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Newsletter – February 2019

Child's Name:

Parents' Evening – Helping us to help your child



We have sent out the letters inviting you all to Parents' Evening on Wednesday March (4.00pm – 7.30pm). If you haven't received it, you can always pick one up from the office. There are appointments and obviously to enable us to fit everyone in we need to restrict the time to five minutes per consultation. As always, if you have an issue or concern which needs longer than five minutes, please let the teacher know, they will arrange another day when you can have more time. Hopefully, if home/school communication is working and ongoing, there shouldn't be too many

surprises. The best advice is always to let us know if there is anything you are unsure of or affecting your child. We never want you to feel that you have to wait until a Parents' Evening to ask a question.

Ofsted – Change of Direction?

Ofsted, who are responsible for inspecting and reporting on standards in schools are looking at changing the emphasis of what they look for. Rather than simply SATs results, they will pay more attention to the wider curriculum. Inspections have tended to look almost exclusively at Maths and English, with other subjects such as History and Geography for instance, being ignored. Our view has always been that having a significantly wide and varied curriculum supports children in enabling them to be more successful in SATs anyway. We believe in providing opportunities for children because you never know what you can be good at if you never have the chance. Parents will be aware of our amazingly successful sports teams, the diverse variety of after school clubs. Our free Breakfast Club makes a difference to our children who attend by making life easier for parents who work and helping the children prepare for the school day ahead.



Success in SATs, but more importantly in life, is based on children being happy, self-confident and motivated. You don't achieve that by only doing Maths and English, following and believing in our 'Be Statements' makes a major difference. However, we never want to feel satisfied, we always want to improve. We would like you to help us by offering your thoughts on what we do and how we do it. We want to know whether you think there are gaps in our curriculum or improvements we can make to what we already do. Your views and opinions are important and valued, so at Parents' Evening we would ask you to fill in a quick questionnaire. We will obviously be talking to the children, staff and governors to try and get as many views as possible. The School Parliament will be at the Parents' Evening to provide you with the questionnaires, they would be more than happy to share their thoughts with you.



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Talking about the wider curriculum blooming at Mundy.....



When you are walking around Heanor Town Centre keep an eye out for the spring flowers in the raised beds. Our ECO CATs have been out and about and they are the ones who are responsible for the lovely floral displays on view. Back in December you may have noticed that they had planted miniature Christmas trees, which were pulled out by some less than community minded individuals. I spoke to the children before they went, what they thought about that. Their united view was that they would simply put them back and not allow the vandals to win. They told me the last time that a member of the public had put the trees back in and a policeman had replaced the baubles for the children for which they had written to thank him. Their positive approach to the problem fits in so well, with what was referred to above as it goes beyond narrow subjects and touches upon valuable life skills.

We have a few flowers left over from our ECO Cat trip yesterday and these will be on sale at the end of the day for a cost of 50p per plant.

We mentioned in last month's newsletter that the year 5s had worked on a project to look at ways we could improve Heanor. This was in response to significant Government funding being made available for towns to bid for. The children even got to present their ideas to the council. Amber Valley Borough Council are also asking for the views of our parents, this is an opportunity to potentially shape the future through a successful bid. The survey can be found at www.ambervalley.gov.uk/shapeyourtown but closes on Friday 1st March!



World Book Day comes to Mundy - Friday 1st March



Whilst we recognise that we are within an ever-accelerating digital age, books should still be a vital part of our lives from a young age. A love of reading certainly remains a key part of accessing learning of all kinds. We sent out a text message before half-term to let people know that to celebrate World Book Day (Friday 1st March), we were suggesting the children dress up as 'An Animal Book Character', or simply non-uniform. We are not asking for any money (Comic Relief is coming!). However, we wondered if you have any good quality, pre-loved books you would like to donate; our library shelves would be very welcoming.

E- Safety

We are aware of an issue currently with regard to e-safety. Sometimes you have to be careful about how you handle particular issues as publicizing it can often add to the problem rather than reducing it. If individual children bring any worries to our attention we obviously deal with them in appropriately supportive way. If as parents or carers you have concerns, please let us know. The Safeguarding section on the school's website is also particularly helpful and regularly updated and the Parents' Safeguarding Information has lots of helpful websites and is continually updated.



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Dates for your Diary 2019

SPRING TERM 1 - 2019	
Friday 1st March	World Book Day – Come Dressed as an Animal (or non-uniform)
Wednesday 6th March	Formal Parents Evening (appointments) 4.00-7.30pm
Thursday 28th March	PTA Easter Disco 5.30-7.00pm
Wednesday 10th April	Easter Service at St Lawrence Church – children only
Friday 12th April	Last day of term – Easter Break
SUMMER TERM 1	
Monday 29th April	First day of term
Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday
Monday 13th May	SATs Week for year 6 children
Thursday 23rd May	Group Photos
Friday 24th May	Last day of term – half term break 3
SUMMER TERM 2	
Monday 3rd June	First day of term
Tuesday 4th June	Sports Day years 3 and 4 - 9.30am
Wednesday 5th June	Sports Day years 5 and 6 – 9.30am
Saturday 15th June	Horticultural Show 12.00-4.00pm
Monday 17th June	INSET 4
Wednesday 26th June	Y5 Taster Day at Heanor Gate Science College
Wednesday 26th June	Informal Parents Evening 4.00-7.30pm (no appointment necessary)
Thursday 4th July	Transition Day for year 6 and Year 2 Children
Thursday 4th July	New Parents Meeting 6.00pm
Friday 5th July	Sponsored Walk
Thursday 11th July	Transition Disco for Years 2 -5 (5.30-7.00pm)
Thursday 11th July – Friday 12th July	Year 6 Children to Heanor Gate Science College (transition)
Friday 19th July	Graduation Ceremony (parents invited) 2.00pm
Friday 19th July	Graduation Ball – 6.00-8.00pm
Friday 19th July	Last day of term for children
Monday 22nd July	INSET 5



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