



Marsh Hill Newsletter

March 25th 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you well.

Fundraising for the Ukraine

On Monday, we held a Coffee and Cake afternoon in school to raise money for the people of Ukraine. Together with the non-school uniform day that we held last Friday (18th March), our school community raised a total of £557.33. I would like to thank all Parents and Carers for supporting this cause and it was wonderful to see so many of you turning up for this event. I would also like to thank the following parents: Mrs. Clayton, Mrs. Butler and Ms. Gilmore for volunteering their time to help run the Coffee and Cake afternoon; and especially Mrs. Carless who suggested, organised and oversaw the whole afternoon.

Online Safety

As I outlined in last week's newsletter, it is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about online dangers. Learning how to act safely when using the internet is a vitally important part of safeguarding our children.

We are showing our commitment to protecting our pupils online by working with National Online Safety in providing resources for all Parents and Carers.

The resources include Parents and Carers courses (presented by Myleene Klass), online video resources and weekly guides covering a huge range of topics.

You can access National Online Safety online via any device including via our brand-new smartphone app. To download the app, please go to:

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/national-online-safety/id1530342372>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.nationaleducationgroup.nos>

Alternatively, search for 'National Online Safety' in the App Store/Google Play Store.

Safer Streets

Very well done to Anayah who won the 'Safer Streets' poster design competition. Anayah's design will be made into a poster that will be displayed in Erdington town centre.



Congratulations also go to our two runners up: Winner - Khadijah and Aayan Mohammed. The children will receive their prizes and certificates at our Whole School Assembly on Monday.

Safer Driving and Parking at the School Gates

In last week's newsletter, I asked that we all be mindful when parking around the school site so that we can keep everyone - especially our children - safe. I was appalled to hear from one mother this morning that a car belonging to one of our parents mounted the kerb and narrowly missed a child. I dread to think of the potential consequences of this reckless behaviour. I have the registration number of this vehicle and I have passed it on to the Police.

I appeal to all of you who drop your children to school to take notice of the following guidance that will help to keep everyone safe around the school gates. Please do not:

- Block the road - emergency vehicles and other traffic may need access
- Park on yellow lines, zig-zags or block the school entrance
- Park on the pavement, across dropped kerbs or residents' driveways
- Park opposite or within 10 metres of a junction
- Park where you will cause inconvenience to other road users
- Leave your vehicle with the engine still running
- Stop in the middle of the road to drop your child off, even for a few seconds.

If you are able to, then please consider not using your car to bring your children to school. Walking or cycling can improve overall fitness levels in children and adults. I realise that there are some parents and carers who have no alternative but to drive their children to school, however, many are driving short distances when walking is a real option. Even those who have to drive to school can do their bit by parking away from the school entrance and walk for part of the journey. These changes could make a real difference to the congestion around school, making the school run less stressful and far safer for everyone.

Year 1 Mothers' Day Assemblies

We are all very proud of the children of 1G and 1W for putting on such fantastic Mothers' Day Assemblies this week. It was the first time that these two classes have had the opportunity to do such a performance but they did not show any nerves and were brilliant.

I know from the feedback we have had that all the mothers' who attended were equally proud. Here is just a selection of their comments:

'Well done you melted my heart'

'Such a wonderful show. I have really enjoyed it'

'I enjoyed the song, it was beautiful, thank you for inviting me'

'The show was amazing, it was great to see the children building confidence in themselves,

'It was amazing, and the children's singing was beautiful'

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of the mothers in our school community a fabulous Mothers' Day.



Dates for your Diary

March 29 th 30 th , and 31 st March (Tuesday – Thursday)	Parents' Evening
Friday 8 th April.	School closes for the Easter Holidays
Friday 27 th May, Friday 24 th June and Monday 11 th July	School closed to all pupils for the three remaining INSET days this academic year for staff.

If you have not yet made an appointment for Parents' Evening next week, then please do so. This is an important event in our school calendar, as it is an opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress and how school and home can work together to work on areas for further development.

After School Clubs

There will be NO clubs on next week due to Parent Consultation. Please collect your child at normal time.

Bring it on Brum

Bring it on Brum is running Free activity clubs in Birmingham for children aged 5 - 16 who are entitled to free school meals. Clubs will run on average for 4 hours a day and each day your child will enjoy a fun-packed programme filled with a wide range of sports and games, arts and crafts, cookery, dance and music. Programmes will vary depending on the type and location of each local club, but every day there will be a delicious nutritious meal served up for **free**! Over the next two weeks, children entitled to free school meals will receive a letter with a HAF code that you will need to register your child.

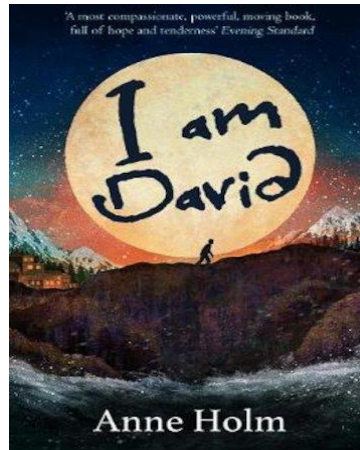
Reading Inspirations

This week's recommendation comes from Mr. Aujla who teaches in Year 3.

My all-time favourite children's book is called 'I am David' by Anne Holm. It was first read to me in class by my teacher Miss Buddle. At first I did not understand all the themes in the story but returning to the text many times I gained the maturity to understand the power of freedom, friendship and hope.

It is the story of a young boy who with the help of a prison guard, escapes from a concentration camp in Europe and goes on a perilous journey to Denmark. He struggles to cope in this strange new world. Along the way he encounters many people who teach him about life outside of the concentration camp.

The ending of the story, even to this day gives me goose bumps and makes my spine tingle. Also, just to let you know, I still have my original copy of this book.....now though, the pages a little dog eared and yellow with age!



I wish you all a happy, safe and peaceful weekend.

Yours sincerely,

J. Cusack

Mr. J. Cusack
Head Teacher