



Weekly Bulletin 2 – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well our twitter feed has certainly been rather busy this week with all the photographs and comments from the Year 6 visit to Ford Castle! I am so pleased they had such a wonderful few days – the weather was even very kind to them! I would also like to thank the staff who accompanied them – we are so fortunate to have such a dedicated and committed team.

## **Reading Fortnight**

We are about to embark on an exciting two weeks in school which incorporates World Book Day next week and our Book Fair the week after. We are holding a number of different reading events throughout the two weeks and would like your help with some too! Please refer to the timetable but some events are explained in more detail below:

### **Adult Storytellers**

We are going to dedicate the last 20 minutes of the school day to the sharing of popular and favourite books/stories. Staff are going to change classes to share their favourite book across the school and we are keen to encourage parents/grandparents to come in and do the same. So, if you would like to read your favourite children’s book to your child’s class, please contact your child’s class teacher to arrange a mutually convenient time over the next two weeks to do so. We hope, by doing this over a period of time, the children will be exposed to a wide range of stories, styles and authors.

### **Child Storytellers**

We are also going to be organising times throughout the fortnight for children to read their favourite stories/books to one another. So, we would love it, if your child would bring in a book that they would like to share with a child younger than themselves. If they can bring it in on Monday and leave it in school, that would be useful as they may well have the opportunity to share it with more than one class. It would also be very helpful if you could make sure that their name is in the front of the book! Our timetabled sessions next week are for Monday and Friday but there could well be more we manage to squeeze in!

### **Year 1 and Year 2 Reading Breakfasts on Tuesday and Thursday morning**

We are asking parents/grandparents of our younger children to join them in school for a Reading Breakfast next week. On Tuesday morning, between 9.00 and 10.00 am we would like to ask our Year 1 parents to come into school and join their child in the hall for a reading breakfast. A light breakfast of fruit juice, toast and croissants will be served while you have some time with your child sharing a book together. On Thursday morning we will be repeating this for our Year 2 parents at the same time. We hope you can join us.

	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>
Monday	Child Story Telling (KS1 only)	2.30 – 3.00
	News Reading –Picture News Events/First News in school	Various Times
	Adult Story Tellers (KS1 only)	3.00 – 3.30
Tuesday	Year 1 Reading Breakfast	9.00 – 10.00 am
	Child Story Telling	2.30 – 3.00
	Adult Story Tellers	3.00 – 3.30
Wednesday	Golden Reading Time for all Bring your own book/comic/magazine	During the Day
	Adult Story Tellers	3.00 – 3.30
Thursday	Year 2 Reading Breakfast 9-10	9.00 – 10.00 am
	Book Swap Day	Morning
	Adult Story Tellers	3.00 – 3.30
Friday	Child Story Telling	2.30 – 3.00
	Adult Story Tellers	3.00 – 3.30

### **Twitter Challenge**

We would also like to give you another twitter challenge next week – we have been so impressed with your interaction with the Autumn Selfies, Snow Day and Show us your Pancakes photos. This time, we would like you to take photographs of your children reading in different places – whether it is the play park, slide, at a football match etc. – and post them on twitter with the hashtag #extremereading. Let's all give it a go! Please remember though – do not use your child's name when posting individual photos – this is one of our e-safety rules which we teach the children. Otherwise, we cannot retweet them. Thank you.

### **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February – French Theatre Production**

Our children in Years 4, 5 and 6 are being treated to a rare performance in school. A theatre company will be visiting us with their production of 'La Chanson Du Retour' during the afternoon which will obviously all be spoken in French. I think the children will probably understand far more than the staff watching it!

### **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February – Full Governing Body Meeting at 3.30 pm**

We are holding our spring term governor's meeting on Monday and are looking forward to welcoming our two new governors who you recently elected – Mr Ben Garside and Mrs Karen Deaville.

### **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 6.00 pm – Year 6 Parents SATs Meeting**

We are looking forward to welcoming our Year 6 parents into school to share more information with you all about the forthcoming tests that your children will be undertaking. We will talk about the week itself, the work your children will be doing up until then and the expectations. I think you will be quite surprised at the standard expected of your children! We will also have a number of CGP Books for sale for any interested parents. Many parents often ask about resources they can purchase themselves to support their children so we have bought a variety of books for interested parents to purchase at very competitive prices.

### **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February – All Day**

We have our parents' evenings for all of our Nursery New Starters. Miss Butler will meet parents throughout the day – please come to the Main Entrance where she will welcome you.

