

A NOTE FROM MRS HEFFER

This week's focus has been **PERSEVERANCE**:

**PERSEVERANCE IS
NOT A LONG RACE;
IT IS MANY SHORT
RACES ONE AFTER
THE OTHER.**

- WALTER ELLIOT

ROBINS DAZZLE THEIR AUDIENCE –

Robins enjoyed delivering their class assembly to the whole school on Wednesday.

Our topic this term is 'Castles and Dragons' the children have been very enthused and are loving acquiring new historical facts. In English we worked in teams to create a castle 'Acrostic' poem. We had to come up with exciting powerful language that captured what castles were all about. *Conquered land which is endangered, Angry fighting with people on horseback, Shining armour shivering wildly, Tall turrets reaching to the sky, Lurking dragons hidden in the dungeons, Endless evil battling.* The children read each poem with amazing clarity and diction for their age. We put together some 'Did you know?' facts about castles. We finished our assembly with our latest song... 'Puff the Magic Dragon'. I'm sure all the parents now know the words as well as the Robins.

I videoed the children speaking and singing for parents to enjoy today in our Friday drop in.

Well done and thank you children. **Mrs Lea.**

IMPORTANT EDEN TRIP REMINDERS – Next Friday we will be 'getting our skates on' at Eden where staff as well as pupils will be taking to the ice to perform what may turn out to be the slightly under-rehearsed version of Torvill and Dean's 'Ravel's Bolero'! We look forward to posting on the school website some winning photos of the skaters after half term! We will also be spending some of our day exploring the biomes. A huge thank you to FOPS for their generous donation of funds towards this exciting trip considerably reducing the cost per pupil for parents. Just a few reminders about the day:

- **FRIDAY MORNINGS** - As the whole school will need to get onto the buses for a prompt start to the journey, there will be no open door Friday morning session next week.
- **DRESS CODE** - Pupils need to come dressed in trousers (not school trousers), sensible footwear and socks (not wellies), wear a school jumper/cardigan; bring gloves but no scarves please; waterproof jacket; backpack to carry lunch and drink (no carrier bags please)
- **E-SAFETY** - No cameras or digital devices please. Staff will have school cameras to take photos during the day.
- **SNACKS** - The children are likely to get hungry throughout the day so we do recommend packing plenty of snacks into their backpacks as we will ensure they will have the opportunity to have a snack as well as stop for lunch.
- **BACKPACKS FOR EVERY CHILD** - For those pupils who have had a school packed lunch ordered for them, they will still need a backpack to carry their lunch in.
- **RETURN TO SCHOOL** – We plan to leave Eden at 2pm which should enable the buses to arrive back at school by 3pm. However, we have suggested in the previous letter that due to traffic we may not return to school until after 3pm. If it is likely that the buses will return much later than expected,

the office will be contacted and a sign will be put out in the carpark to inform parents of the likely return time.

- **RUSH HOUR MAHEM!** – As the school will have three buses arriving outside the school gates to take the children to Eden, we ask that parents help by allowing the buses to park safely during the busy start and end of the day. If it is possible for as many cars as possible to park in the village hall carpark, this would be a great help to all. Thank you for your support with this.

CAPA CHOIR – Next week, the Penryn cluster schools CAPA choir group will be performing their musical performance of 'The Riversong'. Rehearsals have been well underway. Next week the CAPA choir will have their final rehearsal on Monday, a matinee performance on Tuesday and their evening performance on Tuesday night. We wish them all the very best for their joint performance. A big thank you to the music staff at Penryn College for giving so generously of their time to help the children prepare for this event.

CROSS COUNTRY – Today a large group of keen cross country runners headed off to Falmouth to take part in the inter-schools cross county competition. We look forward to hearing how they all got on and will update you with the news.

SCHOOL DISCO – The school has been filled with bubbling excitement amongst the children today with tonight's DISCO to attend! We look forward to seeing as many children boogie on down to the beats later tonight. A big thank you to the FOPS members who are helping to organise this very popular fund raising event. Please can we remind parents that to ensure pupils are handed over safely, every child must be signed in and signed out to ensure all are accounted for. The children have been told in assembly today that they must not bring any electronic devices such as mobile phones, ipods etc. Any pupil found with these items will be asked to hand them into the school office for safe keeping until the end of the evening. Thank you for your support with this.

STAY SAFE ONLINE – Next week is e-safety week. Every class will receive an age appropriate e-safety lesson to aid every child's understanding of how to stay safe online. Our IT governor, Mr Matt Fletcher, will also be carrying out his governor monitoring visit during this time and will have the opportunity to see e-safety lessons and to talk to pupils about what they understand about staying safe online. Please can we urge you to check out our parent help page on the school website where you will find several links to e-safety sites that will help heighten awareness of the dangers of unsupervised use of the internet in the home including communication through online gaming and access to games that may not have age appropriate content. Last week all staff and governors received safeguarding training which included e-safety. As a school we are very aware of how dangerous unsupervised online access in the home can be for children. Uploading images or videos to personal accounts and communicating through online gaming can lead to unpleasant communication from unknown persons if not monitored carefully. Please can we remind all parents and pupils that no images should be uploaded onto social media without permission from the parents of the pupils involved. Thank you for helping to keep your children safe online.

