



4<sup>th</sup> March 2022

# Newsletter

Dear parent(s)/ carers,

Welcome back for the second instalment of the Spring term! We had an unusual end to the first half of term with Storm Eunice and school closure on the last day. Thank you to everyone for your patience and for adapting quickly to a day of remote learning. There has been some damage to the roof in the high winds and a telegraph pole has come down at the front of the school. Please be extra mindful of this when dropping off and collecting your child(ren).

We are delighted to welcome Maureen Morel to the team! Mrs Morel has joined us as meal time assistant and is a known member of our small community, having worked as a school governor previously for Highampton. She has made a great start and the children are responding well to a new member of the staff team.



## WORLD BOOK DAY 2022

This year is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WBD and we celebrated in school through exploring story and texts, dressing up and writing book reviews. The charity recognises 6 elements which support children to read for pleasure:

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Being read to regularly</b>                  |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Having books at home and school</b>          |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Finding time to read</b>                     |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Having trusted help to find a book</b>       |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Giving children a choice in what to read</b> |
| <b>6</b> | <b>Making reading FUN</b>                       |

## Did you know?

***Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success, more than family circumstances, parents' educational backgrounds or income.***

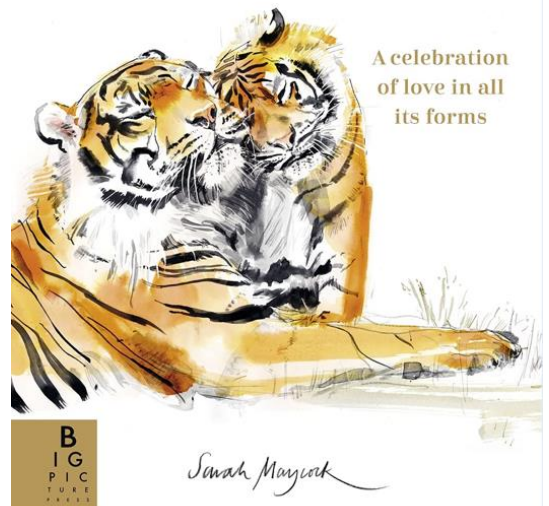
***- Organisation for Economic Co-Operation & Development***



Teachers organised for English learning to be based around the book 'Love is ... A celebration of love in all it's forms' by Sarah Maycock.

## Love is...

A celebration  
of love in all  
its forms



Love is LOUD, like a peacock proudly flashing its iridescent eyes for all to see. But sometimes love sings a quieter song, soft as the evening chorus, but no less strong. This beautiful collection of animal similes celebrates love in its many different forms, including the strong bond between parents and their children and the importance of self love. Sarah Maycock's expressive and tender illustrations perfectly capture each emotion with just a few swoops of ink.

## Covid update

We have been keeping up to date with all the latest changes in guidance from PHE (Public Health England) and the government. A summary of the recent changes to self-isolation are -

- If someone develops symptoms or has a positive test result the guidance still advises people to stay at home to avoid passing the infection on to others. Many people may no longer be infectious after 5 days and so as previously, if people have no temperature and negative LFD tests on day 5 and 6 the risk of them being infectious greatly reduces and so can safely return to normal routines.
- The schools operational guidance outlines that in most cases parents and carers agree that a pupil with the key symptoms should not attend the school given the potential risk to others. If a parent or carer insists on a pupil attending your school as a confirmed or suspected case of Covid-19, you can take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in your reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from

possible infection with Covid-19. We advise schools to communicate this to parents and encourage parents to follow the latest guidance around isolation if symptomatic.

- Close contacts are no longer required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests, and contact tracing has ended.

Control measures remain in schools to reduce risk as follows:

- Ensure good hygiene for everyone.
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
- Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19

## Ukraine

I am sure you are more than aware of the devastating events in Ukraine at the moment. Whilst we are geographically quite far from these events, some of our community members may have connections and family in the region. Recent news and social media can be distressing and hard to watch, especially for our young children. It is important, even if your child has been not seen the news, to create a safe space for children to discuss their thoughts and worries. We want our children to feel hopeful and to actively help. The sunflower has become a symbol of hope in the Ukraine – perhaps you could plant these with your child(ren) at home as a sign of hope and courage.