### **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 – World Book Day**

I understand that, as predicted in my letter earlier this week, whilst many of you are very happy that we are not dressing up for World Book Day this year, some of you are disappointed for your children. We try to vary what we do every year and having already had one dress up day last term (Big Me Day), we thought it was unfair to do it again so soon afterwards. We are also very aware of the cost implications involved for families and pressure put on them by children to purchase costumes at this time of year.

We are trying to foster a love of reading in school all year round and buying a costume from a supermarket and dressing up for a day does not really help to foster this love of reading. Enabling our children to be exposed to a plethora of book titles and allowing them to discover different authors and styles of writing is what we think World Book Day should be all about. To be able to share their discoveries with friends over our Reading fortnight is what we hope will make this World Book Day special for our children. We hope you agree!

As part of World Book Day Celebrations, all children will be given £1 Book Token which can be used against the cost of any book which will be given out next Friday. These can be redeemed at our Book Fair.

### **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 – Book Swap Day**

If children have really enjoyed a particular book and would like to share this with other children, then we are encouraging them to bring their 'read' book into school and swap it with another one they would like to read. The adults in school will also be doing exactly the same! We will do this in key stages – Foundation Stage, KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2. If children do not want to bring a book, then there is no pressure at all, but obviously we will have to give children who do bring a book the opportunity to choose a book first.

### **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018 – Community Event from 5 – 7 pm**

We are looking forward to welcoming members of the local community into school next Thursday evening. Members of the School Council will be on hand to give tours of the school and Friends of the School will be providing refreshments. Forms have been given to the School Council and we hope this is going to be another very successful event in the life of the school.

### **Foundation Stage News (Nursery and Reception)**

Next week, Reception class will be learning about the Hindu celebration of Holi. We will be exploring colour in lots of exciting ways. You might enjoy learning more about this festival by looking at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/lets-celebrate-holi> with your child. Maybe you would like to go on a spring colour hunt with your child? We would love to see what you get up to.

Nursery children are continuing with their visits to the library next week with a visit for the Meerkat Group on Thursday 1st March, leaving at 9.35 to return by 10.30 am. If you would like to accompany us on this short visit, you would be most welcome.

Miss Butler will be holding parent consultations for the new starters on Wednesday 28th February during the day. Please sign up for a suitable time in Nursery if you have not done so yet.

Nursery stories next week will be 'I Don't Want To Wash My Hands!', 'The Elephant and the Bad Baby', 'Good Little Wolf', 'There's a Pig Up My Nose' and 'Lulu Loves Stories'.

In the Foundation Stage, we will be celebrating World Book Day over a whole week as one day just isn't enough! We are going to spend the week after next (**5th - 9th March**) taking part in lots of book related activities. Instead of the book swap which the older children will be participating in, we would like to invite children to bring in their favourite book to share with their friends. Please ensure this is clearly marked with their name so that it can be returned safely. We would love our Secret Storytellers to come in at some point during the week to share a story with Nursery or Reception, so if you have already expressed an interest then Miss Butler will get in touch to arrange a good time. We can provide books to share if you are unsure of what to read. If anyone else would like to join in to read to a small (or large!) group, please let Miss Butler in Nursery know as soon as possible! We would also like to invite parents and friends into school to take part in a Now>Press>Play interactive story experience with their child. Sessions will run in Nursery on **Tuesday 6th, Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th March at 9.30 am and 2.00 pm**. The sessions will be based around traditional stories and will last approximately 20 minutes. Spaces are limited to 14 per session. Please sign up at the Welcome Station in Nursery if you or a family member would like a place.

### **Book Fair – Week Beginning Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March**

We have a Scholastic Book Fair the week beginning Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March. This will be open every day between 3.15 and 4 pm for you to come and browse with your children and buy a book. All children will have been given a £1 World Book Day Voucher which can also be used against purchases at the fair. The Book Fair is always a great way of helping the school purchase more books as we get 65% commission on all sales.

### **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Mother's Day Afternoon Tea**

The Friends of the School had a very successful meeting before half term and preparations are well under way for their special Mother's Day Afternoon Tea on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March – the forms have been given out to all children and there are spares available in the Office. This is the first event we have held like this and we are sure it is going to be very popular. It is wonderful to have so many parents who are keen to support our school, organising events and raising money at the same time.

As usual, if there is anything at all that you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact me at school. Alternatively, you can email me at: [j.davis@lanchesterep.net](mailto:j.davis@lanchesterep.net) and I will do my best to reply as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

*Jane Davis*

Mrs Jane Davis  
Head Teacher