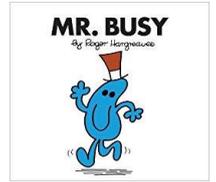


## February/March newsletter



Only 4 weeks left to the Easter holidays. So much has been happening. ...P6 and P7 pupils have been swimming, and learning how to curl at the ice rink; we've had a farmer in to talk to P2/3 about farming at this time of year; P5-6 children have been learning how to support play in the playground for younger pupils as 'Mini Play Rangers'; the Eco Committee and the Pupil Council have led assemblies; younger classes have been on a nature walk around the Inch, and older classes learned about bike maintenance and bike safety from Alice at I-bike; baking clubs have been held 4 times a week during lunch break; Glee performers are working towards another exciting performance at the Concert Hall soon; the netball team have played some games and have more to come; Nursery Family Learning sessions have been brilliantly supported and enjoyed by parents and children alike.



## School Policy on children with Mobile Phones

We would like to remind everyone that children are not allowed to use mobile phones in the school playground nor in the building. If children bring a mobile phone to school, it must be switched off and not used unless with there is an arrangement with school staff. If a mobile phone gets lost or damaged, the school will not take any responsibility for this. It is very important that older children remember their responsibilities here. If a child abuses this responsibility, we will contact parents.

## Tuckshop



We have a healthy tuckshop, selling a range of snacks every day – costs typically being 10p – 30p per item. We often have home-baking for sale, as well as fruit, yoghurts, baked crisps and rice cakes. Our policy is that no child will go hungry at break-time. If your child forgets their snack, they should simply go to the tuckshop and let us know. At the same time, we would discourage children from sharing their snacks with friends. We would remind children, that House Points are awarded for making healthy choices in snacks – so parents, please try to help your child make healthier choices by bringing in or buying food that will boost their energy for longer. . .chocolate and sweets should be kept to a minimum.

### Parent Contact Nights

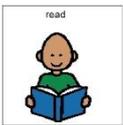
Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March. This week we return the slips giving you appointment times. We appreciate that parents do attend, to hear how your child is developing at school. If you cannot attend either of these dates or times you've been given, please phone the school and we will try to arrange a time to suit both you and the class teacher.



### Family Learning event – Supporting your child to be a great reader

This event was held on 21 February. Unfortunately there was a very poor turnout of parents/carers for this. Thank you so much to the 9 adults who did come. The school will try to speak to parents and get some ideas from you, to try and find ways to make family learning events like these more appealing and better attended. The main tips we can share with you here are. . .

- Read with/to your child 5 times a week (even if it's only for 10 minutes)
- If your child sees you reading, they are more likely to enjoy reading
- You know what your child likes, so find books to entertain them...the school library is open and free!
- Get a balance of entertainment in your home...we know kids love iPads and computer games – but encourage old-fashioned board games, story-telling and conversation. These days, it's true that too many children have a better relationship with their 'device' than a real human being 😞
- If your child can already 'read fluently' check out exactly how much they are really understanding – new vocabulary: what does that word mean? Questions: what would happen if... Many parents think that reading is just about de-coding. It's really about understanding what's been read and extending thinking skills.



## World Book Day

...is this Thursday, 7 March. From 2.30pm we are having an open event where we invite you in to see our library, and borrow a book if you like! There will be drinks and home-baking to sample, and a few shelves with books for adults too. Please come if you can.



**PE kits** Lots of children are forgetting to bring their PE kit. Especially older children need to have a t-shirt to change into, so that their school uniform doesn't become sweaty or smelly. This is a good habit to get into now. Please check with your child that they have a PE kit at school. If your child keeps forgetting, we will write home to let you know.



## Bike safety

A reminder to keep your child safe – anybody who rides a bike to school should wear a helmet. Last month they saw an experiment with Alice from I-bike – a water melon used to represent the head...dropped at child height on concrete. That should have been enough to let them see what could happen to their head! But still, too many are 'too cool' for helmets...please do your bit to keep your child safe.

## Seesaw

We are really pleased with how many parents are now able to see what your child is learning at school. Children themselves tell us they like sending pictures home to show you their work. Please remember, that Seesaw is for 'sharing the learning' and shouldn't be used as a private messaging service to teachers. If your child is going to be absent from school, you still need to call the office. The teacher can't always be guaranteed to see messages in time, so please call the office. I have also reminded teachers to only respond to parent messages within the hours of 8am to 5pm.

\*\*\*\*\*

This term has really flown by. In the last week of term our House Captains will be organising a whole school Easter Fun Event where we will use our skills for learning, life and work to earn House Points. We hope your children enjoy that. School closes on Friday 29 March at 3pm and returns Monday 15 April 9am.