

TEMPLEMOOR INFANT & NURSERY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2016



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! Welcome back to the Spring Term at Templemoor and the first newsletter of the new year. I hope you enjoyed a wonderful Christmas holiday and are ready for the excitements 2016 has to offer. This newsletter features some of the highlights of the term so far, as well as letting you know what exciting events are coming up over the next few weeks (It promises to be a jam packed term!).

World Book Day

Thursday 3rd March is World Book Day. We will be dedicating this day to books and stories. Everyone in school will be able to dress as a storybook (not cartoon) character of their choice for the day and will enjoy story-based activities. We believe that this will bring the stories to life for the children and help to foster their love of books and reading. We are already looking forward to a really good day! This is a great way to encourage the children's love of reading!



Storytelling Week

We are planning a series of creative activities to celebrate National Storytelling Week in school, which begins on Monday 1st February. All classes will focus on creative enrichment storytelling activities during the week. We are very lucky to be having a visit from the award winning children's theatre company, 'Mother Hen' who will be leading storytelling sessions for every class, allowing the children's imagination to soar!

Burns Night

Our annual Friends of Templemoor family Burns Night celebrations were another huge success. We all sat down to a hearty meal of haggis, tatties and neeps all washed down with copious amounts of Irn-Bru! The night just wouldn't have been complete without a visit from the magical Mr. Tinsel himself, who entertained the children (and grown ups too!) with music, dancing, party games and magic tricks. Food was bought, prepared, cooked and served by our own fair hands and washed down with drinks from the bar, which was stocked and manned by the team throughout, to ensure an enthusiastic, and successful time was had by all. Mention must also be made of the raffle. Fantastic raffle prizes were sourced and wrapped and with plenty of tickets sold on the night a huge thank you must go

out to all those who donated items to the raffle. Finally, a tremendous thank you must also go out to our fabulous Friends of Templemoor who put in so much time, energy and enthusiasm to ensure the evening was such a huge success.

Friends of Templemoor – Future Dates

The Friends of Templemoor have been very busy planning some exciting events that will be taking place in the next few months. These are:

Sunday 20th March at 10am – Friends of Templemoor family Trail.

Thursday 24th March – Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday 9th July – The Summer Fair

Easy Fundraising

easyfundraising
.org.uk

Did you know that you could shop at over 2000 different online

retailers and help raise money for the school at the same time? The Friends of Templemoor has registered with www.easyfundraising.org.uk. It's a really easy way to raise funds - all you do is register with the site and choose 'Friends of Templemoor' as your chosen charity. Then the next time you shop online, enter the Easyfundraising site and shop as normal. There is even a tool bar strip that pops up each time you visit a retailer involved to remind you to use Easyfundraising. You don't pay us anything - it's the retailers who give us a percentage of their sales! So far we have managed to raise £11.46... but have just 9 supporters. Let's see if we can recruit even more! And if you manage to recruit a friend, Easyfundraising will donate an extra £1 to school when they start collecting donations.

A visit from 'The Queen'

As part of their 'Bright Lights, Big City' topic, the children in Year 1 baked delicious cakes and scones and put on their best outfits in preparation for afternoon tea with 'the Queen'. The children asked the very important visitor some interesting questions, such as 'How many corgis do you have?', 'How many rooms are in Buckingham Palace?', and even 'Do you play football?!' As part of the topic the children are exploring England's capital city and exploring all that they can about its history, transport and famous landmarks. They have even stepped back in time to discover what happened in the Great Fire of London.

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Pop UK



For the week beginning the 7th March, all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be involved in a week of learning new songs and recording a CD as part of the exciting POP UK Project. The

finished CD will be on sale! The children will also get to perform the songs live in a concert to be held at St Anne's Church, Sale, during the afternoon of Wednesday 16th March, which parents will be invited to attend. We took part in this project in 2014 and it was a HUGE success, so we are really excited to be taking part again. The songs the children learn are bright and uplifting - all we ask is that you just look forward to enjoying this FABULOUS event with us. Take a look at the POP UK website for more information about their work (www.popuk.org).

Cinderella at Templemoor

At the start of this term, all the children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 enjoyed the pantomime 'Cinderella'. To help Cinderella get to the ball, the children sang songs and did magical moves. It was a great performance, which the children enjoyed. They loved the costumes and the characters. They joined in with the "He's behind you!" and "Oh, no she doesn't!" with great enthusiasm. Everyone believed in the magic, and we all had the best time ever! Thank you for your generous contributions towards the cost of the performance.

Nursery Offers

Nursery offers for September will be sent out to parents much earlier this year on Friday 12th February 2016.

