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Our School Community Newsletter!



Spring A - Week 3 - Friday 25th January 2019



Thought for the Week

'I always knew that deep down in every human heart, there was mercy and generosity. No-one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, then they can be taught to love. For love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite'

Nelson Mandela

This weeks 'Wonderful Words'...for each class!

Vocabulary relates to social class...



Findings of the Hart and Risley landmark study:

- Over four years, researchers recorded that an average child in a professional family accumulated experience of almost 45 million words; in a working-class family, 26 million words; and in a family receiving welfare, 13 million words.



Hart, B., & Risley, T. R. (1995). 'Meaningful differences in the everyday experience of young American children'. Paul H Brookes Publishing.

Reception Robins	Year 1 Blackbirds	Year 2 Barn Owls
Paw	Detached	Brave
Snout	Semi-detached	Injured
Claw	Bungalow	Committed
Cub	Terraced	Sympathetic
Den	Flats	Ambitious

Growing together,

Every day,

In every way.

New Build Consultation Meeting

We are thrilled to be able to share with you the following information about our school expansion. We have arranged a community meeting on Thursday 28th February from 5.30pm - 7.00pm. This will be open to everyone; parents, neighbours and the local community. I have invited the following groups along...

- The building contractor who will be managing the new build.
- Representatives from HS2 who will talk about how the HS2 build will impact on the local community.
- An architect who is exploring the options of building a separate space for Larks and Owls so we can better use the school hall for more after school activities. This is in the very early stages and funding has yet to be secured for the build but they are keen to get parent feedback before proceeding. You can also respond via a survey they have set up online by copying and pasting this into your computer....<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FHBSPZW>

In preparation for the meeting, it would be fantastic if you could send any questions you may have so I can forward them to the relevant agencies. Please email them to Mrs Eling direct on admin2569@welearn365.com so she can collate them all.

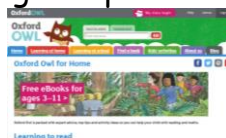
Spring Term Book Club - Years 1 and 2

Thank you to the many parents who have bought this book from the Book Club. If you wish to loan the book from your local library then please just quote the title and author...Just Like Brothers by Elizabeth Baguley. We have a couple of copies left if you wish to buy one for your child at the reduced price of £5.00



Hearing your child read and reading diaries

As part of my monitoring of the curriculum and standards across the school, each term I look through every child's reading diary to see how we can help support parents who are finding it difficult to hear their child read at least three times a week. As part of this process we will place a sticker in your child's reading book as a gentle reminder about the importance of this quick but crucially important activity. If your child would prefer to read/share books on line, then this is a great place to start....



Thank you for your support in this.

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Competition Time! Who can you catch reading?



As part of our continued drive to develop life-long readers, we are really excited to be launching a family reading competition! It's really quite simple. Get someone to take a photo of you or someone in your family reading! It may be at home on the sofa or somewhere different like these.....



A huge thank you to the parents of Theo, Cara, Brooke and Fleur who have already sent photos in...they look great! Get clicking...and reading and send your photos to Mrs Eling admin2569@welearn365.com Or send a hard copy in to the office. We look forward to receiving them soon!



We're counting down to Number Day 2019!



We are delighted to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in their Number Day on Friday 1 February 2019. On Friday 1st February 2019 we will be taking part in *Dress up for Digits* and pupils will be invited to wear a ONESIE or pyjamas and bring a donation of £1.00. We will also be taking part in lots of fun curriculum-based maths activities throughout the day. The NSPCC believes that all children deserve a childhood free from harm but, sadly, that's not the case for many children. That's why the NSPCC is fighting for every childhood and working to help keep children safe from abuse. The NSPCC needs our support. By raising money, we can help to fund their vital services such as Childline - the helpline that's always there for children and young people whatever their problem or concern. Number Day is a great way to make maths fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it.

Parent Consultations Update

Further to the success of running the previous parent consultations throughout the day, we will be doing the same again this term. The feedback we received was fantastic with many parents saying they felt the consultation was less rushed and much easier as they didn't need to organise child care. For this consultation, your child's books will be available to look at too. As a reminder, the dates are as follows...

Class	Date
Year 1 Blackbirds	Wednesday 6 th February
Year 2 Barn Owls	Monday 11 th February

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The lists will be placed with morning club and then on the class room windows at least 10 days before the consultation date. **Please liaise with your class teacher directly if you are unable to make the given date or time as they will be happy to accommodate your individual family needs where possible.** Many thanks for your support with this.