SPRING TERM PARENT MEETINGS COMING UP – As you are probably already aware from the list of dates in a previous newsletter, the spring term parent consultation evenings will be taking place the week beginning 29th February. During this week the teachers will be holding their parent meetings on the following evenings:

Puffins (Mrs Anderson) – Monday and Tuesday

Robins (Mrs Lea) – Monday and Tuesday

Starlings (Mr Teasdale) – Tuesday and Wednesday

Kingfishers (Miss Shaile) – Monday and Tuesday

Swifts (Mrs Pallot) – Tuesday

The lists of available time slots will be posted up in the Reception area by the school office on Monday morning 8th February to give teachers time to chase up any parents who have not booked a meeting slot.

As in previous terms, if you are unable to come into school to sign up on the sheets provided, please contact the school office and Miss Braddon will be happy to book a slot for you. These meetings will give you the opportunity to look at your child's books and talk to your child's class teacher about your child's progress against the new standards and targets for further development. With the many changes to assessment and the shift in expectation for all ages, we would like to invite parents to attend an assessment information evening to help parents gain a better understanding of the new assessment system. Please see below for details of this meeting.

NEW ASSESSMENT INFORMATION EVENING FOR PARENTS – On Tuesday, 23rd February at 6pm, there will be an information evening for parents on the new assessment procedures and new age related expectations (ARE). We hope this presentation will provide parents with a better understanding of the changes to curriculum and expectations that pupils are now measured against enabling a more effective parental consultation meeting to take place the following week. If you are unable to attend, an information booklet will be available as part of the information evening and can be obtained from the school office if required. This booklet will also be posted on the parent help page on the school website, in due course.

GET THOSE OUTFITS READY! IT'S NEARLY WORLD BOOK DAY – On Friday 4th March, the school will be celebrating World Book Day and we would like the children to join the staff in coming to school dressed as a book character. More information about the day's events will be sent home closer to the date. We look forward to seeing a wide range of familiar book characters walking the school corridors on that fabulous Friday!

COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS POLICY – Many thanks for your responses and suggestions relating to the draft communication with parents policy. The final draft will be shared with the full governing body for approval before being posted onto the school website as a finalised document. Thank you for your support with this.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY! – We have now finalised our INSET dates for the academic year 2016-2017.

These are:

Monday, 5th September 2016

Tuesday, 6th September 2016

Tuesday, 3rd January 2017

Monday, 5th June 2017

Wednesday, 26th July 2017

Term dates for next academic year are as follows:

AUTUMN 2016

September 5th – 16th December

(Half term 24th – 28th October)

SPRING 2017

January 3rd – March 31st

(Half term 13th – 17th February)

SUMMER 2017

April 18th – July 26th

(Half term 30th May – 2nd June)

BANK HOLIDAYS

Christmas - 26th and 27th December 2016

New Year's Day – 2nd January 2017

Good Friday – 14th April 2017

Easter Monday – 17th April 2017

Early May Holiday – 1st May 2017
Spring Bank Holiday – 29th May 2017
Summer Bank Holiday – 28th August 2017

We hope these dates will help you to plan you family holidays. We value your continued support with not taking holidays during term time and maintaining a high percentage of attendance for your child throughout the year. Thank you.
We wish you all a lovely weekend!

Reception children vision screening. We have been contacted by the screening team, and they will be in school from 9.10 a.m. on Monday 8th Feb to carry out routine vision screening on reception children in Puffins. For further information please speak with Mrs Read.

Celebration Assembly:

The following children all received a certificate, medal or badge in assembly today:

Bronze: Sol Guimaraes.

Silver: Joshua Anderson, Eleanor Teff, Maia Rowe, George Jagers, Mawgan Howell, Oscar McConnell and Oliver Entwistle for reaching 100 points.

Gold: Mia Preedy, Holly Court, Stanley Cameron, Sophie Woodrow, Merryn Grosvenor and Jake Mackrill for reaching 150 points.

Medal: Samuel Anderson, Morley Neale, Chloe Saayman, Jack Matthews, Millie Cunliffe, and Flora Clark for reaching 200 points.

Thomas Penna and Megan Laval have now reached 250 points and have received a Badge.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS NOMINATIONS – The following children have been nominated for being spotted carrying out Random Acts of Kindness. Thank you and well done!

Jonty Bailey – Nominated by Mrs Heffer for cutting up another child's sausages at lunch time when noticing he needed help and the adults were busy with other children. Thank you Jonty! You are a Kindness Ninja!

Beth Wootton – Nominated by Mrs Pallot for noticing another child in her class needed help with sticking work into his book. Beth left her own sticking-in task to find a glue stick and helped this child stick in his work first. Thank you Beth! You are a Kindness Ninja!

Very well done to you all.

St Piran's Day Parade: This year we are unable to take part in the dancing at the St Piran's Day Parade in Falmouth as there is an insufficient number of children able to take part on 5th March. We hope to be able to take part in future years. Sorry to those disappointed. *Mrs Waters and Mrs Byers*

FOPS UPDATE

Just a reminder to everyone, that this Friday, 5th February, is the school disco.

Infants (Reception/Year 1 and Year 2) disco will run from 6 - 7pm and the Junior's (Year 4/5/6) will run from 7.15 - 8.15pm. It has been agreed that Year 3 children can decide which disco they would like to attend.

All children must be signed in and out from school reception. Entry will cost £2.50 per child, this includes free squash/water, however, please bring some small change for snacks, crisps/biscuits 20p each.

Easter "Chocy Bingo" - details to follow in next weeks newsletter.

Hope all of the children enjoy the Disco, have a lovely weekend!