

March 2023 Newsletter



This month's Christian value is **Justice**
which is linked to the 'Hackthorn Way' value of **Tradition**.
'Learn to do right. Seek Justice'
Isaiah 1.17



Dear Parents & Friends

We had a wonderful day on 3rd March as we celebrated World Book Day. Once again, the children worked in mixed age groups and the older children helped the younger ones to complete each activity. This year we introduced some new activities. During one session, children used the ipads to read the blurbs and reviews of newly published books and then had to use their persuasive skills to convince me to buy them. Each group had a designated budget...some groups enjoyed the activity so much that they got carried away and quickly overspent.

Interestingly, the whole school story (typed up by Mrs Woods) was heavily influenced by recent Science work on fossils, resulting in an exciting adventure story about the discovery of a dinosaur fossil.

All pupils and staff dressed up as their favourite book characters and enjoyed the activity relating to their character. Unfortunately, some of the Where's Wally cards were hidden so well that no group was able to decipher the book title from those that had been found. The answer can be found in this newsletter!

Mrs Turner led a group that had to produce a pictorial representation of a well known phrase/quote from a book. There were some very creative designs. Children enjoyed making their own bookmarks and locating the key characters and objects in the Book Scavenger Hunt. The new 'Map it Out' activity was another popular session with children producing a map of their own imaginary setting or one related to their character's environment.

Here are some quotes from the children about the day:

"I liked the headline 'Headteacher loses the plot!' It was funny."

"Who needs a budget for books? Not me!" (one of the children who got carried away, ordering books)

"I liked finding the Wallies."

"It was fun to write about our character."

"This has been the best day of my life."

"The overall experience was really exciting, we don't often get to dress up and do activities like this."

It was clear that the children (and staff) thoroughly enjoyed the day.

Mrs K Appleby, Headteacher



500 Words Competition

Following on from the creativity of World Book Day, we recognise that we have some very talented budding authors amongst us. Perhaps your child might like to participate in the 500 words challenge, which was first created in 2011 by Chris Evans?

How it works

It's very simple. **Children write an original story on any subject or theme in 500 words or fewer and submit it online.** Over 130,000 children took part in the competition last year and the winners had their stories read live on Radio 2 by a superstar celebrity! This year, there will be two age ranges: 5-7 and 8-11.

The BBC will be relaunching the competition this September so there is plenty of time for your children to refine their masterpieces!

Whole School Swimming After Easter

One of the highlights of the summer term is our swimming lessons at West Lindsey Leisure Centre in Gainsborough. The children will go swimming for the first time on Friday 28 April.

Please note there will be NO Good Works Assembly on Friday 28 April as we need the time to prepare the children for their first swim.

The national government expectation is that every child can swim 25m by the end of Y6. Technically, once a child can swim 25m it is legally no longer necessary for that child to continue going swimming. Due to the huge costs involved most schools do not take all the children swimming and often do not begin to take children until Y3 or Y4.

We believe children should start swimming as early as possible and

continue throughout their primary school career, even after they have achieved the national 25m expectation.

Providing swimming lessons is an extremely valuable and ultimately 'life saving' part of the curriculum - however it is very, very expensive and potentially takes a huge slice of the school budget. This year it will cost £3500 to take all the children swimming as transport costs have risen.

The estimated cost per child is around £6.00 per session. Your contributions go a long way towards off-setting these costs and ensuring we maintain funds in the school budget for books and equipment etc. It would help us greatly if you could contribute £3.00 per session. Unfortunately the Weduc payment system is currently not operational so we need to use the old system of payment via envelope. Children should bring their money in an envelope marked with their **name/s and the amount that the envelope contains**. It would also be extremely useful, if not making a donation for all ten sessions in one payment, if it could also be clearly stated **which swimming session date/s the payment is to cover**. The envelope should then be posted into the collection box in the foyer. Those parents who wish to pay their donation in one payment should also follow the same procedure. If paying by cheque, please make these payable to LCC. Thank you for your continued support.



Checklist / Reminders for Pupils

Swim wear

Hairbrush/Comb

Swimming cap

Waterproof bag

Towel

Goggles (for those who swim in main pool)

Contribution (voluntary)

Long hair tied back for safety please

No jewellery (Please avoid getting ears pierced during the summer term as pupils will not be allowed to wear earrings)

Easter Service—Friday 31 March

The Easter Service will take place at 2.00pm on Friday 31 March in the village church. Parents may take their children home after the service if they wish. The remaining children will go home from school in the usual way at 3.30pm.

New Garden Office

There has been great excitement over the past two weeks after the children discovered that the cottage had been removed from outside the EYFS area. The children had many theories as to why it had disappeared. The best one was from a Reception child who thought the big bad wolf had blown it away! Speculation then followed about what would replace it. I am delighted to share that we will soon be the proud owners of a 'posh' garden office which will serve as an additional and much needed working space for meetings and intervention groups.

We look forward to being able to use it.

Governor's Thought

One of the delightful things about being a governor is the opportunity to talk to pupils about their lived experience of Hackthorn school. I recently had the pleasure of talking to a group of key stage 2 pupils and they were very happy to share their honest views and opinions with me. They all told positive stories of how much they enjoy their time at school and which subjects they like best and why. What was really lovely to hear was that they feel safe at school and they feel they can talk to an adult if anything was worrying them. The way in which they spoke about their friendships and how they support each other was heartwarming and reflected our strong school values.

Mrs Emma Rowe (Chair of Governors)



Topics To Be Covered Next Term

KS1

Science:	Animals, including humans
History:	Changes within living memory
Geography:	Place knowledge: Contrasting locations
DT:	Mechanisms (Vehicles)
RE:	Salvation, Incarnation
Music:	Singing and using percussion
PE:	Athletics, Swimming, Outdoor challenges
Art:	Mother Nature, Designer
SEAL:	Relationships
Computing:	Systems and networks: IT around us

KS2

Science:	Forces (Y3-6) Evolution & Inheritance (Y5/6)
History:	Ancient Egypt
DT:	Food (Y3/4) Sandwich snacks, (Y5/6) Bread
PE:	Dance, Athletics, Swimming, Outdoor challenges
Computing:	The Internet (Y3/4), Communication (Y5/6)
RE:	Life journey (Hinduism, Islam)
Music:	Ukulele
Art:	Art in the past & Present (Ancient Egypt)
SEAL:	Relationships & Changes
MFL:	Fruit & Veg (Y3/4), Pets (Y5/6)

Dates to Remember

Tues 21 Mar	Final KS2 Gymnastics at Witham Hill	Fri 28 Apr	First swimming session
21 & 23 Mar	Parent/Teacher Interviews	Mon 8 May	Additional bank holiday for HRH The King's Coronation
Fri 24 March	Easter Film Night (FOHS fundraiser)	Tues 9 May	SATs week
Thur 30 Mar	Easter Crafts to school (FOHS fundraiser)	Thurs 25 May	Maypole dancing
Fri 31 Mar	Last Day of Spring Term	Fri 26 May	Start of Half-term
Fri 31 Mar	Easter Service in Church	Mon 5 Jun	First Day of Term 6
Tues 18 Apr	First Day of Summer Term (8:45 start!)	Wed 7 Jun	Bags 2 School
Mon 24 Apr	FOHS Zoom meeting 7.30pm		

Where's Wally? Answer: What the Ladybird Heard at the Seaside.

DON'T FORGET THAT WE RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER EASTER ON TUESDAY 18TH APRIL AT THE NEW START TIME OF 8:45-8:55am!