



## ALINGTON & BERGH APTON Church of England VA Primary School

Dear All

### Book Week – 27<sup>th</sup> February

Mrs Weathers has planned various activities for this week around the theme of Stories from around the World – see attached letter for details.

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February** – Sheridan Winn, a children's author has recently moved into Bergh Apton and will be talking to the children in Classes 3 and 4. The children might like to bring some money to buy one of her books.

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** – Dress up Day - as a story character

The Travelling Book Company are in school from **Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> until Wed 1<sup>st</sup> March** and their books are out on display in the corridor as usual.

**World Book Day £1 Book Tokens** valid from 27<sup>th</sup> February to 26<sup>th</sup> March are being issued to every child in school. You will see these tokens can be swapped for a Free World Book Day book or £1 off any book or audiobook worth £2.99 or more at your local bookseller. These tokens may also be used against purchases from the Travelling Book Company (for books costing £2.99 or more), however the school will not gain any commission from the tokens redeemed!

**Book Cover Competition** – the children are invited to think about an idea for a story and then plan an illustrated book cover for the story, including a blurb. They will be shown a template for presenting their ideas but they can start thinking about their stories in advance! There will be a £10 book voucher prize for one child in each year group.

Governors and any interested parents who would like to come and read a short excerpt from a favourite story during the week please speak to the class teachers as you will be very welcome.

**New teacher vacancy** - We are planning to employ an additional teacher for Sept 2017 which will mean we will have five classes instead of four. This is to relieve the pressure on class sizes and it will depend on how we split the classes as to which year groups work together as the additional children work through the school. The Governors have discussed and modelled how this might look going forward in future years. The vacancy asks for someone with the skills to teach lower Key Stage 2 or upper Key Stage 1 and it will largely depend on the quality of the applicants as to where we place the new teacher. The old hall has been redecorated and will be returning to a class base after thirty years! The Governors will be looking to make another strong appointment to join our outstanding team of teachers. You may have seen in the local press that there are issues around recruitment in Norfolk, however Alington has historically not had a problem in recruiting staff and judging by the interest shown in the position thus far I don't anticipate this being a problem for us this time.

**Alington and Bergh Apton Primary School Choir** will be performing at the Norfolk Music Festival on Wed. 8<sup>th</sup> March at St Andrew's Hall, Norwich. If your child is in the school choir they have a letter with details. Please complete the reply slip and return to the school office asap.

### Dates for this half-term:

Mon. 27<sup>th</sup> – Wed. 1<sup>st</sup> March – Travelling Books, books for sale in school corridor

Tues. 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. – Author Sheridan Winn in school (her books for sale)

Thurs. 2<sup>nd</sup> March – Dress up as a story character

Wed. 8<sup>th</sup> March – School choir performance at Norfolk Music Festival

Thurs. 9<sup>th</sup> March – Years 1 and 2 visit Cromer Museum

Sat. 18<sup>th</sup> March – Quiz Night

Mon. 20<sup>th</sup> March – Governors Meet and Mingle

Wed. 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Mothering Service at Bergh Apton Church, further details to follow

Fri. 24<sup>th</sup> March – Red Nose Day

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As part of a European money funded project I will be travelling to Norway with a group of Norfolk Heads to share primary practice with Norwegian colleagues. You may remember we also went to Belgium on a similar trip last spring. Later this year the Belgian schools will be visiting Norfolk and we are hoping to forge school to school links with both Belgium and Norway. I will be away from school from Mon. 6<sup>th</sup> - Wed. 8<sup>th</sup> March inclusive. In my absence Mr Michael Stowers, Assistant Headteacher will be available to assist with any matters that might require my attention. I am desperately disappointed that the trip coincides with the choir singing at St Andrews' Hall.

### **Allergies**

Nobody has told Mrs Reeman about their child having a severe peanut allergy so parents who are sending their children to school with peanut butter sandwiches may continue to do this. Obviously we discourage children from sharing their food at lunchtimes.

**Class 2 performance – “Eddie and the Penguins Save the World”.** This took place just before half term, and was an amazing success, playing to packed houses and much acclaim. Well done to all the children who took part so confidently and thanks to the Class 2 staff who helped and supported the children. David Whiteley filmed the dress rehearsal and we will let interested parents know the best way to obtain a copy in due course.

