

A Warm Welcome Back

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back.

I can't believe we are halfway through the year already; it seems to have flown by. This term we have so many lovely things planned, as usual, we are going to have a week on one curriculum focus. Previously, we've had Literacy Festivals, Arts weeks, Cultural Diversity weeks, Oracy Weeks, but this year week are going to have a Neurodiversity festival - celebrating everything neurodiverse. To kick the week off, on Monday 11th March at 7.00 we are inviting all parents to the Palace Cinema, Broadstairs, for a screening of the film 'The Reason I Jump'. This is a unique film explores neurodiversity from the perspective of Autistic young people and it's well worth watching. Tickets can be brought for £6.50 via the MCAS App. It would be lovely if you could join us! More details will follow in class blogs about the week including some parent workshops.

As usual, this term we will also have our Art competitions as well as our regular World Book Day activities. This year, we are all studying as a whole school the picture book 'How to be a Lion' by Ed Vere. We also want the children to bring in their favourite book and to be able to talk about it and recommend it to others. If possible, we would like the children to dress up as a character from their favourite book, but we want to avoid (as much as possible) having lots of children dressed up as Spiderman or parents spending lots of money on costumes from Amazon. Children do not have to dress up - if they want, they can wear comfy clothes that they like to read in, even pjs - I'm wearing mine this year! We also have our heats for the annual speaker competition and the top three finalist will go into the final of the Trust Speaker competition to represent the school. There will also be the traditional Parent Council Easter Egg Hunt and our Reception and KS1 Easter Bonnett competition and parade.

You may have also seen advertised the RAPS Musical Showcase Extravaganza at the Granville Theatre on Tuesday 26th March at 5.30. Yes, we have booked the Granville Theatre for all our Key Stage 2 children to have the experience of performing in a theatre and showcasing their creativity, demonstrating some of what they've learned in their arts curriculum lessons in front of a paying audience! The event promises a diverse program featuring dance performances based around 'Rainforests' from Year 3 and 'Power of Music' from the Year 5, whole school ensembles, musical theatre performances from Years 4 and 6, the school choir, a one-off performance from the staff band and special guests the Neptune's Choir. Please come and support your child but also treat yourself to a night out at the theatre! The ticket sales are set to cover costs for the Granville Theatre and transporting the children there, but any profits will go towards a sensory garden and room we are hoping to create.

Tickets can be brought at https://www.atgtickets.com/shows/raps-musical-showcase/granville-theatre/ Looking forward to seeing you at one of our events.

Best wishes, Mr Nick Budge, Head of School.



SNACKS AT BREAKTIMES

Please can snacks brought to school be healthy

– fruit, vegetables, cereal bars, popcorn, we do
not consider crisps, cakes, pastries, chocolate
confectionary or sweets to be an appropriate
healthy snack and therefore cannot be eaten
during break. Please remember we have
children with severe nut and egg allergies - so no
eggs or nuts!

WATER BOTTLES

Please make sure children only have water in their water bottles, not squash or fizzy drinks.

Many thanks.

NAMING CLOTHING

Please can parents ensure that children's jumpers, coats etc are labelled with your child's name in them. This makes it so much easier to return lost property to the rightful owner.

LOST PROPERTY

We also now have a Lost Property Box that is situated on the main playground opposite the office doors. This is where all lost property will now be kept.



Dates for your Diary

Every other Tuesday at 2.40- Parent Reading for Year 1.

Every other Thursday at 2.40- Parent Reading for Year 2.

Every Wednesday at 2.40 - Parent Reading Reception.

Speaker Competition- Monday 4th March 2024.

Year 6 Visit Ramsgate Tunnels - Wednesday 6th March 2024.

World Book Day -Thursday 7th March 2024.

International Women's Day -Year 3 to visit The Turner Contemporary- Friday 8th March 2024.

Neurodiversity Festival Week- 11th – 15th March 2024.

Cinema Screening-The Reason I
Jump'- Monday 11th March 2024.
Sleep Workshop for Parent's -Tuesday
12th March 2024 at 8.30 - 10.30am.
Speech and Language Workshop Friday 15th March 2024 at 2.15pm.
Musical Showcase -Tuesday 26th
March 2024.

Topic Theme day - Year 2-Tuesday 26th March 2024.

Reception visiting Wingham Zoo-Wednesday 27th March 2024. Art Competition (deadline Thursday 28th March 2024).

Parent Council Eater Egg hunt Thursday 28th March 2024.
Wear A Hat Day for Brain Tumour
Research - Thursday 28th March 2024.
Reception/KS1 Easter Bonnett
Competition and Parade -Thursday
28th March 2024.





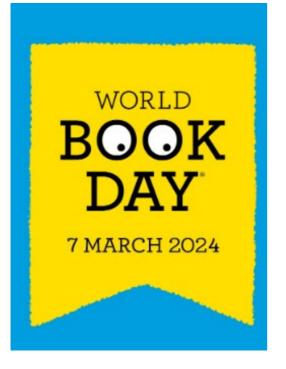
Join us for a screening of "The Reason I Jump". A unique film exploring neurodiversity from the perspective of Autistic young people across the globe.

Monday 11th March 2024, Palace Cinema, Broadstairs 7pm, tickets £6.50. Booking is via the MCAS App.

This screening is open to all Viking Academy Trust Parents, carers and staff.

Wear A Hat Day is Brain Tumour Research's annual event raising money to bring hope to brain tumour patients and their families. This is in memory of Brooklyn Bain who was a student in our reception, who recently died. Help us raise money for this vital cause by bringing in a £1 donation.





This year, World Book Day is on Thursday 7th March. Our focus will be on celebrating reading for pleasure, our favourite books and what makes them so special to us. In school, we will be looking at a whole school text and creating our own pieces of writing. The children will be taking part in different creative workshops and will attend a very special school assembly. Children will come to school with their favourite book, and we encourage children to dress as a character from their book although this is not compulsory. We will share simple, cost effective costume ideas over the next few weeks for inspiration!





RAPS Musical Showcase Extravaganza!

Mark your calendars! On Tuesday, 26th March, our talented Key Stage Two children will take to the stage at the Granville Theatre for a spectacular musical showcase. They will showcase their creativity, demonstrating some of what they've learned in their arts curriculum lessons.

The event promises a diverse program featuring the school choir, captivating guest performers, and impressive whole school numbers. It's an evening filled with musical magic you won't want to miss! Doors open at 4.30pm for a 5.30pm start. See your child's blog for more information.

Buy your tickets here:
https://www.atgtickets.com/shows/raps-musicalshowcase/granville-theatre/
It's an event you and your family won't want to miss!

This week in assembly, Mr Holliday introduced 'The Viking Speaker' competition theme for this year - If I ruled the world, the first thing I would do would be to....

Children who would like to take part will need to work on their speeches over the half term break. All children have received a planning document for the children to support them in generating ideas, planning and structuring their speech.

Each class will then hold a 'Speaker Competition' in the first 2 weeks next term and vote for one winner from each class. That winner will perform their speech during assembly on Monday 4th March to a panel of guest judges. Three school winners will then be selected to participate in 'The Viking Speaker' competition on Friday 22nd March at Royal Harbour Academy. Parents and selected pupils will be invited to attend the final.

We are really looking forward to hearing what our RAPS children would do if they ruled the world!



The Viking Speaker

2024