Safer Internet Day/ E-Safety Parent Workshop

On Tuesday 9th February 2016 we will be joining hundreds of other schools across the UK in celebrating Safer Internet Day with the theme 'Play your Part in a Safer Internet'. To celebrate the day we will be raising the profile of the safe and responsible use of the internet at school and at home. We have also organised a parent workshop to take place at school on Thursday 25th February at 7pm. Expert guest speaker, Leon Pietrzak, will inform parents about the potential risks posed to children accessing the internet, plus offer a wealth of practical advice for keeping them safe online. Leon is an ambassador for the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP), a national agency

working to protect children online. Further details about the workshop will be sent out shortly.

Reception Concert

The children in Reception have just started weekly music lessons with a specialist music teacher. Mrs Harwood. The sessions are a lot of fun, with music and movement too! Reception parents and carers are invited to a Reception Concert in the school hall on Wednesday 23rd March at 2:30pm. The concert will give the children the opportunity to showcase the magnificent work that they have been doing. Year 2 concert dates will be announced shortly.

Parent Focus Groups

I am planning to hold three focus groups during the Spring Term. A letter explaining the purpose of the focus groups, and how you can get involved will be sent home shortly.

Term Time Holidays

Just a reminder that the school is not allowed to authorise any holiday time in term time. The Local Authority is likely to be pursuing fines for all unauthorised holidays. Requests for leave can only be considered if the reason is exceptional. This means that the request is rare, significant, unavoidable and short. By 'unavoidable' we mean an event that could not reasonably be scheduled at another time.

Year 1 Cake Sale/ Volunteers Required!

Our next sale will be on Friday 5th February, when it will be the turn of our Year 1 children to bring in some delicious cakes. Well done to our Reception children and families, whose cake sale in January raised a staggering £122.53. Future cake sale dates can be found on this newsletter and on our school website.



We are desperately looking for volunteers who can come into school and help out at the cake sales. It will be the best afternoon you have ever spent in school, working alongside our fabulous children. Please email the Friends of Templemoor if you are available to help -

Reception Assembly

All parents and carers of our Reception children are invited to join us in the school hall on Thursday 4th February at 9:15am for our first Reception assembly of the year.

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Year 1 Assembly

All parents and carers of our Year 1 children are invited to join us in the school hall on Thursday 11th February at 9:15am for our Year 1 assembly.

Bad Weather



Let's hope that the weather does not result in any school closures this year. Snow at weekends only please! If the school is forced to close due to severe weather conditions we will notify all parents as soon as possible in the morning using the school's text messaging service.

A notice will also be posted on the front page of the school website. Obviously the closure of the school will only occur in exceptional circumstances.

School Car Park

Please remember that the school car park is for staff only. Please ensure that you do not use the car park for turning or parking. This will be monitored. Thank you.

Half Term Reminder

Please be reminded that half term is from Monday 15th February until Monday 22nd February. School will reopen for us all on **Tuesday 23rd February** after the half term break.

Recorder Concert

Parents, grandparents and friends of children who are learning to play the recorder are warmly invited to join us for a concert in the school hall on Monday 21st March at 2:30pm.

Scooter Store

We are thrilled that so many children like to come to school on bikes and scooters. When the rack is full, please ensure that children store their scooters on the building side of the rack.

Sale Art Zoo



This summer 'Two by Two' are bringing an ambitious project to life. Sale Art Zoo promises be a wild and exciting community art exhibition taking to the streets, parks and open spaces of Sale! Two by Two have set up this project to

share and honour the great story of Sale-born entrepreneur George Mottershead, founder of Chester

Zoo in 1931. His is an inspiring tale of a local man, a hardworking, dedicated visionary man, responsible for creating one of the best zoos in the world. We have volunteered to take part in this exciting project and have been allocated a life size baby zebra to decorate! We can't wait to introduce the zebra to the children, and once decorated by the children, to the streets of Sale in July. For more on Two By Two, visit twobytwohurrah.co.uk or see their Twitter page @twobytwosale.

Creative Writing Workshop

Linked to the Sale Art Zoo theme, we will be running a short creative writing course for parents and carers. During the course you will learn to write creatively and pick up some top tips to support your child with their writing at home. You will learn how to develop story ideas, how to construct a short story and bring your story to life. There will even be an opportunity to develop your story with your child in school! The course will run in school on Thursday 3rd March, Thursday 10th March and Thursday 17th March (3 weeks) from 9:30am – 11:30am. Further details, including a sign up sheet, will be sent out early next week.

