

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Lots of enrichment activities have been happening in school again this week. Year 1 have enjoyed balance bike training and Year 2 took their trip to Whittington Castle on Tuesday.

We have also been looking at how we can enhance lunchtimes at school and have trialled some new activities and arrangements this week. We have invested in additional outdoor equipment to add to the range of activities on offer, our group of Movement Mentors from Upper Key Stage 2 have begun to support the younger children in their play and we have trialled some new arrangements in the hall to ensure a smoother flow of children in and out. The reasons behind these changes surround our observations of how lunches have run following Covid restrictions. We shared the proposed adaptations with the children in assembly who were very excited by the new activities on offer! We always feel it is important to capture the children's voices and so, as we do with any change, we conducted a questionnaire with all classes on their thoughts. The overwhelming response was positive regarding the outside provision. Some expressed a desire for a larger free play area which we have now created for them and for opportunities for them to sit with wider groups of friends from the same year group. As a response we will trial this next week. So far lunchtimes have been much calmer, quicker and the children are engaging in a wider range of activities.

Recently we have had parents contact us regarding issues with pupils outside of school. We thank these parents for letting us know when these things occur as we can help support the children however we cannot always report or advise on these as it is outside of school time. Below we have put contact details for parents to use if they feel a child is at risk of harm. We thank you for your support in this,

Samantha Hill  
Headteacher



## UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2022	
Friday 18th March	Red Nose Day– wear something Red!
Monday 21st March	KS2 Squash– Shrewsbury Racketball club
Thursday 24th March	Year 6 parents SATS information workshop
Monday 28th March	KS2 Squash– Shrewsbury Racketball club
Tuesday 29th March	Severn Trent Assembly for KS1 and KS2
Wednesday 30th March	Easter Disco!
Thursday 31st March	Year 4 Pioneer assembly and parent meeting -3.15pm in School Hall.
April 2022	
Monday 4th April- Thursday 7th April	Year 6 Final Mock SATS
Monday 4th April	KS2 Squash competition– Shrewsbury Racketball club
Monday 4th April	EYFS, KS1 and KS2 Heads Afternoon Tea
Tuesday 5th April	Year 3/4 Easter Performance in Church
Wednesday 6th April	Year 3/4 Easter Performance in Church
Friday 8th April	Break up for Easter Holidays!
Monday 25th April	Back in School
Monday 25th April	Year 4 Pioneer Trip
Wednesday 27th April	Year 4 returning from Pioneer Trip
May 2022	
Wednesday 4th May	Tempest in for class, sports teams, Nursery individual/ siblings and year 6 leaver photos
Monday 9th May - Thursday 12th May	Year 6 SATS week

## Eco School Update:



### Biodiversity

This week in Eco Club we have been preparing the ground in the Community Garden. There are a lot of stones in there - which would prevent the plants from growing effectively – so we have removed some of the stones and will continue getting the ground ready for planting next week.

**What type of plants have you got growing in your gardens at home?** The children at Eco Club have started to see some flowers emerge in the last few weeks. Bulbs are opening up everywhere including daffodils, crocus and snowdrops etc. Have a look in your gardens to see what is growing and share some photos with your class and teacher on Seesaw.

We have been busy getting ready for 'Science Week' next week, where we will be exploring growth – more details to follow!

### Upcoming Dates:

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March** – Science week – with some Eco links

**25<sup>th</sup> March – 10<sup>th</sup> April** – Great Big School Clean

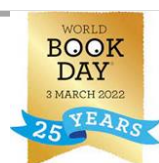
## Support for Ukraine

Many of our children are aware of the events currently taking place in Ukraine and are keen to speak about it and ask questions. We have discussed as a staff how we can address issues and questions arising and have decided that focussing on acts of kindness and steps being taken by people to support the country is a positive way forward. Whilst acknowledging the terrible situation with them, we feel that by discussing how people are helping will ensure the children reflect in a positive way on how the wider world are responding. As a result, it has been lovely to see how some of our older children have come to ask how school can support. The children have lots of ideas! We are conscious that we have decided to support with Red Nose Day for this reason and after having done the Polio fundraising event we are aware of not asking too much of our school community financially. Therefore, we have agreed that the children can set up a donation box in the main reception where, if families have any goods in the house that they could spare, can place them. Our Community Champions will then accompany staff on the minibus to take these to the local drop off points. An advert created by the children is attached for more information.



## REMINDER & NOTICES

- Thank you to all those families who supported with our Polio fundraiser. We raised £129.40 which will go towards paying for life saving vaccines.
- If you think a child or young person is being harmed or at risk of being harmed you must contact the First Point of Contact (FPOC), Children's Services and tell them your concerns. Please report your concerns to FPOC on 0345 678 9021. Alternatively, you can report your concerns online to the NSPCC via the 'Report child abuse online - NSPCC website'. You can also speak to: Protecting Vulnerable People (West Mercia Police): 0300 333 3000 NSPCC: 0800 800 500 Childline: 0800 1111 If a child is in immediate danger. If you think a child is in immediate danger, call the emergency services on 999.
- Leave during term time: Pupil absence will only be authorised during term time under exceptional circumstances. Any absence request must come via a Request for Leave form detailing the reasons for the absence and at least 2 weeks prior to the trip to allow us to let you know whether it will be authorised or not. These can be obtained from Admin .admin@oak.mmat.co.uk



## World Book Day

This year, we have celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> annual world book day. We chose the focus of '**don't judge a book by its cover**'. Each year group chose a book to share with their class... but kept the name and front cover of the book a secret until the end of the lesson! The children then had to decide on a title for the book and write their own blurb for it.

We also took part in a drop and read – when the school bell sounded throughout the day, the children had to pick up their books to read for 5 minutes. It really kept us on our toes!

In EYFS, the children brought in their favourite books to share with their class. It was fantastic to see everyone's choices!

Each child in school has also been given a £1 voucher to spend on a book. This can be used to buy a book of your choice or there are a selection of £1 books available in some shops.

Please visit [www.worldbookday.com/](http://www.worldbookday.com/) for more information or activities to complete at home.