



## Head Teacher Newsletter February 2021

### WELCOME BACK!

As you will have heard all children are back in school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March which is really wonderful news. We cannot wait!

We will return to the routines we had in place in the autumn term in terms of Class Bubbles and we will continue to split lunch and break times, not run clubs apart from Breakfast and After School Club and ensure stringent hand washing and hygiene routines remain in place for all of the children and staff.

However we are changing the way we start the day by having a 10 minute walking in start time. **The gates on Elsham Road, Worsley Road and the Reception gate will now open at 8.55am and close just after 9.05am.** The children will not line up and instead will walk straight to their classroom where their teacher will be waiting. Staff will be placed strategically in the playground and entrances to the school and on the stairs to make sure the children get safely to their classrooms and I will also be in the playground. All children in the same family should use the same gate unless you also have a child in Reception and you should take them to the Reception gate first. Parents should not need to stay as we still need to be following social distance rules for adults. It is important that your children come into school during this time as their learning will start at 9.10am once the registers have been completed in class.

For the end of day please see further on in this newsletter which remain **almost** the same as the autumn term.

### World Book Day – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March

It's that time of year again where children and school staff across the country dress up as people and characters out of books. However this year is of course different as the majority of



you will be at home taking part in your online learning but that's not going to stop us dressing up and getting involved. This year our focus for the children is on 'anything goes' whether it be a non-fiction or fictional character from a book. The staff however will be dressed as **characters from Fantasy, Make Believe and Sci Fi** children's books so look out for them looking amazing on camera or in the classroom! If you are a parent and you normally sit with your child during the live lessons then please join in and dress up as well! The children in school will be in their costumes all day and hopefully the

children at home will also stay in their costumes so it seems only fair that the teachers stay in their costumes during the live lessons throughout the day as well!!

I am really looking forward to seeing all of the children dressed up whether it's on camera or in school but please remember you don't need to spend a lot of money on costumes and we have had the most amazing costumes made out of cardboard boxes over the years!

Unfortunately we can't run a Book Fair alongside World Book Day as we would usually however every child has a £1 Book Token which is valid from the 18<sup>th</sup> February to the 28<sup>th</sup> March. The children will be given their vouchers on the 8<sup>th</sup> March if they're not in school now however I have attached with this newsletter a digital £1.00 book token.

## Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE)

We have updated our Policy section on our website and you will now see that it's much easier to find a policy that you're looking for.

In September 2020 the Department for Education, (DFE) published a revised Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education statutory guidance for schools which meant that from April 2021 schools should have a revised curriculum that reflects any changes. (If you would like to read this document you can find it on the DFE website and search using the name of the guidance above). We have for a number of years used the 'Jigsaw' curriculum to teach our children Personal, Social, Health Education, (PSHE) and you have been able to access this through our curriculum pages on the website. However this has now been updated to reflect the new guidance although little has changed for us as a school in the content that we teach. We have always taught our children throughout the year about equality, diversity, different families, acceptance and respect for all and celebrated inclusivity in our Diversity week usually held in February.

We had hoped that we would be in a position this year to go through the Jigsaw Curriculum with parents in workshop groups in school but this is not feasible at the moment however we would like to be able to share it with you through the website and our draft policy which has been sent out with this newsletter. We will be sending out a questionnaire for parents to respond to on RSE and you will have an opportunity to comment on or to ask any questions you may have about the draft policy and any aspects of the curriculum.

In the meantime you will find 4 documents on our website for you to have a look at:

- Jigsaw, a Guide for Parents and Carers
- Jigsaw overview of the SRE content by Year group
- RSE Expectations in Primary Schools
- Understanding Relationships and Health Education in your child's primary school – a guide for parents

As always parents have the right to withdraw from RSE lessons that fall outside of the Science curriculum.

## COMIC RELIEF – RED NOSE DAY!

I am very excited to tell you that it's Comic Relief and Red Nose Day on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March and we are going back to 'gunging' our teachers and the children as always have the final say and can vote on who they would like to see gunged.

Up for gunging this year are our new and newish teachers! We have Gemma, Fenella, Bilkis and Sakina all being really good sports and putting themselves forward.



All you need to do is bring in your money from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and put it in the tube of the teacher you would like to see gunged so start saving those pennies!

You can put as much as you want in either one tube or you can spread your money out. All money will go to Comic Relief.

The teacher with the most money in their tube will be gunged in the hall and it will be live streamed into all of your classrooms and put on our website.

The other piece of exciting news is that I have ordered 5 boxes of Red Noses, 200 noses in total to sell in school which will be here from the 8<sup>th</sup> March. Each nose costs £1.50 and again all money goes to Comic Relief. I'm hoping to find a Badger or Robin!

### School Ending Times

Year Group	Time	Gate
Acorn	3.20pm	Main Entrance
Conker	3.20pm	Reception
Year 1	3.20pm	Elsham Road
Year 2	3.20pm	Worsley Road
Year 3	3.30pm	Elsham Road
Year 4	3.30pm	Worsley Road
Year 5	3.35pm	Worsley Road
Year 6	3.35pm	Elsham Road

These times will be reviewed at the end of the term.

### Polling Station – GLA Mayoral Elections

On **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May** school is closed to children as we are being used as a Polling Station however now we have set up Google Classrooms the children's learning for that day will move online and all the teachers will be providing live lessons over the course of the day. More information about this will go out nearer the time.

### And finally

I have included our school calendar for 2021 – 2022 which is based on the Council's agreed dates for the new academic year. We are having 3 INSET days at the beginning of the year so children in Year 1 to Year 6 come back to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September with Reception children starting school on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September for half days for the first 5 days. Reception children will start fulltime on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

Please note the children break up for this academic year on **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at 2.00pm**

Best wishes  
Deborah

## Dates For Your Diary

**World Book Day**  
Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March

**All Children Return to School**  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March

**Comic Relief – Red Nose Day**  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March

**Break Up for Easter**  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 2.30pm

**Easter Holidays**  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April

**Children Return to School**  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April

**Shaking Up Shakespeare Workshop**  
Holly Class  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April

**Shaking Up Shakespeare Workshop**  
Sequoia Class  
Date to be confirmed

**May Day Bank Holiday– School Closed**  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

**School Closed for Polling**  
Lessons through Google Classrooms  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May

**Children Break Up**  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May at 3.30pm

**Half Term**  
Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June

**Children Return to School**  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June

**Art Week**  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June

**Children Break up for the Summer**  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July at **2.00pm**

## School Calendar for 2021/22

### Autumn Term 2021

Staff INSET Days, school closed to children – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Year 1 to Year 6 Children Start – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 9.05am

Reception Children Start – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 9.05am (Half days for the first week)

Half Term - Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October

Children Break Up – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 2.30 pm

Christmas Holidays - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021 to Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022

### Spring Term 2022

Staff INSET Day, school closed to children –Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Children Start – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 9.05am

Half Term - Monday 14<sup>th</sup> to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Children Break Up – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 2.30pm

Easter Holidays – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April to Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022

### Summer Term 2022

Children Start – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 9.05am

May Day Bank Holiday – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022

Half Term - Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022

Children Break Up – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022 at 2.00 pm

There is one more INSET still to be included, date to be confirmed.