



Hoyland Springwood Primary School

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💻 www.hoylandspringwood.org

Headteacher: Mrs Jennifer Hunt

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Gerry Wilson

Friday 12th February 2021

Dear Parent and Carers,

Important Dates to Remember

World Book Day 2021 – Thursday 4th March

On Thursday 4th March, the whole school will be celebrating World Book Day. It will be a little different this year, but we want to make sure that all children get the opportunity to celebrate reading and have lots of fun doing so.

Each year, we invite all the children and staff to dress up as a book character to celebrate World Book Day. Of course, this year will be different due to remote teaching, we understand the pressures on parents at home and the last thing we want to do is add to these pressures and there is no expectation for children to dress up. However, if you are happy to join in with the celebrations, we would love to see the children show their originality and creativity. There are many costumes that can be created with minimal effort or resources (there are several book characters who resemble every day, normal children and dress as such, including Horrid Henry, Charlie Bucket, Billionaire Boy, Tracey Beaker, Where's Wally and Harry and his Bucketful of dinosaurs), David Walliams books often have normal children as lead characters and Julia Donaldson characters like the gruffalo can be created by wearing colour clothing and a mask e.g. Gruffalo and Zog.

The idea of World Book Day is to have fun and enjoy reading. It is a wonderful opportunity to share and listen to stories. Throughout the day, staff will be reading extracts, poems and stories live through Zoom, there will be quizzes (one organised by Miss Waugh on Seesaw and the other hosted live on Zoom by Mrs Hunt) and other staff have recorded stories to share through Seesaw. We would encourage you to read an extra story at bedtime or talk about your favourite book with your child – anything to promote a love of reading will help your child. Children's work on World Book Day will be themed around a chosen class text and our aim is to make the day as fun, engaging and interactive as we can, without creating work or stress for families.

No Screens Day – Friday 5th March

As teachers and parents, we spend a lot of time ensuring children don't spend extended times on screens. However, Remote Learning has upset this balance. As a school, we are using home learning paper packs aligned with Seesaw to ensure that children can work away from a screen for some parts of the day.

To further re-dress the balance, we are organising a no screens day on Friday 5th March to encourage children to be engaged away from their tablet or laptop. Activity packs will be delivered earlier that week with all the resources you and your children will need to complete 4 activities through the day. Working parents, can use these resources to complete the activities at any time for day/weekend to suit their daily routine.

On Friday 5th, pre-recorded videos will be sent to seesaw and children will log on at 9.00am, 10.30am, 1pm and 2pm to watch the teacher explain and show the activity. The activities will be a surprise until then! All children in school will be completing the same activities, so there will be no added stress on families with multiple children from different classes. Any photographs or videos taken during or at the end of the completed activities can be uploaded to Seesaw to share with the class.

The following week commences on Monday 8th March. Although this has been given as the earliest proposed date when school could reopen we have had no official confirmation from the government that this will happen. We anticipate that we will remain closed until the government begins to lift lockdown restrictions nationally. As soon as we have any official confirmation from the government, we will be in touch regarding next steps for Springwood.

Take care of yourselves, remember that you are doing an incredible job, we miss you all so much and have a wonderful half term next week.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Hunt".

Mrs Jennifer Hunt