WEXHAM COURT PRIMARY SCHOOL



Monday 14th March – Friday 18th March 2016

Important Dates:

- * Monday 21st March World Book Day
- * Tuesday 22nd March Easter Bonnet Parade for Nursery & Reception
- * Tuesday 22nd March Space Dome Year 5
- * Thursday 24th March School finishes for Easter Holidays at 12pm
- * Thursday 24th March Year 4 Viola Concert at Slough Arts & Music Festival (The Centre, Chalvey)
- * Friday 25th March Friday 8th April EASTER HOLIDAYS 12:00
- * Monday 11th April School re-opens normal time.





Dear Parents/Carers,

World Book Day & Readathon

We will be holding our annual "dress up" day on <u>Monday 21st March</u> and children can come to school dressed as a character from one of their favourite books. On this day, we will also be inviting visitors into school to read to the children. If you would like to volunteer for this, please speak to your child's class teacher. There will be many other fun events and competitions during the week.



Starting on 21st March, we will also be starting to take part in a very exciting
Readathon; a sponsored read to raise money for charity. Readathon is the UK's only national sponsored reading event for schools. The money raised helps the charity Readathon to regularly give brand new books and storyteller visits to children's hospitals across the UK. As well as encouraging pupils to read for fun, our school will get free books worth 20% of our sponsorship total – so there really is something in it for everyone. Children can be sponsored to read between 21st March to 15th April and we will be handing out sponsorship cards and further information.

Library Opening Times

The Library is open on Friday afternoons from 3.15 -3.45pm for families to come and choose books for the weekend together.



Sport's Relief 2016









What a week we have had at Wexham! The children have been very busy this week taking part in lots of Sports relief activities. We have had a range of professionals come in and teach our children various sports, including: Archery, golf, football, boxercise, yoga, hockey and dancing. Not only have our children had wonderful experiences in new sports but they have also had the opportunity to take part in our 'walk/run a mile' which happened on Thursday and Friday. It was fabulous to see our children trying their best and keeping going...even when they became tired! Well done children! Alongside all the fun and games, they have had the opportunity to think about the more serious side of Sports Relief and the great work done to support those in need.

We now take our attention to the members of staff who will be taking part in various sports relief events this weekend. Many members of staff are raising money for charity through a sponsored walk in Windsor. We have Miss Mehat taking part in a bike ride. Various teachers are cycling a 50 mile circuit around London whilst others are running 5km locally. We wish all our staff members all the best of luck. If you see any of them, cheer them on!

Next week you will be receiving a very special 'sports relief' edition of the newsletter which will include information on how much WCPS has raised in sponsorship and donations, photographs, quotes and information on where your children can take part in the various events in which they participated. Thank you for all your support!

The moan

I am really disappointed by the number of families that have decided to take their children out of class to go on an extended family holiday! I know prices are high — every single member of staff has to bear the same cross. If staff members took time off prior to the break to benefit from cheaper flights, the school would not run. We have met 1:1 with numerous families, which has taken hours to do and yet still we have been notified that families are going away. Often we are told on the day! I am always really proud of the relationship we have with our families and always speak highly of the support you give but this is unacceptable. The pressure placed on the staff in their own time to ensure those children catch up is not fair. I have on many occasions mentioned that tougher procedures will need to be implemented and I now feel I have no choice but to do this. Wexham Court has a big waiting list and yet we have children not in school. I am sorry to those parents who this really does not affect — truly I am. It is not like me to write in this tone but it needs to stop. Again my staff will meet 1:1 with the families to discuss why this behaviour seems acceptable to them.

Year 6 Baptist Church Trip

On Monday 14th March, Year Six visited Slough Baptist Church to learn all about Easter and how and why Christians celebrate at this time of year. After a long walk, we finally arrived and were welcomed by members of the Church with a well-deserved cold drink. There was then a range of activities including a retelling of the Easter story; a comparison between traditional and modern celebrations and a very popular Easter egg hunt! We also watched a demonstration of a baptism and learnt about the significance of this.





Year 1 Trip to St Mary's Church

Year One went to our local church, St Mary's on Wednesday morning. After very good walking across Church Lane, we received a warm welcome by the Reverend. The children settled down to listen to the story of Easter. There were lots of fun activities for them to take part in, including a dot to dot. Lots of questions were asked at the end of the story. We would like to thank all the parent helpers and Rev. Mary for their time.





It's just Rocket Science!

We were all very excited to see Tim Peake blasting off from Kazakhstan in December, as the first British person to work on-board the International Space Station. The station orbits the earth every 90 minutes travelling at 5 miles per second. Part of Tim's mission is to bring Space back down to earth and, Wexham Court Primary are incredibly lucky to have been selected to take part in a National Science Investigation



analysing the effects of zero gravity on plant growth. We were selected based on our previous successes at the Horticultural show last year as well as our various activities linked with growing plants in our poly tunnel.

We will be given 100 seeds that have spent two months orbiting the earth. As I write, they are currently on route to Wexham Court from NASA in America after returning to earth on the 1st of March this year. They will arrive just after the Easter Holidays – how exciting!

The experiment will require students to routinely monitor, nurture and measure the plants; recording observations and inputting this data onto a national database. We are incredibly excited to have been selected and will use this opportunity to discover more about space and inspire a few budding astronauts that might one day be travelling around the earth?

If you want to be involved please speak with your class teacher.

Miscellaneous

A reminder to all parents that Parent Consultations are coming up next week letters have gone out, please ensure that you are on time for your appointments. If for any reason you are unable to come, please do let your child's class teacher know and re-arrange a time.

Parent surveys were sent out earlier in the week, I would be grateful if they could be returned to the school office by Thursday 24th March. A big thank you to all parents who have already returned theirs.

Kind Regards,
Miss Mehat and the team

Next Week's Assembly Theme: The Importance of Water

Collective Worship: World Water Day / Purim (Jewish) / Holi (Hindu)