

MAGDALEN GATES PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

NEWS BULLETIN 4th MARCH 2024

Message from Mr Hutchinson

Everything that we do at Magdalen Gates Primary School and Nursery is focused on giving every child the best. 'The best' can mean different things to different people, but one thing that I think everyone can agree on is that all children need to learn to read. Awareness of sounds begins in Nursery and Phonics lessons start on day one in Reception and the focus on teaching children to read continues from that point onwards. Children are taught to read for the first 45 mins of every day, I give out books in assembly on Fridays, there's a book club for Key Stage 2, and the KS2 reading ambassadors, Miss Dodson and Miss Vincent make sure that our libraries are stocked with diverse books that represent the children of the school. The icing on the reading cake is World Book Day. This is not a random non-uniform day, it is a celebration of the power that books and reading have to change our lives and therefore we take it very seriously. This year the focus is on non-fiction. We have worked hard recently to make sure that our books are up-to-date and relevant so that the children can use their reading skills to learn about the world they live in. Thank you for your support and for supporting your child on their reading journey.

World Book Day – This Thursday

We look forward to seeing your amazing costumes this Thursday. Running alongside World Book Day our fabulous Reading Ambassadors recently met and wanted to set the school a competition. Children are asked to decorate a wooden spoon in any book character or theme. The Reading Ambassadors will then choose a winner who will receive a special prize! There is plenty of time to get your spoons in as the closing date for the competition is not until the 28th March. Spoons to the ready! Good luck everyone.

Head Lice – Be Alert

Head lice cannot fly, jump or swim but spread by clambering from head to head. They are caught by head to head contact with someone who already has them. Although anyone can catch them, they do seem to love heads of 4-11 year olds. Please find more information by following the link <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits>

Reminders

Water Bottles – Please ensure bottles are named and that only water is in these.

Valuables – Please do not allow your child to bring precious items into school. This is so that we can avoid any loss, damage and upset.

Mobiles – If it is essential that they bring their phones to school please remind your child that they need to leave their phones in the school office *before registration*. These are then kept safe and can be picked up at the end of the school day.

School Lunches – These need to be ordered in advance from Eduspot. If your child requires a school lunch but one has not been ordered, the school office will call and ask you to bring in a home packed lunch.

Snacks at Break for KS2 – Please provide your child with a healthy snack rather than crisps/chocolate bars. Thank you.

Staffing Update

We are pleased to welcome Toby Scriven who is working in EYFS and Madison Gilyatt who has also joined Mrs Callaghan's Early Years team.

Mrs Kingston and Mrs Chapman have now both returned from their Maternity leave. This term also sees 3 new UEA students start their PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate in Education)

Security at School

We have recently updated our CCTV system. The new system continues to be used in accordance with GDPR requirements. It will be used to help maintain a safe environment as well as forming part of the school's safeguarding procedures for all our pupils, staff and visitors. If you have any questions or concerns please do come and speak with Mr Hutchinson, Mrs Demeuzois or Mr Turnpenny

School Contact Details

School Office hours – 8:15am – 3:30pm Telephone 01603 622675

Email Office@magdalengates.co.uk

Out of school club contact –

01603 343881 3.30pm-5.30 am only

Diary Dates

March

5th Yr2 – Mars Day event

7th – World Book Day

11-15th – Science Week

11th - Yr6 Horstead

Residential

19th – Yr1 Trip to

Bridewell Museum

22nd – School Reports

homeYr1-Yr6 (EYFS & Nursery receive reports in July)

12th16th - Science Week

22nd – School Nurse

revisit – EYFS Hearing & Vision

27th – School Closes for Easter

April

15th – School re-opens

Whole School Attendance-92.4%