into the envelope.

Pupils in year 5 & 6 will receive workshop presentations where again, awareness to the issues can be appropriately addressed and discussed. This takes place on Thursday 2nd March 2017.

Please support your child and this charity. Thank you, every little bit helps this important organisation support children who have been affected by abuse. Money needs to be in school by Thursday March 9th when the representative from the NSPCC will come to collect it.

Cake Sale

There is a cake sale which we have brought forward to Thursday so that cakes can go on sale both the Thursday and Friday. This term it is The Kestrels', Class 3 turn, to make and sell cakes for the school. Thank you to the PTFA for organising this. If you are a parent of a year 3 child, please send in cakes on Thursday for the sale.

Mid Year reports will be handed to children for parents/carers to read on Monday 27th February 2017.

These will be followed by **parent teacher consultations** that will take place on:

Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 1st March 2017. You can sign up for an appointment time on the posters displayed in your child's cloak room, or phone the school secretary to request an appointment.

World Book Day – Thursday March 2nd

This year we are holding a competition for children to enter.

The challenge for families is to create a poster of you reading in the craziest place ever!!

The idea is for children to either draw or use a computer image – super impose a picture of themselves, and their family if you wish, onto a landscape, object, place or creature..... you name it, the crazier the better!!! You must show the book title on your poster. There will be prizes for the top ten entries.

We hope that the posters create a sense of curiosity about children's book choices and encourage children to share their favourite books in a creative and crazy way. The posters will be displayed in the school library.

All entries must have the child's name and class clearly written on the front design. Thank you. Now get the creative juices flowing!!

Entries must be in school on Wednesday 1st March ready for World Book Day Assembly, taking place that morning. This is also a **DRESSING UP day**..... "HURRAY"!!! I hear all you parents/ carers and teachers chant!!

Pupils and staff are asked to dress up as their favourite character from a book. Please make an effort; it is always difficult for the few children who arrive in school in their uniforms, feeling very self-conscious.

Collective Worship

This term the themes we will be exploring together are The Fruits of the Spirit and Peace. This includes learning about some important people in history who have promoted and brought the plight for peace to the attention of the world through their work and courage.

The Christian values explored are: friendships, relationships and peace.

In addition, we have range of new after school clubs for children to sign up to through Premier Sports. Please ask for information at the office or look on the school web site for further information. We are holding swimming skills for talented swimmers and skills training for talented tennis players; these are on top of the usual PE curriculum.

Mrs Hodgson will also be holding the Kitchen Science Club on Monday March 6th and this is repeated on Wednesday March 8th taking place after school from 3:30- 4:15pm. This is open to all Year 5 and 6 pupils to come along and try out some fun science investigations. Consent letters will be sent out.

On Thursday March 9th Year 4 pupils will be taking part in a celebration of poetry joining two other Deal Primary schools, Hornbeam and Sholden. This is an annual event held to promote the enjoyment of reading and poetry. The pupils of our Yr 4, Nightingale class will be learning to recite and perform a poem. They will perform this at our poetry festival taking place at Hornbeam School. Year 4 parents / carers are invited to come and watch the performances and join in the fun. Please arrive at Hornbeam school for 2pm.

Our school will be entering a team of swimmers to the Dover Life Guard Swimming gala. This takes place on Friday March 10th. Separate letters will be sent out to the families of children selected to represent the school, from KS 2.

I will write to you again to let you know about the Easter art and design competition we are planning for this year and about the Easter events that will be taking place in the last two weeks of this term.

Please save the date for our **Easter service**, held at **St Andrew's Church** in Deal. This is **Wednesday 29th March** starting at **10:30am**. The children will be walking through the town to the church. As

usual I would appreciate as many adult helping hands as possible to escort the children along the walk. Please let your child's class teacher know if you can help us out. Many thanks.

A moment of reflection

Love is like a tablecloth:
It covers many things.
What our eyes do not see,
Our mind does not dwell on.
And hate does not grow into actions.
Help us, Father, to use love to cover wrong.
Amen

I am sure Spring is just round the corner for us all!

Kind regards
Justine Brown