School Uniform Update

Our school uniform provider, Tesco's, have now handed over the embroidery contract to a new supplier so you will need to follow a different link to order uniform going forward www.myclothing.com We have attached all of the relevant information to this weeks newsletter. Any queries please contact them direct.

An update from Mrs Howells

'My husband and I are delighted to share some exciting news with you all...after a year of happy marriage we have decided to embark on a new adventure and will be emigrating this summer. We are going to be moving to Dubai (somewhere that we have visited many times) where I will be teaching in Reception at a large multi-national school (and hopefully enjoying some sunny weather too!)

I am of course sad to be leaving High Meadow. I have thoroughly enjoyed my four years here and feel truly privileged to be part of what is an amazing school with such wonderful children, parents and staff'

Mrs Howells will be leaving at the end of the Summer term so will teach the current reception cohort until the end of this academic year (Friday 19th July will be her last day) We have been really blessed to have Mrs Howells at High Meadow for the past four years as she has brought with her a wealth of experience, fun and enjoyment. She has taught every child here and her outstanding practice has ensured every child has had the best possible start to the learning journey. We felt it important to share the news with you all first before we start advertising for her position. I am sure you will join me in congratulating her on such an exciting 'next step' in her teaching career.



Educational Events and Activities

Date	Time & place	Event
Friday 1 st February	All day	NSPCC Numbers Day
Wednesday 6 th February	All day	Year 1 Blackbirds parent consultations
Monday 11 th February	All day	Year 2 Barn Owls parent consultations
Thursday 14 th February	4.00pm - 5.00pm	Year 1 & 2 Valentines Disco
Monday 18 th February - Friday 22 nd February	All week	February half term
Monday 25 th February	8.50am	Children back to school
Thursday 28 th February	5.30pm - 7.00pm	New Build Community Meeting
Thursday 7 th March	All day	World Book day

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Thursday 7 th March	3.00pm - 4.00pm	First Aid after school club starts
Friday 8 th March	Morning	Road safety workshops with Year 2
Monday 11 th March	Every afternoon	I'm a Super Scientist Week!
Tuesday 12 th March	Afternoon	Children's gymnastics competition
Friday 15 th March	From 3.00pm	Parents & children's Super Scientists day
Friday 22 nd March	Afternoon	Toscana Strings music concert
Tuesday 26 th March	2.00pm - 3.00pm	Year 2 Mother's Day tea party
Wednesday 27 th March	2.00pm - 3.00pm	Year 1 Mother's Day tea party
Thursday 28 th March	2.00pm - 3.00pm	Reception Mother's Day tea party
Friday 5 th April	1.00pm - 3.00pm	Children's Easter Fair
Friday 12 th April	Last day of half-term	

Easter holidays from Monday 15th April 2019 - Friday 26th April 2019

Teacher training day - Monday 29th April 2019

Children back in school - Tuesday 30th April 2019

Important note - please be aware that these dates and times are subject to change. Please read the weekly newsletters for most up-to-date information. Class trips and visits will be communicated separately.



Attendance - 'Every Child, Attending Every Day'



Good attendance (97%+) is key to academic success and missing just one or two days each half term can have a detrimental impact on a child's learning and progress. The LA may send out fines to families who are deemed to be 'persistently absent'. Our Attendance Policy can be found on our school website if you need further clarification.

Our target for this year is 97%. This week we achieved 96.9%, which just missed our target! Please remember ANY requests for holiday leave during term time **will not** be granted.

How does your child compare?

Attendance during one school year	equals this number of days absent	which is approximately this many weeks absent	which means this number of lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons

Position	% attendance	Class
FIRST PLACE	98.3%	YR Robins
SECOND PLACE	97.7%	Y2 Barn Owls
THIRD PLACE	94.7%	Y1 Blackbirds

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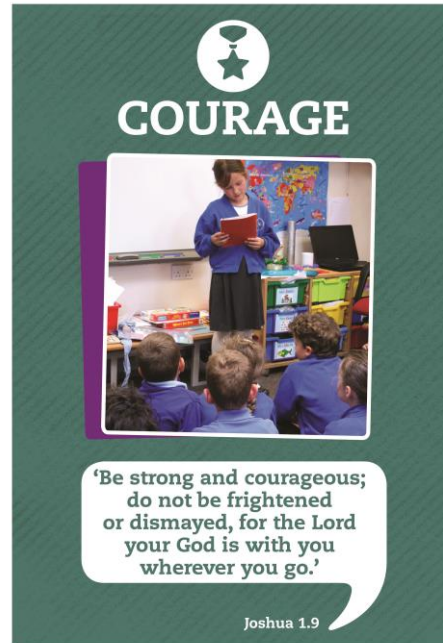


Our Golden Rule focus for this half term is



'We work hard, we don't waste time'

Our Value for this half term is 'COURAGE'



Our Personal, Social and Emotional 'Jigsaw' theme for this half term is

'Dreams and Goals'

We are learning that to achieve our Dreams and Goals we need to...

