

# Welford on Avon Primary School

28th February, 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our weekly newsletter. I hope you have had a lovely half term break. Thank you to everyone who joined our celebrations today as we officially opened our new Hall, Nursery and Resource classroom. It has been a wonderful day and the pupils have had fun, filled with stories about our school's history, singing, cakes and an afternoon treat watching a DVD.

As part of our celebrations today, we have renamed our school houses after four significant individuals who played a role in the establishment and delivery of education at Welford School.

**Whittle House will be known as 'Davenport House' in honour of Rev. James Davenport who established Welford School in 1851.**

**Scott House will be known as 'Wright House' in honour of Master George Wright, the first Headteacher at Welford School in 1894.**

**Elgar House will be known as 'Higgs House' in honour of Miss Higgs and her dedication as a Headteacher between 1945 and 1969.**

**Eliot house will be known as 'Owen House' in honour of Mr John Owen and his work as a headteacher between 1969 and 1994.**

During our assemblies today, the House Captains were presented with a new House Cup and House Shield, which had been specially designed by Mrs. Sims. The shield looks amazing and really captures the ethos of Welford School.

Nadhim Zahawi was present at the opening ceremony this afternoon and presented the cup, as well as saying a few words about our new venture. We were also joined by Governors, past and present, members of the Parish Council, past staff members, as well as members of the FOWS committee and Parent Council.

Today was a very special day for Welford School and we all felt very privileged to be part of the celebrations.

## **Change of Date**

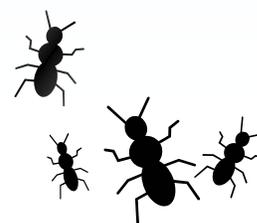
The next Parent Council meeting has been changed to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm.

## **Book Fair**

Celebrate books and reading at our Book Fair!

The Book Fair will be at school this week until the morning of Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March. There are hundreds of new children's books to browse and buy. Don't forget to bring your voucher!

Newsletter No. 22



## **Nosh and Natter**

Year 5 hosted a coffee morning for the 'Nosh and Natter' society in our new hall on Monday. It was a wonderful event with lots of chat, entertainment and of course, cakes.

## **New Parent, Babies and Toddler Group to be launched**

We are hoping to launch a new Parent and Toddler Group, which will be run in the new hall, within the next few months.

'Parent, Babies and Toddler groups are an essential part of the community. A Parent and Toddler Group is an informal group within the local community, which provides an opportunity for young children and their parents/ carers to meet. All groups offer opportunities for friendship, learning and play. They offer the opportunity for young children to have fun and mix with other children in a safe environment where they can share and extend their early learning experiences'

We are looking for volunteers to help us get this group off the ground. If you are able to help, please get in touch.

## **Adventures in Welford Booklets**

On **Monday 2nd March**, your child should receive their 'Adventures at Welford' booklet. This booklet was created to give children the opportunity to record their life experiences through their time at Welford on Avon School. It includes hundreds of activities that they could complete over the seven years and its intention is to serve as a diary of their personal journey through Welford and something they can look back on to trigger fond memories of their school life.

Depending on what year your child is in, they will have already completed some of the activities. They should take the book home and go through it, colour the circle beside anything they have completed. They should then bring the books back in on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March**. Their teacher will then initial the activities. The books will stay in school until the Summer term, when we will repeat the process. When the children get to the end of Year 6, they will be presented with the booklet at the Leavers' assembly as a keep sake.

## **Online Safety**

We should all continue to talk to children about how to stay safe online. There are many issues that young people face when using the Internet. They need to know about how to handle 'pop ups' and challenges. The link we have used, has been provided below and it would be very helpful if you could share this link with your child and talk through it. As parents, you should continue to have open and positive conversations with your child about the online world so that they feel safe and confident to talk to you. You should also be very vigilant about what they are accessing and ensuring that it is age appropriate.

When speaking to your child you may wish to include information about:

- Being aware of age restrictions and why they are in place
- Using privacy settings
- Blocking and reporting users or posts that are worrying or upsetting to the website/app involved
- If you are worried or upset by something you see or experience online, then talk to a trusted adult.

We strongly encourage parents to discuss online safety at home and talk to your child about what you do at home. Useful advice is available at the following :-

[thinkuknow.co.uk/parents](http://thinkuknow.co.uk/parents)

[childnet.com](http://childnet.com)

[saferinternet.org.uk](http://saferinternet.org.uk)

[parentinfo.org](http://parentinfo.org)

[internetmatter.org](http://internetmatter.org)

[nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety](http://nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety)

The Acceptable Users Guide has been sent out today, so that you can read through it with your child. These sites will help with parents providing sensible advice and assistance

### Dates for your Diary

Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Thursday 5th March	KS2 to the RSC to see The Boy in the Dress and workshop
Friday 6th March	Year 6 Cake Sale
Monday 9th March	Science Week
Monday 16th March	Shakespeare Week
Thursday 26th March	Choir and Orchestra Assembly
Friday 27th March	Spring Ball
Monday 30th March	SATS Practice Week—Year 6
Wednesday 1st April	KS2 Easter Assembly
Thursday 2nd April	KS1 Easter Assembly
Friday 3rd April	Last day of term, finishing at 3.15pm
Monday 20th April	Summer term starts, 08.55am

### World Book Day

Our Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils will be travelling to the RSC on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March to see 'The Boy in the Dress' which is World Book Day. All pupils need to come to school in full school uniform on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March.

The school will have its dress up day on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

KS2 pupils should dress up as their favourite David Walliams character.

Nursery, Reception and KS1 are asked to come into school dressed as a character from a traditional tale and bring the book from which they have chosen their character.

Children will be encouraged to share their stories with the other children in the class and talk about why it is their favourite character.

World Book Day is a fun day to celebrate the joy that reading can bring to our lives. At school we teach the mechanics of reading (decoding) and how to gather and explain information when reading a text (inference and induction). In addition, we have class novels and stories that we share with the children, to promote the love of reading.

### Reading to your children is a very important and often forgotten part of the process of learning to read.

When the words are read aloud books become alive and your child's imagination will be ignited. They are able to build vocabulary and discuss stories as it is a shared experience.

**So remember to share a book and start a conversation with your child about a wonderful story!**

**Information has been shared with you today about another reading initiative called 'Share a Million Stories'**

**Learning Assemblies for the rest of the term - Remember the new House Names.**

<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 1 and Year 4 Davenport (Whittle)
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 2 and Year 5 Higgs (Elgar)
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Choir and Orchestra
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	KS2 Easter Assembly
<b>Thursday 2<sup>th</sup> April</b>	KS 1 Easter Assembly

Have a super weekend  
Mrs Leeman and staff