



Scotch Orchard Primary School

Caring | Believing | Achieving

Spring Term Newsletter - February 2022

It is an exciting time in our reading journey at Scotch Orchard as we continue to implement our new phonics and early reading scheme, Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised, within our Early Years and Key Stage 1 classes.

Thanks to all parents who managed to join their child's teacher for their virtual workshops earlier this term. These explained more about how reading is taught in school, the importance of phonics and ways you can support your child with their reading at home. It is all so much different to the way we were taught at school!

If you missed the workshop or want to find out more, you can watch Mrs Tomlinson explaining all about it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjKiMyc4jDM>



Mrs Bishop, Headteacher

Competition Week

What a buzzin', rockin' and quizzin' end to our half term! There was a real air of competitiveness across school as every class engaged in exciting competitions organised by their teachers.



- Early Years 'guessed the nursery rhyme';
- Year 1 and 2 took part in their 'fantastic phonics fun quiz';
- Year 3 and 4 battled it out in their dodgeball tournament;
- Year 5 and 6 locked horns in their 'Times-tables Rockstars Wrangle'.

Well done to everyone who took part and huge congratulations to all the winners. I hope you enjoyed yourselves and are looking forward to our next round of class competitions. These will be scheduled just before Easter—look out for further information on ClassDojo in the coming weeks



World Book Day

The first week back after half term we are celebrating the 25th anniversary of World Book Day – with the message for all children 'you are a reader!' Scotch Orchard Primary School will be filled with lots of exciting, celebratory ways to promote reading for pleasure. Don't forget the 'dress as a favourite character/author' day on Thursday 3rd March (for a £1 donation). You can find more details at the end of this newsletter.

Calling all parents, carers, grandparents...

Do you or a family member have any free time during the school day and are keen to get involved in making a difference in school? If so, we need you! We are looking to recruit a team of volunteers to support our staff and children across the school. If you are interested, please contact the school office. No prior experience necessary, but we will need to carry out a DBS check before you begin.

Covid-19 Positive Reporting

Thank you for your support in adhering to our onsite safety procedures. Following current advice, please remember to book a PCR test if your child displays any covid symptoms; an LFT home test is only to be used if no symptoms are present or you have been advised that your child has had potential contact with a positive case.

Please continue to report **all positive results to school immediately** so that we can respond swiftly, even during the holiday. We have a 24hr monitored email address for this purpose: covid19@scotchorchard.staffs.sch.uk

Green shoots of hope...

It's so heart-warming to finally see some sort of normality beginning to return to our lives. I hope that these green shoots will continue to grow, take a strong foothold and blossom over the coming months. This will enable us to make changes in school.

Staff are already beginning to plan exciting experiences and educational visits to enhance your child's learning including our residential for Year 5 and 6. Further information about plans for our other year groups will be distributed next term.

I am hopeful that we can begin to welcome you all back in school too. It has been such a long time since this has been possible and I am keen to re-establish some of our old traditions as well as plan exciting new ones. I also know that the 'Friends of Scotch Orchard' are planning to re-group after Easter, this is such wonderful news.

Our Scotch Orchard community will finally be back together once again!



Absence Notification

In line with our attendance policy, please let the office know the reasons for your child's absence by phoning 01543 227400 or emailing office@scotchorchard.staffs.sch.uk, **not the class teacher**.

We ask that you do this **daily** unless there is a long-term illness or condition requiring a set isolation period such as sickness/diarrhoea which requires your child to remain at home for 48 hours following their last bout of illness.

Please make all routine medical appointments, such as dental check-ups and opticians, outside of the school day. For other, more specialist appointments, office staff will ask to see medical evidence for their records.

Bookings Essential!

Do you use our breakfast club service? Does your child have a school lunch?

If so, **please** pre-book and pay for these in advance in order to secure your child's place or choice of meal.

Thank you.

DIARY DATES

SPRING TERM 2022

INSET Days (school closed to pupils):

· Friday 8th April

Monday 28th Feb - Friday 4th March: World Book Day celebrations

Thursday 3rd March: World Book Day - dressing as a favourite character or author

Term ends: Thursday 7th April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 17th April

Easter Monday: Monday 18th April

SUMMER TERM 2022

INSET Day (school closed to pupils): Friday 1st July

Term starts: Monday 25th April

May Bank Holiday: Monday 2nd May

Half term: Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June

Spring Bank Holiday and Queen's Jubilee - Thursday 2nd June & Friday 3rd June **Term ends:** Thursday 21st July *

(Please note that this is a change as we have allocated Friday 22nd July as a day off, in lieu of the bank holiday for the Queen's Jubilee)

Summer Holiday: Friday 22nd July – Friday 2nd September



Scotch Orchard World Book Week

Monday 28th February- Friday 4th March 2022

In 2022, we are celebrating the 25th anniversary of World Book Day – with the message for all children **'you are a reader'**! Scotch Orchard Primary School will be filled with lots of exciting, celebratory ways to promote reading for pleasure on World Book Day, and all-year round.



Celebrating on Thursday 3rd March

Come to school dressed as your favourite character or author from any book. If you would like to dress up, we would like to make this as easy as possible. Please look at the link <https://bookaid.org/support-us/world-book-day/world-book-day-dress-up> where there are lots of ideas on how to make masks or hats that do not involve having to purchase an outfit. If your favourite book is a non-fiction title, tabards or t-shirts with top facts or illustrations from the books are good alternatives as well as dressing up as the subject of the book. Please bring in your favourite story to share with your class too.

Donations

£1 donations can be made via Parent Pay. Total funds raised will support our school library and help us to purchase high-quality, exciting new texts for all of our children to read and enjoy.

You are a reader!

We want you to share your pride in being a reader by sharing a picture with us.
Silly, serious, just you or the whole family - however you do it, we want to share why you love reading in the run up to World Book Day.

Send your photographs to your class teacher via Class Dojo by **Monday 28th February**.

World Book Day Tokens

Your World Book Day token is valid from **Thursday 17 February – Sunday 27 March 2022**. Take a look at the new line-up of £1 books for 2022 that you can choose for free with your £1 book token. With books for beginning, early, fluent and independent readers, there is something for everyone.

Reading Activities all Week!

Look out for messages from class teachers on **Class Dojo**. There will be a range of reading activities throughout the week, including quizzes, book scavenger hunts, sharing book recommendations and discussing your favourite stories.