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Dear parents and carers,

We have had a busy first half of the spring term already and we have lots more planned to fit in before Easter, too.

We asked all children to come home and talk to parents and family members about everything they had learnt about keeping safe and healthy during our PSHE week in February. Perhaps your child taught you what should be found in a First Aid kit, how to put someone in the recovery position, how to behave around an unfamiliar dog or next to a canal or river, how long you should spend brushing your teeth, how to stop the spread of germs or viruses or how frequently you should check your smoke alarm? Perhaps they shared a crunchy salad or vegetable lasagne they had made as part of learning about a balanced diet, too? We all had a very busy and interesting week learning about keeping healthy and safe and hopefully some of the important messages reached home, too. Thank you to all the family members who joined in so enthusiastically with our daily 'wake and shake' sessions during the week and to all those who came to our two parent workshops. Some of the parents who attended the First Aid workshop were so inspired they have decided to fundraise to buy the school an emergency defibrillator – look out for more information about how you get involved with this.

Details are included below about events coming up in the second half of term including our Arts Project dancing performance, World Book Day activities and Tech Week. We have also just completed our History and Geography teaching for the year and Years 1-6 have now swapped to focus on the Science curriculum for the second half of the year. We arrange our curriculum in this way to help us focus our visits, workshops, professional development for teachers and sharing in class assemblies about a particular subject into one part of the year, helping us move children's learning on quickly and creating a buzz about the subject across the school. Look out for lots of investigations, experiments and finding out about the world around us over the rest of the year!

With best wishes,

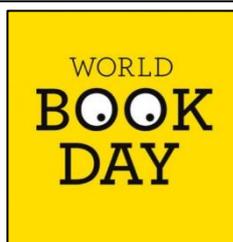
Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

## World Book Day

### – we are celebrating on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

There will be lots of opportunities and activities to celebrate reading and books taking place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March:

- ❖ Children in all classes are very welcome to dress up as a book character this year if they would like to. We don't do this every year so do make the most of it if your child is keen!
- ❖ The Friends Association will be holding their annual second-hand book sale during the morning. Please send your child to school with two or three good quality books they have grown out of and up to £5 in pound coins. Children will be able to buy books for 50p or £1 each with any funds raised going towards the Friends Association.
- ❖ Several classes will visit Waterstones during the day to listen to some story telling, swap their world book day book token for a special World Book Day book and even buy some books for their classrooms.
- ❖ Children will get a chance to talk about and read their favourite book on the day so make sure their named book is in school to share.
- ❖ We will also be launching our new reading lists as part of our world book day celebrations – Miss Parsons has been busy asking children for their suggestions for brilliant books for different ages and we will be collecting extra suggestions from children and parents, too, before sharing our suggestions on our website.



### A celebration of dance!

This term's Christ Church Arts Project focuses on dance and all classes are learning and rehearsing a dance to share with parents and families in a performance on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March starting at 1.45pm in Church. Some classes are working with tutors from the English Folk Dance Society to



learn some traditional country dances and other classes are learning Taiwanese Fan dancing routines from an expert. All family members are very welcome to our sharing performance on 27<sup>th</sup> March – we might even get the audience up and dancing, too!

### Spring term class assemblies – all at 10am in the school hall

Weds 18<sup>th</sup> March – Y5 class assembly

Fri 20<sup>th</sup> March – Rec class assembly

### E-safety parent workshop - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 9am

In our Tech week, E-safety experts from the Camden City Learning Centre (CLC) will run an **online safety workshop for parents** on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 9-10am.

This is such an important topic for parents to keep up to date with; parents often express anxiety or surprise about what their child is able to access online, now or in the future, but attendance at these workshops is always disappointingly low. If you can make the time to attend to find out about the latest sites being used by children and young people and hear some practical advice about how to support your child to navigate the online world, then please do come – everyone is welcome!

### Well done to Reception!

Reception have been learning about how to help others and raised an impressive £600 with a sponsored relay run for Great Ormond Street Hospital – well done Reception!

## Tech week (2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> March) and more technology in school

Activities during our Tech Week will include visits to the CLC, robot making workshops, a visit from the 'Codeshow' to learn about how technology has changed and a day focusing on online safety and digital citizenship.

We are currently updating some of our technology and are planning to purchase a set of chromebooks to use in classrooms around the school. These will work alongside our existing sets of laptops and ipads and will be part-funded by the Friends Association.

Thank you very much to all parents and families for their support of Friends events – this shows just one of the ways your donations and support make a real difference to what we can provide in school.

### ← Physically active for an average of 60 minutes a day

The national guidelines for physical activity for children and young people were updated at the end of last year with the target that all children are physically active for an average of an hour per day across the week- this can include active travel to school, our wake and shake session, PE lessons, active games at playtimes and sports clubs as well as activities outside school. The new guidelines also promote activities to strengthen muscles and bones such as dancing, fitness circuits, climbing and skipping.



**Physical activity for children and young people (5-18 Years)**

**Be physically active**

**Aim for an average of at least 60 minutes per day across week**

**Get strong** **Move more**

Find ways to help all children and young people accumulate an average of at least 60 minutes physical activity per day across the week

UK Chief Medical Officers' Physical Activity Guidelines, 2019

## Representing our school at the LDBS

### Service at St Paul's Cathedral→

A group of Year 3 and 4 pupils represented the school at the annual LDBS (London Diocesan Board for Schools) service at St Paul's Cathedral, attending along with children from hundreds of schools. Two children proudly carried our banner in a procession down the aisle as part of the service – it was an occasion to remember!

## Information and reminders

### Parents evenings – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Parents evenings for this term will take place at the beginning of April with the sign up sheets for appointments available in the junior playground from 17<sup>th</sup> March.

### School meals costs

Caterlink are increasing the cost of school meals by 5p per meal from the beginning of the summer term- this increases the price to £2.40 per meal. Infant school meals continue to be free for all pupils. If you think you may meet the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals as a result of your income level or eligibility for other benefits, please do contact the school office and we can support you with an application.

## Dates

### March

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>, 11am – Children in church, school choir singing

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> – Tech week, including digital citizenship and online safety

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 3.30pm - Parents welcome to see the Codeshow technology from the past!

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>, 9-10am – Parent workshop – Online safety—all welcome

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>, pm and eve – Camden Music Festival at the Royal Albert Hall

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> – Dressing up for World Book Day and Friends second hand book sale (we know this isn't on quite the right world book day date!)

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>, eve – Friends Around the World International event

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>, 9.50am – Music assembly

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – last after school clubs this week

Friday 27<sup>th</sup>, 1.45pm – A celebration of dance: whole school dance performance in church – all families very welcome!

### April

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>, 3.45 – 7.30pm – Parents evening

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3.45 – 6.00pm – Parents evening

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>, 11am – Children in church, school choir singing, Palm Sunday

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>, 11.15am – Easter Service in Church, all welcome

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>, midday – all children go home for Easter holidays**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April - all children back to school for the summer term**



**Helping children remember what they learn.** We have all been thinking about how our memory works and learning about how we can help ourselves to remember what we learn. We thought it might be helpful to share with parents one tip for helping us learn and remember new facts and skills in each of the next few newsletters:

### **Memory tip number 1**

*If you learn a new fact in more than one different way this helps you to transfer this fact to your long term memory and make connections to it. You could draw a picture, do something active, write it down or even sing a song about what you've learnt. This is why we often learn songs about what we've been learning and rehearse them to share in our class assemblies!*

