

5.3.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that many of you managed to attend our whole school assembly this afternoon. The message that came through loud and clear from all the children and staff was that we are all looking forward to being back in school together next week. It has been a long 8 weeks for many of us but it has been amazing to see everyone pull together as a community and support each other at home and at school. Today's assembly song was 'Reach for the Stars' and we have all been doing that over the last 8 weeks and will continue to do so for the rest of the year.

On Monday morning, the top gate will be open at 8:35am. I can't wait to see lots of smiling faces arriving in school. We will be running the same one way system at the start and end of the school day as we did in the Autumn term. Only parents with push chairs should be leaving the site through the top gate. Thank you for your help with this.

Reopening Plan

Many of our systems and routines will continue from the Autumn term. I have included the reopening guide for families with this newsletter. It will be going out on Class Dojo and Parent Pay.

If you have any questions, or need to let us know that why your child is not in school on Monday, please phone the school office.

'Buckfastleigh World Book Day'

Buckfastleigh World Book Day is on Friday 12th March. The children can come into school wearing book character outfits or mufti.

We would also like children to bring in 3 objects that are linked to their favourite book.

An example might be – a bucket, salt and bubble gum – Charlie and The Chocolate Factory! We will have fun in class trying to guess each child's chosen book from the objects they bring into school.

Can your clues be about a book that is different to the one you are dressed as a character for?

We will spend time in the day doing a range of different activities. Here are some ideas that classes might be doing:

- Re-create a freeze frame of the book cover, or a scene from the book with friends and take a photo.

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- Retell/rewrite the story inventing a new character, problem in the story or change the ending.
- Create a comic strip of the story.
- Design a story sack of the story.
- Paint characters / scenes from the story
- Write a letter to one of the characters
- Write a news report of the main event
- Design / build a key object / scene from the story

Outcomes will be displayed in class and the school library.

There is no pressure to wear a fancy dress costume this year as we realise that given the current situation, it will be difficult to get hold of some items.

Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day is Friday 19th March. Red Noses will be available from the office and donations for these can be made on Parent Pay. Kirsty will send a message out on Class Dojo with more details.

As we get closer to the day, more information will be sent out to families about the activities we will be running in school.

FOBS Fundraising and £100 Donation

I am pleased to let you know that the Christmas present room and Penny Jar challenge raised £411 for the school. This money has been used to support the purchase of some lovely new books for each class in the school. These are specially chosen reading books that should inspire a love of reading in the children. Each year group will have them on display in class for children to take home and read.

At the start of 2020, we received a £100 donation from a family. We wanted to make sure that the money was spent on something that would make a difference to all the children in the school. Earlier this year, we purchased a set of BAME books. These have been written by black and minority ethnic authors. A big thank you for the generous donation.

Over the last week, we have had no positive cases from staff or children at school. We are continuing to remain vigilant and careful in school to keep everyone safe.

It is going to be fantastic to have all the children back on Monday. Thank you to everyone for all you have been doing. Have a great weekend and take care,

Eddie Brown

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