

*****Ashton First School News*****

"Expect only the best"

Friday 30th January 2015

HEADLINES by Mrs Sharon Cole



This week some children had the opportunity to go off-site to enhance their learning, whilst others enjoyed an expert coming in to school to help with their lessons. Please enjoy reading their reports below.



Penguins!

On Wednesday the children in Acorn and Hawthorn classes enjoyed a fantastic visit from Olivia's uncle who is the Head Penguin Keeper at Birdland, together with two stuffed penguins!

The children had already researched quite a lot of

information about penguins and they were really interested in all that they heard, listening with fascination and asking some really good questions.



The Eco Team go on a Trip, by Sasha

Some of our KS2 Envirominnies went to Bishops Wood to take part in some fun activities. First, we said our names and then we had to play a game to get to know each other. After a snack, we had to think about what we would do to make an Eco School, and thought that we could do more to use less energy, save more water and fossil fuels. We then had to create an Eco Friendly child to go to the school. After lunch, we went outside to find a prickly thing and a tickly thing from the forest floor. We had to test them out on our friends. We had to make a 'cocktail', but instead of drinking it, we smelled it. Then, we drew some pictures about what we could hear around us. We finished the day by drawing a newspaper poster about Eco activities in school. The other schools came along and looked at it. Our poster was about the Rag Bag, Sleeping Beauty and Milk Bottles.



Book Sale

Acorn Class would like to thank everybody who kindly contributed books for our Book Sale this week. The sale has given the children a real reason to learn about money in preparation for acting as shopkeepers at the sale today, as well as lots of practice at sorting and counting the many books which we received. As this letter goes to press, we don't yet know the total amount of money raised, but many of the lovely books have already been used to improve our library stock which is currently undergoing a major overhaul, for which we are particularly grateful for the help of Mrs Pearson and Mrs Thomas.



Notices:

- **Sleeping Beauty Tickets:** Letter coming home today. Please note that there will be no Family Assembly next Friday (6th February) to enable time for final rehearsals and also no recorder clubs next week.
- **Invitation to Willows Assembly:** On Tuesday 3rd February, 1.30-1.50pm, the Willow Class are leading an assembly on the Jewish celebration of "Tu B'Shevat". Parents are welcome to attend.
- **Wear It, Beat It!** Our school will be taking part in The British Heart Foundation's fundraising campaign on 6th February. You may have seen their advertisement on T.V. depicting young children trying to pronounce the name of the heart condition they have. Children are invited to substitute one item of their normal uniform for something red in exchange for a donation. Look out for posters made by Hawthorn Class in classroom windows.
- **Class Catering New Menu & Order Form:** A new Spring/Summer four weekly lunch menu and order form coming home today. To ensure your child has a cooked lunch after half term, please return the order form by **Wednesday 11th February**. (If your child chooses a packed lunch instead of the hot lunch option, please specify Cheese, Tuna or Ham on the order form).



Important: Please do not order a lunch on the following dates; **Key Stage 1 Wednesday 25th February and Key Stage 2 on Tuesday 24th March.**

- **Free School Meals & Pupil Premium Funding:** Although children in Key Stage 1 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals we would like to strongly encourage parents to consider if you are eligible for Free School Meals, as this can also provide additional Pupil Premium funding for your child. This funding is used to support your child in class and help financially with school activities such as clubs, swimming, trips, etc. and uniform. If you think you may be eligible, please request a FSM application form from the school office or alternatively complete online from the Worcestershire County Council Website: http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20062/schools/684/applying_for_free_school_meals To find out more how we use Pupil Premium funding in school please refer to our 'Pupil Premium Report for 2014/15' and our 'Charges & Remissions Policy' under the 'Policy' section of the school website.

Dates for the Diary

- **Tuesday 3rd February:** 1.30pm Willow Class Assembly Jewish Celebration
- **Friday 6th February :** No Family Assembly
- **Friday 6th February:** British Heart Foundation Wear an item of red clothing
- **Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th February:** NO After school clubs due to performances
- **Tuesday 10th February 1.45pm & 6pm :** Performances of Sleeping Beauty
- **Wednesday 11th February 6pm:** Evening Performance of Sleeping Beauty
- **Friday 13th February :** Break up for Half Term



www.ashton.worcs.sch.uk
01386 881333

