



15.02.19

Dear parents and carers,

Parents evening

I was delighted with the number of parents who came to meet teachers and teaching assistants; attendance was 81%. Feedback from parents was positive; the children have made good progress since September. We look forward to children continuing to make progress throughout the remainder of the year. The Book People book sale continues to be popular, it is fantastic to see so many children going home with a book.

We hope parents who joined us for reading workshops found them useful.

Next term Nursery are holding a reading workshop on Thursday 28th February, Year 1 are holding reading workshops on Tuesday 5th, Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th March, please do join us to find out how we teach phonics.

Attendance

Please do take a minute to read the attendance newsletter at home with your child. Currently our whole school attendance is 96%. Congratulations to the 155 children who have come to school every day since September and have achieved 100% attendance. Next term we launch the twenty-day challenge, the children are very excited about this. To find out more attendance at Grove visit: www.grove.bham.sch.uk/parents/attendance and punctuality.

Reading at Grove

The children have continued to enjoy reading books written by their author for the term and studying poems by a range of poets. We were fortunate to welcome Juliet Clare Bell to school. Juliet wrote a book about the Cadbury brothers which year 2 have read this term. She inspired many of our budding writers as she worked with children in workshops and assemblies.

National Storytelling week was a popular event that once again promoted a love of reading. Children particularly enjoyed bringing their own books from home and sharing them with their class. To find out more about National Storytelling week visit: www.grove.bham.sch.uk/pupils/National Storytelling week and Visits from authors.

We are looking forward to World Book Week. This annual event starts on Monday 4th March. On Friday 8th March, we will invite the children to dress as a character from their favourite book.

Curriculum and learning

Children across school have worked very hard and continue to do their best. Highlights of the curriculum this half – term have included:

Nursery – watching the chicks hatch and grow, holding chicks and learning how to be gentle and caring.

Reception – a visit from the Hobgoblin theatre company, acting out traditional tales and exploring in Forest School.



Year 1- studying the work of Terry Frost and working with hands on Science to design and make boats that float.

Year 2 – learning about the work of the Cadbury brothers, reading about Charlie’s adventures in the chocolate factory and ending the project with a chocolate themed day.

Year 3 – taking part in our Grove version of the Olympic Games and the project finale where children became chefs and created a delicious Greek meze.

Year 4 – a visit to Birchfield Mosque and the creation of beautiful Islamic tiles linked to their study of ancient Islamic civilisations.

Year 5 – working with Just 3 Clicks to develop understanding of radicalisation and extremism through drama and the story of Aisla and her brother. Reading the class novel Journey to Jo’Burg by Beverley Naidoo.

Year 6 – the visit to Soho House to find out about the life and work of Mathew Boulton and James Watt. Children devised their own worksheets, which allowed them to explore in depth their own areas of interests. The study of Benjamin Zephaniah and his poem ‘The British’

The holiday projects are on the school website. We look forward to receiving these on Monday 25th February.

Dates for next half term:

Spring term second half: Monday 25th February to Friday 12th April.

Summer term: School starts on Monday 29th April.

Monday 4th March – Book week, dress up as a character on Friday 8th March

Monday 11th March – Science and technology week

Friday 15th March – Red Nose Day – we will be selling red noses to support this charity

Monday 18th March – Poetry week

Monday 25th March – Road safety and walk to school week

School is closed to pupils on Friday 29th March 2019 for a staff training day

The sports hall

The sports hall build is well under way; we look forward to the grand opening in the summer term.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their continued support and wish all our families a restful and safe half- term holiday.

Yours sincerely,

Ms J Baker

Deputy Head teacher