## Reminders

**Parent forum** – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March at 3.30 in Ruby Class. Everyone welcome. Please send any agenda items that you wish to discuss to [admin@highamptonprimary.org.uk](mailto:admin@highamptonprimary.org.uk). We have a special guest, Chris Greenfield, from the AIM group remoting in to talk to us about available courses.

**Secondary school Admissions** – You should now have received information from Devon County Council regarding your Y6 child's secondary school place.

**School lunches** – Please remember to order your child's school lunches in good time so that the kitchen can prepare the orders early in the morning, many thanks.

Wishing you all a peaceful weekend.

Kindest regards,



Mrs Deirdre A Petersen (Principal)

# Celebration Assembly

Week ending 11<sup>th</sup> February



**Learner of the Week: Evie R** for her continued resilience in phonics; applying her knowledge and her mature responses.

**Tarka Class: Logan** for consistently trying hard in all areas of his learning.

**Ruby Class: Max** for his continued effort in phonics

**Ruby Heart: Isla** for being a thoughtful member of the class, helping children with their learning.



## GALLERY



World Book Day Drama Activity based on our model text "Love Is" where children create scenes from the story.





World book day whole school MC Grammar production with hip hop rap poetry.



Well done!



World Book Day drama activity : children from across the school working collaboratively on their drama production.



World Book Day art activity where the children draw or paint how reading makes them feel.

## PTFA

**Bag2School** - We hope you will be able to help us collect good quality second-hand clothing to benefit the school. This company will be collecting bags about 9am on **17<sup>th</sup> March**. Bags may be dropped off in the shelter after school on 16<sup>th</sup> March, but please do not drop off any bags before that date as we don't have any storage space. Thank you for your support.

## DMAT vacancies

Please have a look at our Trust jobs: [Vacancies - Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust \(dartmoormat.org.uk\)](https://dartmoormat.org.uk)

Current vacancies include:

- Administrator at North Tawton Primary
- Administrator at Black Torrington/Bradford Primary Schools (shared role)
- Caretakers (Okehampton College and Tavistock College)
- Teaching Assistants and Higher Level Teaching Assistants (across Trust schools)
- Cleaners across trust schools

## Dates for your diary

**Tuesdays: Devon Wildlife Trust (don't forget wellies)**

**Wednesdays: Wheelie Wednesdays**

**Thursdays: PE**

**Fridays: French**

8<sup>th</sup> March

8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> March

18<sup>th</sup> March

18<sup>th</sup> March

Parent forum

Bikeability (for Year 5 only)

Homework celebration for parents

Red Nose Day

## PTFA Dates for the diary

17<sup>th</sup> March

30<sup>th</sup> March

8<sup>th</sup> April


Bag 2 school collection

Easter bingo, we will be looking for donations for raffle prizes nearer the time as well as for our Easter Hamper


Easter egg Hunt




**BAG 2 SCHOOL**  
**FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS**  
 In partnership with your school or organisation



www.bag2school.com



Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing and we have arranged to make a collection from your school. All the bags will be weighed and you will be paid for the total weight collected. Remember, the more you collect the greater the benefit to your school.



PLEASE USE YOUR OWN BAGS, OR BAG 2 SCHOOL BAGS (THERE IS NO LIMIT)


When the clothes have been removed from the bag the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling.


*We are collecting good quality items for RE-USE:*  
**Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.**  
 (No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please)


***The more we weigh the more we pay!***  
*Extra bags are welcome - there's no limit*

***Please return your Bag2School on:***

Thursday 17 March 2022 BY 9:00AM

 01609 780 222

 [www.bag2school.com](http://www.bag2school.com)

 [helpdesk@bag2school.com](mailto:helpdesk@bag2school.com)