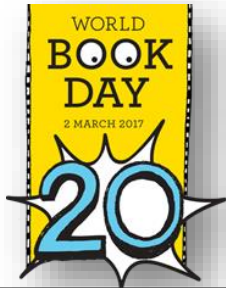


# Talbot Primary School Newsletter



Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2017



## World Book Day!

There were a plethora of characters that joined the school last Thursday for '**World Book Day.**' Talbot children were magically transformed into Mr Men, Horrid Henry, boys in dresses, Cinderella, Thing 1 and Thing 2, Alex Ryder and of course, Harry Potter characters across the school. One of the main reasons why the children look forward to 'World Book Day' every year is because of the excitement and anticipation it generates at home and at school. Thank you for your support in helping to harness imaginations and prepare your child for the day – as always it is much appreciated. Staff also did not disappoint, making a huge effort in joining in with the children. Great stuff!

In school as a whole, we ensured that we celebrated all things reading across the week. The libraries were transformed into a '**reading rainforest,**' and '**Narnia.**' The children were fantastic in helping to decorate these environments, and enjoyed some quality time listening to and enjoying stories in the library. Thank you to Mrs Liddington for co-ordinating all the events, Mrs Brown, one of our parents and Lily (our former Year Six pupil!) for giving up some of their spare time to help in school. Events across the school succeeded in raising £89.90 for Book Aid.

**Please see the website for photos from the day.**

## Reminder to Parents/Carers

**In order to reduce the spread of seasonal diarrhoea and vomiting, please ensure your child is not in school for 48 hours after the last period of sickness.**

Although February is the shortest month of the year, we have still managed to ensure it has been busy and productive. The month began with a visit from Ofsted and confirmation that the school continues to provide a high quality level of education for our children. In our conversations and analysis of the school's performance, I was very proud to be able to talk about how our children progress and learn a broad and balanced curriculum here at Talbot Primary School. We will of course continue to build and develop the school as we move forward, and as ever, are guided by the **school's aims**, which include:

- establishing a progressive learning culture which maintains high expectations, standards and outcomes
- ensuring that each child is valued as an individual, enabling them to develop a positive self-image and respect for others
- developing children's confidence in their capacity to learn, both independently and as a team
- supporting children in their ability to reflect on their learning and develop the key skills of resilience, adaptation and application
- providing high quality teaching and equality of access to a long lasting broad curriculum
- securing learning which is relevant to our lives now, and, in the future
- providing a safe, well-resourced, flexible and e-confident environment that supports curiosity, aspiration and a passion for learning from all
- ensuring that children are well equipped with the values and community awareness which will support them for life in Modern Britain
- developing the voice of all stakeholders and ensure that our children and parents successfully inform our learning culture

Thank you to those parents who joined us for our post-Ofsted briefing on Tuesday. If you were unable to attend, but would like to access the presentation for the evening, please [click here](#).

As we continue to refresh and review our approach as a school, you will be receiving an online questionnaire designed to review our programme of parent/carers briefings. We appreciate that many of these have been very useful and productive in supporting you at home and sharing key information relevant to your child and the school's approach, however some of the briefings have been poorly attended. I look forward to hearing your views as to how we can refine and review our approach.

It is always nice to end the newsletter with good news. As members of the Arooj collaboration of schools, we have successfully won first prize for the most number of book reviews in a primary school. Lexie, from Year Two and Mohan from Year Three will join Mrs Rehman next week at Leeds Civic Hall to accept the prize on behalf of the school. Well done!

Regards  
Mrs Parm Gill, Headteacher

# Additional Information

## Update on Attendance

Historically, Talbot Primary School has always enjoyed excellent attendance rates of over 97% - with the majority of pupils managing to attend school between 98-100% of the time. Recently, the school average has slipped to 96.9% and we want to make sure this trend is reversed. While illness is unavoidable, like the vomiting bug we experienced over December, we need to do better. Here are three ways you can help make a difference:

1. Organise holidays and trips during school holidays (there are 175 non-teaching days a year to pick from)
2. Organise doctor and dentist appointments after school wherever possible (this is often possible for non-emergency appointments)
3. If your child is feeling a bit under the weather, send them in and let us know. In our experience, they can often get a second wind and, if they can't manage the day, we will call you and let you pick them up.

Good attendance and punctuality, ensures your children start the day calmly, their learning isn't broken over a week and the other pupils are not disrupted as the teacher helps someone catch up on work they have missed. Most importantly, there is a direct correlation between attendance and progress.

As you will have seen from my recent ParentMail, the school has adopted a revised Attendance Policy. This is in line with other Primary schools in the Alwoodley, Roundhay and Moortown area, and includes new forms for leave of absence requests. Please do refer carefully to this policy before submitting a request. If you require paper copies of the policy, please ask in the Office or contact via email at [admin@talbotprimary.net](mailto:admin@talbotprimary.net)

**On a positive note, and in order to celebrate attendance rates for the vast majority of our children, we will be introducing new special recognition certificates this term for children who have 100% this year. More details will follow shortly.**

## On-going Courtesy for Local Residents

### Dog fouling

Leeds City Council has been contacted regarding recent instances of dog fouling around the school premises. Thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring that dogs do not come onto the school grounds

### Parking

**Please show courtesy by not parking across drive ways, on double yellow lines or in disabled parking spaces.** Local residents need access to their driveways, as do our parents and children with additional needs so please think twice before parking across a driveway even if you think it will only be for a few minutes.

