



Wednesday 14th February 2024

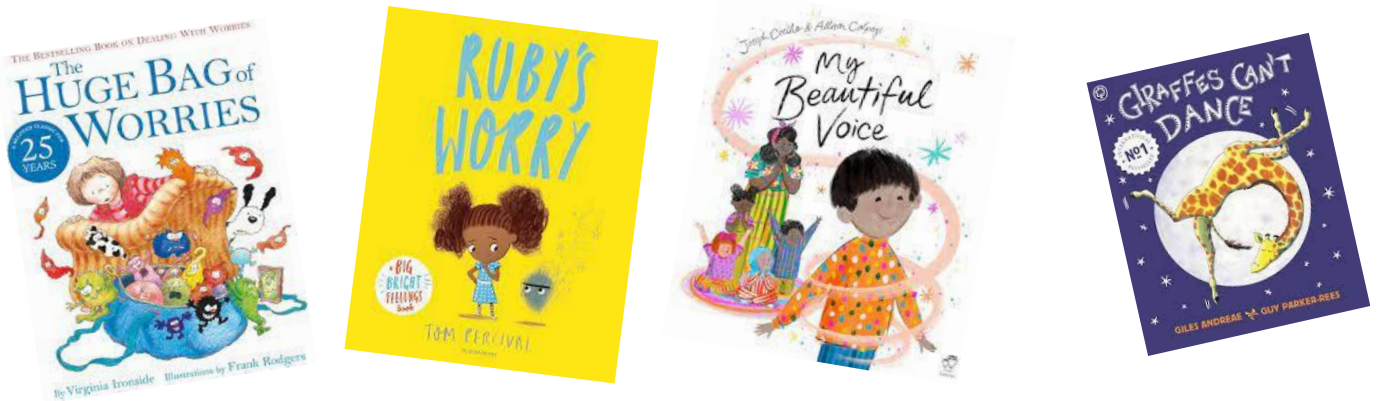
Newsletter 4 - February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week we had our long-awaited visit from Ofsted. It was a far more positive process than our last inspection in February 2020. The team looked at all aspects of our school and the report will be published after half-term. We are unable to share the outcome with you because the evidence has to be quality assured by Ofsted. I really appreciate all of our parents/carers who took the time to complete the parental survey and for the many supportive comments that you made. It means a lot to us all. It goes without saying that I couldn't be prouder of all our children who demonstrated in many ways just how much they enjoy being part of our school.

Children's Mental Health Week

It was Children's Mental Health week last week. In assemblies we talked about mental health, why our emotions are important, the people who can help us and what we can do if we feel we are stuck having negative feelings. Our Year 2 children designed posters to promote positive mental health. The following books are particularly child friendly and can help children understand their feelings and emotions in a non threatening way.



The children's charity a Place2Be have some resources for families who want to talk about mental health with their children, <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>. Please don't forget about the Family Toolbox website which also has a range of resources for parents <https://familytoolbox.co.uk>.

In addition, we work in partnership with the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) who can offer support to parents delivering a range of evidence-based interventions focused on mild to moderate anxiety, low mood and behaviour management.

Please speak to me or our SENDCo Mrs McLeod if you are concerned about your child's mental health.

Finally the MHST and Early Help services are planning to run a four week Parenting/Managing Challenging Behaviour support group at our school. They are planning to run the group in March/April time. Further details are attached. If you are interested please contact the school office and register your interest. We will then contact you with further details.

Tour of India with England Physical Disability Squad

Mr Hamm has returned safely back to school after his tour of India. Although England didn't win the series, it was close, with India winning 3-2. Mr Hamm retired from international cricket on this tour and went out in style by taking three wickets in his final international game.

Mr Hamm can now turn his focus to creating England sporting superstars from our school in his role as PE leader.



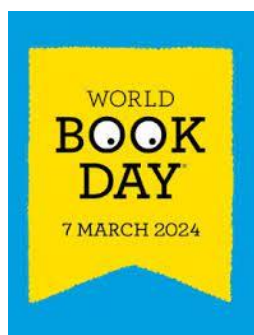
Safer Internet Day February

On Tuesday 6th February Mr Young delivered an assembly to the children about keeping safe online. It is important that parents/carers keep revisiting this at home. Some children have been talking about viewing inappropriate material at home or playing games which are not suitable for infant age children, so please monitor what your children are watching on their devices and who they are communicating with, especially if there is a chat function on their device.

Below are some useful websites for parents/carers:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>



World Book Week 2024

At Black Horse Hill Infants we pride ourselves on promoting a love of reading all year. We do however recognise the enormous benefits of participating in World Book Day/week and how the initiative further raises the profile of reading for pleasure.

This year we are going to launch Book Week on **Monday 4th March** by having a Book Swap Brunch. Children are asked to bring a book from home that they are willing to swap with another child. Throughout the morning, the children will go into the hall and swap books with children in their year groups whilst enjoying a light brunch.

Always popular with the children is the dress-up day, which this year is on **Thursday 7th March**. Please send your child to school dressed up as a character from a book. Please come and see us in school if you would like help organising a costume for your child. On this day, the children will be having a virtual session with a real life author, Helen Stephens.

Finally, after a busy week, we are inviting all children to come into school dressed in a onesie/pyjamas on **Friday 8th March** because we are going to snuggle up and listen to some popular bedtime stories.

School Job Vacancy

Do you want to join our fabulous BHHIS team? After Easter, we will have a Midday Supervisory Assistant vacancy in school. The hours are 12-1pm Monday to Friday. If you are interested in the position, then please contact the school office and register your interest.

Foundation 1 Places

Do you have a child born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 ? We are currently taking applications for places in our Foundation 1 provision. Please contact the school office for an application form.

PE days for next half term

Monday Year 1 PE

Tuesday Year 2 PE

Friday F1 and F2 PE

February

- Friday 16th February – Non Uniform Day (Donations for FOBBHS)
Children finish for half-term
- Monday 26th February- Children return to school
- Thursday 29th February- FOBBHS Sponsored Leap (details to follow)
All children to wear PE kit.

March

- Monday 4th March- Book Swap Brunch
- Thursday 7th March World Book Day (Children dress up as story book characters)
- Friday 8th March Onesie-Upon-a-Time (Children come in Onesie/pyjamas)
- Thursday 14th March Year 1 trip to Ness Gardens
- W/C 18th March Parent/Teacher Week
- Friday 22nd March FOBBHS Easter disco
- Thursday 28th March – Easter Bonnet Parade and finish for Easter Holidays

April

- Monday 15th April – Children return to school

May

- Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday
- Friday 24th May - Finish for half term

June

- Monday 3rd June - Staff Development Day
- Tuesday 4th June - Children return to school
- Monday 10th June - Breakfast Judo club
- w/c 10th June - Year 1 Phonic Screening Check
- w/c 17th June - Healthy Body, Healthy Mind Week
- Thursday 20th June Sports Day - (9-10am Yr2 parents, 10-11am Yr1 parents, 11am -12 noon F2 parents)

July

- Friday 5th July - Reports out to parents/carers
- Friday 19th July Finish for Summer holidays

Yours sincerely,

Julie Morris
Headteacher