**Friends Cake Sale and GOSH Mad Hair...** thank you very much for supporting this, you raised £132, we also were able to send £150 to Great Ormond Street from the proceeds of the Mad Hair day. Mrs Farrow is very grateful for all your support with this.

**Recycle with Michael** – the last clothing collection for The Salvation Army; 730 kilos were collected which resulted in £146.00 funds raised for the school.

### **Friends Quiz – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March**

This is always a very popular event. This year we are resting Mr Stowers and so Mr David Whiteley has kindly agreed to step up to the plate. We are going to follow the same format as last year with no food or drink provided and the cost will remain at £5 per person, with additional games on the evening and a small raffle. If you have any items for the raffle please add them to the box in the main corridor. Please complete entries forms and return them to the school office by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March.

**Red Nose Day – 23<sup>rd</sup> March** – The School Council are organizing various activities and have asked that children come to school dressed up in red on that day or as one of the Red Nose characters. Red Noses will be on sale from the school office. There will also be a cake sale that day organized by the School Council for Comic Relief.

**Parents collecting their children at the end of the day** – parents are very welcome to stand and chat to each other at the end of the day but please can make sure your children are not running around the playground or playing with balls etc. There have been a number of children running around the playground letting off steam after school which makes it difficult for other smaller, and not so small, children to cross the playground, it also risks them being knocked over. Sadly we cannot allow the children to go and play on the tyres or the trim trail after school as we are still responsible for any injuries which may be caused.

**Alpington with Yelverton Parish Council** – The school is very keen to maintain positive links with the parish council and to have regular dialogue with them. One of the concerns from neighbours in the community is the parking at the beginning and end of the day. Now that the staff have their own car park this has alleviated the problem but there are still concerns about parents parking too near the crossroad junction and parking in dangerous places on Wheel Road. I do regularly remind everyone that we need to be considerate to our neighbours. I have also been asked to remind you that there is a maximum 30mph limit through the village as there have been instances of cars going too fast on the roads. Of course not all the cars passing through the village are parents' cars and motorists who are not parents do drive through at speed at all times of the day. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

**The Alpington with Yelverton Parish Council AGM will be held in the new school hall on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.**

**The Bergh Apton Parish Council AGM will be held at Bergh Apton village hall on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April.** Please do come along to one of these meetings as it is important that there are positive links between the school and the parish councils.

**Meet and Mingle at the Governors' Dig Deep day** – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March is our annual Governors' Dig Deep Day when the governors are in school looking at all aspects of the working of the school. This is in addition to their regular monitoring visits. Parents are invited to stay for a coffee at 8.30 and chat to them. Questionnaire responses

indicated that not all parents know who the governors are, or what their role is, so this would be a good opportunity to find out, as well as to speak to them about any matters or questions to do with the strategic leadership of the school.

**Parents to Lunch – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February** will be the chance for KS2 parents to join us for a hot lunch in school at 12.15pm. This half term was the start of the new summer menu and I am interested to see how it goes. Last Monday was a very unpopular meal and I have informed Norse of this.

**Parent Teacher meetings** are taking place next week. I hope you all have received your appointment times and have contacted the class teachers if you need either additional time or another time slot.

**Gymfinity Activity Days on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April** – Please see the attached for further information.

**Sainsbury's Vouchers.** We are now collecting these, there is a box in the corridor for your vouchers. Please support this as we have had a very good response in the past which has bought us playground equipment for the children to use.

**Year 6 parents** – please note that Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July will be the Super Learning day at Framingham Earl High School, in the past this has been an event for all Y6, even for those children not transferring to Fram. However this year 6<sup>th</sup> July is also Hobart's intake day so these children will not be going to Framingham Earl for the event. Please amend your school calendar, we had incorrectly put 4<sup>th</sup> July down as Hobart Intake Day.

**Gate** – Please can you ensure the school gate is closed behind you if you come into school during the school day.

Thank you

Teresa Osborne

**Attachments:**

- Book Week letter
- Meet & Mingle Flyer – Mon. 20<sup>th</sup> March
- World Book Day £1 Token
- Quiz Night Entry Form
- Gymfinity Easter Holiday Activities
- Tues. and Thurs. Gym Club payments slips for spring second half-term