

Friday 12th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been wonderful to welcome all the children back to school this week! The whole school community have loved reconnecting and enjoyed all the special activities based around being back together and British Science Week. We especially look forward to seeing the fruit of all the planting that has taken place.



# Diary dates and events

All class year group information and details of events continue to be sent to you through your child's year group staff team. These are also made available on our website

and school app.

Please see below a few whole school dates and events for the rest of this half term. The dates for the school year are also available on our school website and school spider app. These are updated regularly each half term, so please do continue to check our website and app for updates.

Whole school event dates this half term include....

- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March Comic Relief Day wear/dress up in red and donate
  - Young Carers Action Day
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March Autism Awareness Week
- Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April School Closes at the end of the day for the Easter holidays
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April Bank Holiday Good Friday



As we support Comic Relief on Friday 19<sup>th</sup>
March, we invite the children to attend school dressed

up in red and to give a donation towards this great charity. Thank you in advance!

#### **Championing Reading at Beaver Road**

Reading is at the heart of our curriculum and we are always working to develop and foster a love of books. It is an integral part of our children's learning. Our classrooms offer inviting Reading areas where children can access a wide range of high-quality texts and have dedicated time in school to read for pleasure.









As children return to school this term, we are pleased to unveil our brand new Reading corners at the First School. They are designed to spark children's curiosity and allow them to explore new worlds.



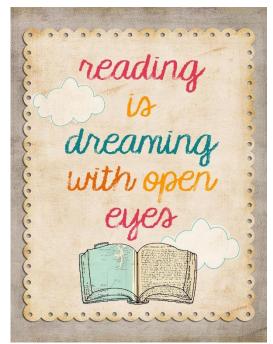


Reading at home is an essential part of a child's daily routine and we encourage children to read at home for 10 minutes a day. We would like children to share pictures and videos of

home reading on Seesaw or Tapestry once a week. Children have access to colour-banded books to take home as well as our online reading resources including <a href="Bug Club">Bug Club</a>, <a href="Oxford Owls">Oxford Owls</a> and <a href="Reading Plus">Reading Plus</a>.

We would also like to thank all the children who took part in last term's storytelling competition. We had an overwhelming response and all entries were brilliant in their own unique ways. Congratulations to all the winners who we hope are enjoying their book prizes.

This term, children will be taking part in our annual partnership competition with the Portico Library and will be given the chance to enter the **Portico Sadie Massie Awards**. Children will be writing short stories or book reviews in class and will have the chance to win writing mentorships with a team of Northern authors and educators, as well as books and gift bundles. Although children will be writing



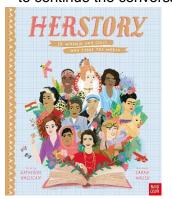
their entries in class, why not take the time to discuss their ideas for entries at home?

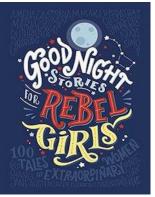
You can find past winning entries from our school here: Portico Past Winners



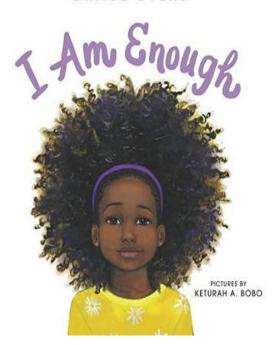
This year's National Book Token competition is also now open for entries and children are tasked with designing a brand new National Book Token gift card. Winners will receive hundreds of pounds in book tokens for themselves and school. The deadline is **Friday 2**nd **April 2021** and all guidelines on how to enter can be found on the National Book Token website.

Children have celebrated International Women's Day this week in school and have enjoyed learning about the stories of inspiring women throughout history. We are always exploring ways to diversify our curriculum and would like to highlight the book 'I Am Enough' to celebrate stories about girls and cultural diversity. You may want to share this book or other pictured titles with your children at home to continue the conversation.











# **Eco-School Developments**

We are very excited to announce that we have now completed the first step of our seven step journey to achieving our green flag as an Eco-School. We have formed our eco committee, composed of student representatives from years 1 to 6, and have had our first meeting (via zoom). The Eco committee members are full of enthusiasm and fantastic ideas, which they shared in the meeting. These varied from litter picks and fund-raisers to forest school and green walls.

Step two will be to complete our environmental review. In this Monday's whole school assembly, the student reps will inform the rest of the school about what this involves. All children, from Nursery to Year 6, will be involved in completing the environmental review, which will inform our Eco action plan. Then we can start to put some wheels in motion. We are eager to start our journey and will keep you all updated on our developments.

### Thank you to Parrs Wood Road Residence Group

A huge thank you for the generous donation of £500 from Parrs Wood Residence Group towards the purchase of Kindles to support children without remote access to online reading resources. This is will make such a positive difference.



We look forward to enjoying the rest of this half term altogether. As always, if you have any further questions or queries about anything, please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office.

Best wishes,

Mrs Liz Hardy

**Executive Headteacher** 



#### **Article 2 (non-discrimination)**

The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