- Stay motivated even when something is tricky!
 - Persevere and never give up!
 - Work well with all of my friends
 - Always have a positive attitude!
- Help others achieve THEIR goals!
 - Always work hard!

Kindest regards

Mrs Debby Hughes - Headteacher head2569@welearn365.com

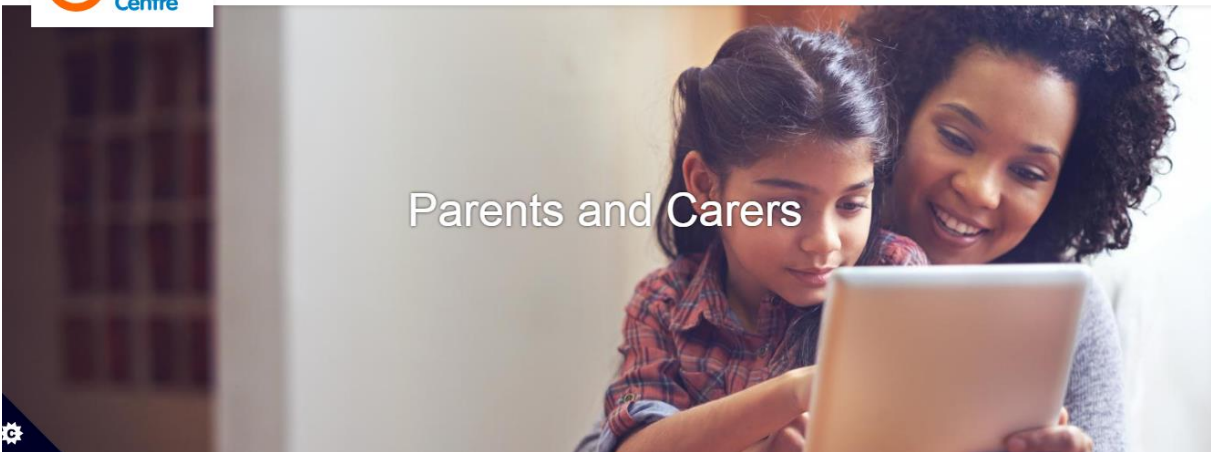
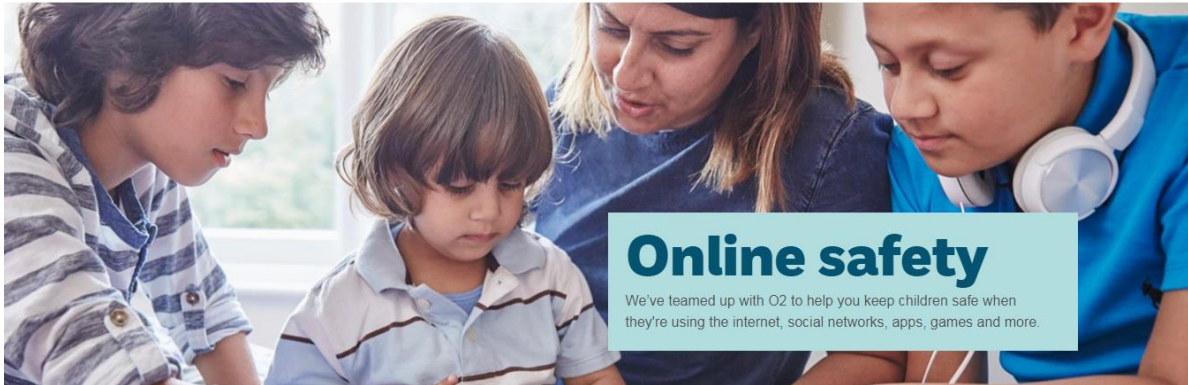
Mr Jonathan Smith - Chair of Governors governors2569@welearn365.com

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[Find out more about how to keep your child safe on-line](#)



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