

Newsletter No. 20
14th February 2020



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Happy Half Term!

We have reached the end of another busy term, and have also reached the half-way point of this academic year, which seems hard to believe!! All children across the school have particularly enjoyed our annual Shakespeare project this term with this year's play, 'The Merchant of Venice', seeming to have sparked a particularly high level of interest and engagement. We wish you a peaceful 'pit-stop' next week and look forward to seeing the children back in school on Tuesday 25th February (school will be open on Monday 24th, but it is a teacher training day).

DATES

February

14th End of Term

24th Training Day

25th Children return to school

26th Parents Evening 3.30-6pm

27th Parents Evening 4-6.30pm

March

3rd Class Photos

4th 2MM Class Assembly 9am

6th World Book Day Dress Up in Pyjamas

16th Shakespeare Festival

16th Reception Trip to West Lodge

18th 2SB Class Assembly 9am

Read Write Inc.
Phonics

PHONICS - Read Write Inc

We are very excited to announce that after half term we will be changing our approach to the teaching of phonics across EYFS and KS1. All staff will receive high quality training from a specialist trainer, the first part of which will be taking place on our training day on 24th February and the scheme that we will be using is called Read Write Inc. This is a scheme that provides a highly structured whole-school approach to creating fluent readers and we believe it will play a crucial role in improving outcomes for our children. We will be sharing more with you about this over the course of Term 4, including what you can expect to receive home to support your child to learn to read - we also hope to hold a parents information session in late March.

Celebration Assembly Change

Due to the introduction of our new phonics programme, we have had to make some changes to the structure of our school day. From after half term, our Friday celebration assembly will take place at 2.45pm, instead of 9am as it currently does. Parents are of course still very welcome to join us and we will ensure that text messages informing you that your children have got awards in the assembly are sent out by 1pm on Wednesday each week. Due to the slightly shorter week, there will not be a celebration assembly on the first Friday back after half term (i.e. 28th February).

Attendance

6GD	98.6%
2MM	97.33%
4PW	97%
5BM	96.9%
3GH	96.9%
1LB	96.43%
1LA	96.43%
2SB	96%
3JC	95.83%
RKB	95.6%
5AS	95%
4CS	94.48%
RLB	93.33%
6TG	92%

Superstars

Well done superstars for showing excellent attitudes to your learning this week, as well as being kind and helpful towards your classmates.



Good Work

There was good work from across the curriculum this morning, with Science and History being particular themes – it was great to see children demonstrating their great writing skills across the curriculum.



Silver and Bronze Awards

Along with our bumper crop of bronze awards this morning, it was wonderful to give our first silver award of the year, well deserved by Ali in Year 2!



Termly Awards

Well done to the four children who received star of the term



awards today – you have really impressed the whole team who work with you by working hard and always showing our school values!

Christmas Fayre Grand Total

Apologies for the belated notice but FUMPS raised a grand total of £890 at the Christmas Fayre!

Book Fair

We are hosting our usual Scholastic Book Fair to coincide with parents evenings on 26th & 27th February. Fliers have been sent home this week with some of details of some of the books on offer & also includes a challenge your child can complete for the chance to win a free author visit to UMPS. Please encourage them to read 4 books they would not normally choose. And do support the Book Fair, if you can, since a proportion of takings fund the new books for the school library.



Mathletics

It has been decided that we will not be continuing with the Mathletics subscription.



This will be replaced with a different online resource called 'Numbots' in the very near future, I will update you when the children have received their individual logins.

Remember TT Rock Stars for children in Years 2-6.



World Book Day

Upton Meadows will be celebrating World Book Day 2020 on FRIDAY 6th MARCH. We



invite you to come to school wearing your pyjamas and enjoy a relaxed day celebrating books that we enjoy at bedtime. Families, share your favourite bedtime reads leading up to this event - tweet to your class Twitter. Please remember to wear a coat for break and lunchtime, as well as school shoes (no wet slippers wanted!)

Safer Internet Week

We have been doing lots of activities across school this week to observe safer internet day and thank you to the parents that attended Mrs Beshiri's informative workshop on Tuesday evening. These children were lucky enough to be picked out of the hat for completing all our their safer internet tasks and all win a Computing book.

