



Half term is here already - the time has flown by. The children have been working very hard since they returned after Christmas and have thrown themselves into their topics. The children have focused on 'Self- Motivation' this half term and have really taken this on board, setting themselves extra challenges. One child in Year 2 told me last week, "We don't wait for our teacher to tell us what to do... we are self-motivated!"

NSPCC

Number  
Day 2018



On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> of February we had a fund raising day for the NSPCC and a whole day of Maths. The children really enjoyed themselves and we raised an amazing £315 from all your loose change. Thank you everyone for your support.

## Happy Birthday Mr Crouch

Today in assembly we have been celebrating Mr Crouch, the lollipop man's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. We sang to him, made him a card and a cake to say thank you for standing outside in all weathers to keep us safe.



## Attitudes to Learning

Next half term our focus is on....

### Determination

We will be encouraging the children to go that extra mile, know their goals and go for them and have the courage to share opinions and ask questions.

What might this look like in the classroom?

- On task and not get distracted
- Stretch myself to the limit
- Continue with a task until complete
- Use feedback as a positive
- Contribute in lessons
- Challenge my peers
- Work with others to improve our work
- Say what needs to be improved

Certificates for 'Determination' will be given out in assemblies.

**Dinner menus beginning 25<sup>th</sup> February can be found on our website.**

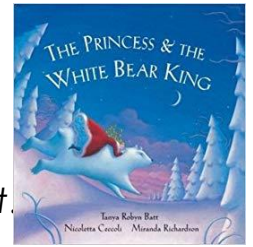


## Help

Lost property is taking over. Please pop in to see if any belongs to you. Any unclaimed items will be disposed of on the 14<sup>th</sup> February.



**Year 1 and 2:** Both Year 1 and Year 2 have been working on an exciting topic around a book by Tanya Robyn Batt called *The Princess and the White Bear King*. It is a re-telling of a traditional story from Northern Europe and the children have enjoyed spotting familiar stories within it like *Sleeping Beauty* and *Beauty and the Beast*. The pupils have written diary entries, drawn story maps and even created their own class chapter books by taking a section each to retell. The Year 1 pupils enjoyed drawing maps of the land of the princess, whilst the Year 2's have been looking at maps of Northern Europe in more detail and learning about the Scandinavian countries. Year 1 were very excited to learn about the Arctic and Antarctic and Year 2 the continents and oceans of the world. We have been delighted to see so many pupils engaged in their learning and bringing into school extra homework around this topic. We are now becoming history detectives and learning about the great explorer Captain Scott and his voyage to the South Pole.



Next term Year 1 and 2 will be doing 'Space Invaders', an exciting topic that covers lots of science such as light and dark, space and materials and will involve practical experiments. The children will also be using fiction books to drive their learning such as 'Toys in Space' by Mini Grey 'The Dark' by Lemony Snicket 'Orion and the Dark' to explore aspects of the dark that might make us fearful.



Year 2 have been very busy in their Gymnastics lessons learning about ways to balance and travel. The two classes have shown their performances to each other.



Year 1 really enjoyed the practical Maths on NSPCC numbers day, working as a team to find a solution to a problem.

**Tapestry:** Beech class have introduced an online system of recording children's learning called Tapestry <https://tapestryjournal.com/> This is a website system which is used in many Early Years settings and Key Stage 1 classrooms. Instead of always using paper and books for recording, we will sometimes be uploading photos, videos and observations. Parents can log on and view what their child has been up to. They will see photographs of their child learning or read comments about their learning. They will also be able to view assessments linked to this learning. Parents can instantly add comments to entries and show their child's online book to members of the family. They can also add observations from home, for example an outdoor activity or enjoying reading a book. We are hoping to roll this system out to some other classes in the school over the coming year.

**Reception:** The Reception children have enjoyed listening to and exploring lots of traditional tales this term. Some of our favourite moments have been...

### The Crime Scene

The topic started off by finding a crime scene... who had been in the Three Bears' house? The children enjoyed exploring ideas and creating 'Wanted' posters to catch the person responsible!

### The Gingerbread Man

After reading The Gingerbread Man, the children sequenced the story and then baked and decorated their own biscuits. We asked ourselves... Can the Gingerbread Man swim?

### Acting

The children have really enjoyed acting out their favourite fairy-tales, using story maps to help them remember the sequence of events. They have taken on the role of different characters and we have been really impressed at how they worked cooperatively in their groups.

**Please remember...** tomorrow, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February, the children can come to school dressed as their favourite fairy-tale character.

Next term, our topic is '**People Who Help Us**'.

We are planning to have visits from people who work or help out in a variety of roles. We will use ideas from the visits to support learning across the curriculum. We are always looking for volunteers to come and talk to the children about the different roles people play at work and in the community so please speak to a member of staff if you would like to come and do this.



## Attendance

Well done Cedar - you have the best attendance for Spring 1.

Maple	94.57
Willow	97.05
Beech	95.93
Cedar	97.11
Oak	94.06
Sycamore	96.10

**Dogs:** A reminder that no dogs are to be brought on to the school premises.  
Thank you.



**Toys:** Lots of children have started to bring toys in to school which can present problems in the classroom.



**Please can we ask that toys are left at home.**

## World Book Day



This year instead of celebrating books for one day, we are going to celebrate books for the whole week! We are going to be looking at books from a variety of different cultures and plan to show you what we have learned on the afternoon of Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March (more details to follow). This year we will not be having a dressing up day, but instead will be having a 'Dress a Potato Day' where the children will be invited to bring in a potato (or other vegetable) that they have made look like their favourite book character.



Children will have been given a Read-a-thon challenge this week, a fundraising activity to promote reading.



## MAKE A CHANGE BECOME A LOCAL COUNCILLOR



**IF YOU CARE ABOUT  
WHERE YOU LIVE AND ARE  
PASSIONATE ABOUT YOUR  
COMMUNITY, WE NEED YOU**

**JOIN US AND MAKE A LOCAL CHANGE  
CONTACT SHARON PYKE, TOWN CLERK  
01949 831445**

### Dates to Remember

- 14.02.19 Break Up
- 15.02.19 INSET Day**
- 25.02.19 Back to School
- 04.03.19 Year 2 Camp Parents Meeting  
5.45pm
- 05.04.19 Class Photographs
- 05.04.19 School Disco  
Reception - 4.30 - 5.15pm  
Key Stage 1 - 5.30 - 6.30pm
- 05.04.19 Break Up for Easter
- 23.04.19 Back to School
- 24.05.19 Break Up for Half Term
- 03.06.19 Back to School
- 07.06.19 Year 2 Camp
- 26.06.19 Sports Day - pm
- 28.06.19 School Fair
- 03.07.19 Toot Hill Family Sports
- 12.07.19 Year 2 Play - Evening  
(provisional)
- 18.07.19 Leavers' Assembly - 2pm  
(provisional)
- 19.07.19 Break Up for Summer Holidays