Year 2 Art Gallery Trip



To begin their topic, 'Land Ahoy', the children visited Manchester Art Gallery. They looked around the art gallery, and used the amazing art work on display, and their imaginations to set sail on a breezy boat ride, dive into stormy seas and walk on the beach before heading back to dry land where the children had the opportunity to create a piece of art work using different techniques themselves. Well done children!

New School Website

Excitingly, our new school website is nearly ready to be launched! It will be hosted by 'eSchools', and will come

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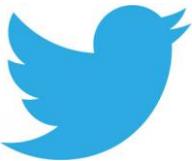
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with an app that you can download, making the site more mobile friendly and making it easier for busy parents to access information on the go. You will also be given access to your own login password, where you can at last book parents' evenings electronically! We hope that you find the new website informative, attractive, up-to-date and user-friendly. We will send out more information about the website, as well as log in details and how to download the app, shortly.

Twitter

We will soon be using twitter to enhance and extend how we keep you informed of what is happening in school. If you don't use twitter then the homepage of our new school web site will have the feed so you can view it there. We will soon be sending home our 'Twitter Policy', with a consent form to complete and return to school. Exciting times ahead!



Big Lottery Fund

We hope you will have noticed our exciting new log frame climber in the playground. A generous grant of £10000 was received from the Big Lottery to fund the new initiative. We are very grateful for their generosity. The play frame will offer our children multiple balance and strength challenges. It will be great for physical development, developing upper and lower body strength, gross motor skills and building confidence. It will also be great for imaginative play too! Each class will be given the opportunity to use the frame (when the weather improves!), and then we will work with the children to create some whole school log frame climber rules.



Parents' Evening Dates

We will be holding Parents' Evening this term for Nursery, Reception, Year 2 and Class 3 on two evenings – Wednesday 23rd March and Wednesday 30th March from 3:45pm to 7pm. Class 4 will be having their parents evening slightly earlier, on Monday 14th March and Thursday 17th March from 1:30pm – 5pm. All appointment times will be 10 minutes. Further information about the booking system will follow shortly.

Contact Telephone Numbers

Did you get a new mobile as a Christmas present? Have you treated yourself to a new phone? If so then please remember to let us know if your number has changed. You would be amazed at the number of parents who we try to contact in an emergency only to find that their details have not been updated. This also includes a landline number when you move house!

Thank you in advance for your continued support in this very busy and exciting term. It is very much appreciated.

Best wishes,

Stuart Hodgson,

Headteacher

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Dates for this term:

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| Week beginning 1 st February 2016 | National Storytelling Week |
| Thursday 4 th February 2016 | Reception Assembly – 9:15am All Reception parents and carers welcome. |
| Friday 5 th February 2016 | Year 1 Cake Sale |
| Tuesday 9 th February 2016 | Safer Internet Day |
| Thursday 11 th February 2016 | Year 1 Assembly – 9:15am All Reception parents and carers welcome. |
| Friday 12 th February 2016 | Nursery offers sent out to parents School breaks up for the half term holiday at 3:15pm |
| Monday 15 th – Monday 22 nd February 2016 | The half term holiday |
| Tuesday 23 rd February 2016 | School reopens for children Sale Art Zoo workshop |
| Thursday 25 th February 2016 | E Safety workshop for parents at 7pm |
| Week beginning 29 th February 2016 | Faith week – Further details to follow |
| Thursday 3 rd March 2016 | World Book Day – Please come to school dressed as your favourite book character! Creative writing workshop (every Thursday for 3 weeks, 9:30 – 11:30am) |
| Friday 4 th March 2016 | Year 2 Cake Sale |
| Week beginning 7 th March 2016 | Pop Uk in school |
| Monday 14 th March <i>and</i> Thursday 17 th March | Parents Evening for Class 4 |
| Wednesday 16 th March 2016 | Pop Uk Concert at St Anne’s Church – Further details and times to follow |
| Friday 18 th March 2016 | Year 2 Assembly – 9:15am All Year 2 parents and carers welcome. |
| Sunday 20 th March 2016 | Friends of Templemoor Spring Trail – 10am |
| Monday 21 st March 2016 | Recorder Concert at 2:30pm |
| Wednesday 23 rd March 2016 | Reception singing concert at 2:30pm - All Reception parents and carers welcome. |
| Wednesday 23 rd <i>and</i> Wednesday 30 th March 2016 | Parents Evening for Nursery, Reception, Class 3 and Year 2 |
| Thursday 24 th March 2016 | Easter Egg Hunt |
| Friday 25 th – Monday 28 th March 2016 | Easter weekend. Please note that school will be closed on Friday 25 th March and Monday 28 th March. |
| Friday 1 st April 2016 | School breaks up at 3:15pm for the spring break |
| Monday 18 th April 2016 | School reopens for the Summer Term |

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