

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019

Dear all,

The children have come back from half term well-rested and ready to learn.

The children who attend Brownie Club wore their uniform on Monday. They told their class all about the club and the different activities they take part in.

Our Oak and Acorn children have had a really busy week. First people from the fire station came to visit them in school. The children got to see the fire engine, all the uniforms and kit as well as being able to shoot water out the hose! Then on Wednesday they went to the lifeboat station. They saw the lifeboat and learnt all about the team who work there. They then had a picnic and play in the park. They had a super day and did very well to walk all the way back up the hill at the end of it! Many thanks to all the staff and helpers who made the two events possible.

Today, Willow Class have been involved in an art project with a leading local artist. Their work will contribute to a mural in town. It is an honour for them to have been involved and we look forward to seeing the finished results.

**Parent session**

Many thanks to everyone who attended the parent session on Monday. Tamsyn from Early Help for Mental Health (EH4MH) came and talked about ways we can support children's mental health. It was really informative and links in with the training the staff have had in school. The '10 a day' choices towards balancing mental health that were talked about in the session are attached to the newsletter for anyone who would like to use them at home. We are also taking part in Mental Health Ambassador training. This involves a group of children working with other local schools and the EH4MH team to learn strategies to help promote mental health and well-being in school.

**Balloons Charity**

Thank you to everyone who donated to our chosen charity 'Balloons' at Christmas. We have received a lovely letter of thanks from 'Balloons' the Advent Charity which so many of you generously supported. Together with the Church we raised £1,425.66, which is a tremendous sum. To give you some idea of how this money may be used, this could pay for; the training of 3 grief supporters; Haven Banks activity days for a whole year; 6 months travel expenses for the grief support workers or pre-bereavement support service for a month. The charity offer a free service and rely heavily on donations so they really appreciate your help. Thank you so much.

**World Book day**

Just a reminder that next Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> is World Book day. The children will all receive a £1 voucher to spend on books, acceptable in most bookshops including Tesco's. The children are welcome to come dressed as a book character of their choice on the day for a £1 donation. All money raised will go towards books for the classes. Unfortunately, I am out all that day at a meeting but I am really looking forward to seeing the photos!

**Upcoming dates:**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Maple Class to Fair Trade conference at The Beacon School.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March – Ash Wednesday Mass in school, 9.30am, everyone welcome.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March – FSU parent activity session, 2.15 - 3.15pm

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March – World Book day. See above.

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March – Mental Health Ambassador training for group of children.

**Best wishes & many thanks for your continued support**

**Mrs Taylor-Bashford**

**Headteacher's awards:** Rowan – Fraser, James, Sycamore – Ella, Hamish x 2!, Annie, Alfie, Cherry – Niamh, Ellie, Mischa, Declan, Charlie, Willow – George, Frankie

**Silver Awards:** Sycamore – Adam, Cherry – Bella, Ellie, Beech – Darcie, Evan

**Bronze Awards:** Sycamore – Dean, Maple – Evie, Lily, Nathan, Dillon, Frank

**Star of the Week Awards:** Oak - Cohen, Rowan – Daisy, Sycamore - Adam, Cherry - Charlie, Willow - George, Maple – Aiah, Beech – Darcie

**Breakfast club Award:** Sofia