



Dear Parents,

**TIME TO CELEBRATE!!!!**

Well done to our Y5/6 basketball team who having won the Melton and Vale winners playoff against Bottesford, are through to County competition on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at the Leicester Striders stadium. This is an AMAZING achievement for our school. When you put things in perspective, we have 6 Y6 pupils and some of the schools we have been victorious over have more than 60 Y6 pupils!! Thanks to Mr Wing and Mr Atkins for coaching the team and a huge thank you the Melton Basketball Club for awarding each team member their own special trophy; we were delighted that Neil was able to join us for assembly today to present the trophies in person. I shall send a picture off to the Melton Times a.s.a.p.

**News from Classrooms**

**Class 1:** This week Class 1 have been creating Pirate wanted posters and treasure maps. In maths the children have been learning new and exciting ways of counting on in 2's, 5's and 10's with our 'Kung Foo' counting techniques! The children really enjoyed their Drumba lesson on Thursday.

**Class 2:** Class 2 have continued with their story of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and created drama scenes based on what they have read. They have tried and evaluated a range of Warburton's products and looked at the history of the bread company. In R.E. this week they have learnt about Hindu Gods and what they represent to people.

**Class 3:** Class 3 have been carrying out science investigations into conductors of electricity and have been finishing their 'Wing It' stories. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the Drumba lesson.

**Maths next week:**

**Class 1:** Counting in groups and place values

**Class 2:** Mental addition and subtraction

**Class 3:** Division

**Class 1 Parent's Evening**

All parents of Class 1 children have now been issued with a time for parent's evening next Tuesday or Thursday. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Vale Cross Country**

This annual event is creeping up so teachers will be getting the children out for some practise next week. Please ensure all children in Classes 2 and 3 have their trainers with them EVERY DAY!

**Kingswood Payment**

Reminder that the next payment for the Kingswood trip is due in next Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Thank you.

**Drumba**

Despite the aching legs, everyone really enjoyed the Drumba sessions this week. A number of parents and children have asked if we can continue with it, so I will have discussions with Adam and get back to you a.s.a.p. Thank you for supporting the initiative.

**Reading**

We are trying to inspire ALL children to have a love of reading and read for pleasure. Children who find reading difficult often avoid reading which then makes it even more difficult. Also, now with so many distractions from technology we have to ensure that all children have time in school and at home to enjoy listening to (at any age) and reading books. It is widely thought that reading ability is the best predictor of a pupil's future proficiency.

Below is a table which shows the amount of reading per day and the amount of words read in a year based on baseline data from Anderson, Wilson and Fielding (1988).

Minutes reading per day	Words read per Year
65	4,358,000
21.1	1,823,000
14.2	1,146,000
9.6	622,000
6.5	432,000
4.6	282,000
3.2	200,000
1.8	106,000
0.7	21,000
0.1	8,000
0	0

**Reception Photograph**

A photographer from the Grantham Journal will be in school next Thursday morning to take a photograph of the Reception children for the paper (they have apologised for the delay this year). Please ensure your child has their full school uniform on and let us know if you do not wish your child to be photographed.

**Mad Science**

Letters about the forthcoming Mad Science after school club, which begins on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, have been sent home this week. We have spoken to the organisers about age suitability of the club and they said that whilst it is aimed at Y1 onwards, they are happy to take Reception children if their parents would like them to attend.

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**Notice from Chris Ouvry Johns, Choir Master at  
Leicester Cathedral**

*Children aged 7-10 are warmly invited to attend Leicester Cathedral Choir's Open Afternoon on Sunday, 5 February, starting at **1.00pm**. They will have the opportunity to meet current Choristers and their parents, and take part in a rehearsal with the Choristers and Songmen before singing Evensong at **3.00pm**, followed by refreshments. For more information or to book your place, please contact the Director of Music, Chris Ouvry-Johns on 0116 261 5374/07982 444087 or [chris.ouvry-johns@leccofe.org](mailto:chris.ouvry-johns@leccofe.org). Prior booking is not necessary, but it's useful to have an idea of numbers in advance, so do let us know if you intend to come.*

**Change of date notification**

Unfortunately it is necessary to change the planned date for the Y6 parents evening from Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February to Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February due to unforeseen circumstances. Sorry for any inconvenience. Any problems, please get in touch.

**Andy Wing Sports Camp**

Andy Wing will be holding a holiday sports camp on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 9.30am – 12.30pm. Leaflets to follow.

**Letters going home this week:**

Vale Cross Country Y3-6

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J. V. Hopkins  
Head Teacher



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