



February 2019 Newsletter



This month's Christian value is **Truthfulness** which is linked to the 'Hackthorn Way' value of **Honesty**.
'Tell the truth to each other.'
Zechariah 8.16



Dear Parents & Friends

Good Works Assemblies have been buzzing with recounts of the many experiences the children have enjoyed.

One of the highlights was our Young Voices trip to Sheffield Arena. It was the third year we had attended the event and most people agreed that it was the best so far, aided by the performances of Tony Hadley, Beau Dermott and Sharlene Hector. Their rendition of the Greatest Showman medley, alongside all of the 5,000 Young Voices in the finale, will forever remain in our memories. We were in no doubt as to the location of our parents this year due to their impressive banner ...and Mr Ellis's luminous hat!

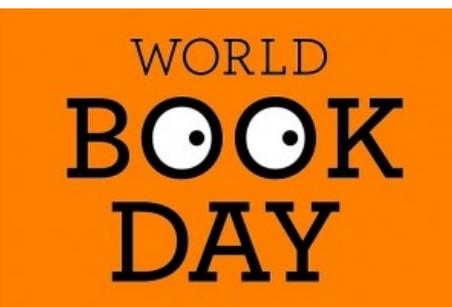
KS1 have been thoroughly enjoying their sessions at Witham Hill Gymnastics and it is amazing to see how they have built upon their skills from last year - they are so much more confident.

Mrs Clifford, from Lincolnshire Music Services, has been working with all of the children every Friday afternoon. I have found it hard to concentrate while KS2 pupils have been practising their Samba rhythms and KS1 have been singing and playing their percussion instruments.

Once again there are further exciting opportunities planned over the next month so make sure you return permission slips by the stated deadlines to ensure that your children do not miss out.

Mrs K Appleby, Headteacher

World Book Day - Friday 08 March



As mentioned in last month's newsletter, a reminder that Hackthorn will be celebrating World Book Day a day later than elsewhere, on Friday 08 March. Please note that there will be **NO Good Works Assembly** on this day to enable maximum time to deliver exciting, book-related activities.

We hope you will enjoy putting together suitable costumes with your children over the half term break to enable them to come to school dressed as characters from their favourite books.

KS1 Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park - Tuesday 12 March

Mrs Dodson and Mrs Hartley are delighted to announce the forthcoming visit by KS1 to the above venue, as part of their 'around the world' topic. Not only will children have the opportunity to participate in a 'World Habitats and Adaptations' education session with Wildlife Park staff, but also the chance for some 'hands on' action with live animals.

Letters were e-mailed out to parents and sent home with children last week, so please do complete and return the permission slip to the school office in the usual way as soon as you are able to.



Not to be left out, at the time of writing notification has just been received of another forthcoming exciting opportunity for all of our **KS2 Pupils** on **Thursday 21 March**. This will necessitate them being out of school all day, so please ensure you provide a packed lunch for your child/ren on that date. Further details will follow in due course in the usual way.



Pre-School Easter Activity Afternoon - Wednesday 27 March

Places are filling up fast for our Easter Activity Afternoon for all pre-schoolers on Wednesday 27 March, 1.30 until 2.30pm.

Please pass on the message to anyone you know who may have a child of pre-school age to telephone the school office if interested and secure a place as soon as possible.

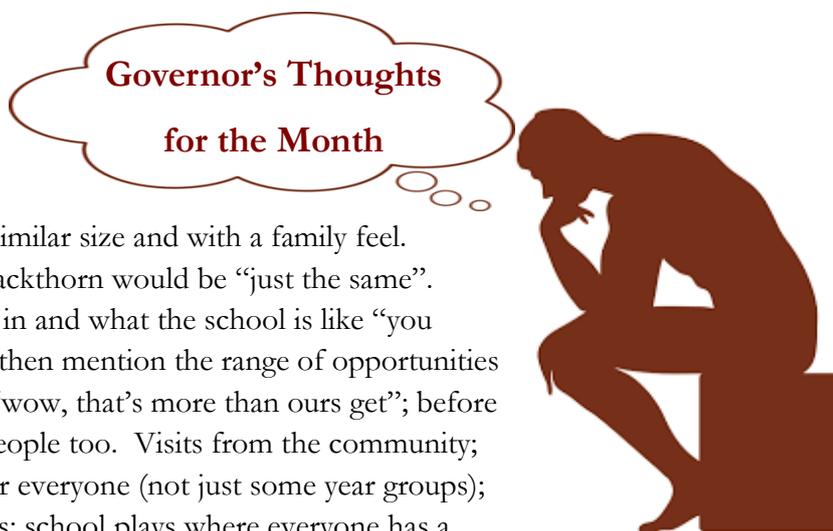
From Our Newest Governor (And Parent)

In the summer of last year, I visited Hackthorn for the first time looking for a small rural school for my two children. I was impressed with what I saw and wasted no time in transferring them, one into each class. I had hoped Hackthorn would be just like the school they had attended previously; both being of a similar size and with a family feel. On reflection, four terms in, how wrong was I that Hackthorn would be “just the same”. People regularly ask me how the children have settled in and what the school is like “you know, with it being small and having less funding”. I then mention the range of opportunities they’ve already experienced and I am often met with “wow, that’s more than ours get”; before the move I would have been one of those surprised people too. Visits from the community; police cars in the playground; ‘Drumba’; swimming for everyone (not just some year groups); PE at a local gymnastics centre; Xscape; Young Voices; school plays where everyone has a chance to shine, not just the ‘confident’ ones; after school clubs that the staff run for free and not having to pay a penny - there are lots more things I’ve missed but this alone exceeds other school offerings.

The other element that means Hackthorn is not “the same” is the staff and the close-knit school community. As a teacher myself, I often comment that I have no idea where the team at the school get their energy from! Always smiling and giving up so much time to organise experiences as well as their normal teaching load. The Friday ‘Good Works’ assembly where children are genuinely proud of their achievements and staff get the chance to openly praise positives is fantastic; with my teacher hat on, it would be great if more schools did this.

What my ramblings are trying to say is that I am so genuinely impressed with what Hackthorn has and continues to offer the children - far exceeding what much larger schools provide. Not only have the children progressed academically but they’ve had so many other experiences too. We have all been warmly welcomed into the Hackthorn family and thank everyone for accepting us ‘outsiders’ into the fold.

Mrs E Rowe, Parent Governor



Dates to Remember

Fri 08 Feb Young Shakespeare Company to visit KS2

Fri 15 Feb Last day of school before half term break

Mon 25 Feb First day of school after half term break

Wed 27 Feb First session for KS2 at Witham Hill Gymnastics

Tue 05 & Parent/Teacher Interviews

Thu 14 Mar (Please note these new dates in your diaries)

Fri 01 Mar FOHS Movie Night

Fri 08 Mar World Book Day at Hackthorn
(NO Good Works Assembly)

Fri 15 Mar Red Nose Day

Thu 21 Mar KS2 Trip - (Packed lunches required)

Fri 22 & Y5/6 Rand Farm Residential Trip

Sat 23 Mar (NO Good Works Assembly)

Mon 25 Mar FOHS Meeting

Wed 27 Mar Pre-School Easter Activity Afternoon

Fri 29 Mar FOHS Bingo Night

Wed 03 Apr Last session for KS2 at Witham Hill Gymnastics

Fri 05 Apr Last Day of Spring Term/Easter Service in Church

Tue 23 Apr First Day of Summer Term

Parent/Teacher Interviews - Tuesday 05 & Thursday 14 March

Parent/teacher interviews this term for **KS2** parents will take place **during the school day** on **Tuesday 05 March** between **1.20-3.30pm** and from **3.45-4.45pm**. **KS1** are also holding a **late parents' evening** from **3.45-6.45pm** on **Tuesday 05 March**.

On **Thursday 14 March** parents' interviews will take place for **KS1** **during the school day** from **1.20-3.30pm** and from **3.45-4.45pm**. **KS2** are holding a **late parents' evening** that day from **3.45-6.45pm**.

Please indicate (by ticking) your preferred time for an appointment in the grid below. You will then be designated a **ten minute time slot** (for each child) within that hour.

We will try our best to allocate time slots within your desired period, but there may be instances when this cannot be possible.

We had a significant number of parents who returned their forms late last time and were requesting appointments on the actual day. Please be mindful that teachers plan for parents' evenings in advance and change their family commitments to accommodate appointments, so late changes are difficult to organise. Please therefore return your completed forms as quickly as possible and by Friday 15 February at the latest.

We should be able to confirm your appointment time by Monday 25 February.

Each year the Governing Body carries out a survey of the parents' views of the school as part of the School Self Review process during the Spring Term Parent/Teacher Interview Evenings and so it would be greatly appreciated if you would take the time to complete the questionnaires available when you attend your appointment.



Parent/Teacher Interviews

	1.20pm - 2.30pm	2.30pm - 3.30pm	3.45pm - 4:45pm	4.45pm - 5.45pm	5.45pm - 6.45pm
KS1 Tue. 05 March					
KS2 Tue. 05 March					

	1.20pm - 2.30pm	2.30pm - 3.30pm	3.45pm - 4:45pm	4.45pm - 5.45pm	5.45pm - 6.45pm
KS1 Thu. 14 March					
KS2 Thu. 14 March					

*****Please return by Friday 15 February at the latest*****

We should be able to confirm your appointment time by Monday 25 February.

Name/s of child/ren: **Class/es:**