

Friday 26th February, 2016

Dear Parents,

A huge variety of learning has taken place this week with the launch of our new learning theme “Chitty Chitty Bang Bang”. I would like to thank Mr Mansfield, Mr and Mrs Foakes, Mrs Foster and Mrs Ray who loaned vehicles, both old and new, for children to look at, talk about, photograph and draw.

Walk, Cycle & Scoot to school!



Get set... we’re taking part in The Essex Eco Race, an inter-school cycling and scooting challenge that inspires pupils, staff and parents



to choose two wheels for their journey to school. Powered by Sustrans begins on **Monday 29th February and runs for 3 weeks.** We are very keen that as many children take part as possible to promote a more active and healthy way to start the day and to reduce traffic congestion in the roads around our school. Class Score Sheets (stuck on the classroom wall) are used by pupils to circle the score relating to the way they travel to school: 5 points for cycling, scooting or walking, 4 points for taking the bus and 1 point for coming by car/taxi/moped. This process is repeated every day for three weeks per term. Class Score Sheets are then collected and sent to the Sustrans Schools officer who collates the data and allocates prizes.

Foundation Stage Coffee Afternoon

In response to requests from a number of parents the next Foundation Stage meeting will take place in the afternoon on **Tuesday 22nd March from 2-3pm.** The focus will be on maths and for part of the afternoon there will be the opportunity to play some maths games with your child.



Teacher led Clubs

As this is a very short half term we are only able to fit in 3 weeks of teacher led clubs for children in Year 1 and Year 2 before Easter. These will be from **3:10-4pm on Thursday afternoons March 3rd, 10th and 17th,** as Thursday is the only day when we do not currently have a sports club run by an outside provider. Please ensure your child has brought home the yellow letter and return the slip as soon as possible, as numbers for each club are limited to 25 children

Supporting your child with Maths

We were thrilled with the response to our maths



information sessions led by Mrs Tindall in the autumn term. Parents attending the workshops requested further sessions in order to understand more about how we teach multiplication and division, and we

are pleased to offer this opportunity on **Friday 18th March from 2:15-3pm.** There will be a chance to play some maths games with your child and receive a pack of activities to take home.

World Book Day

Next week is World Book Day and on Thursday each child will receive a voucher for £1, which can be spent in a number of book shops towards the cost of a new book. GIPA are organising some activities linked to World Book Day which will be fun and at the same time raise some money for the school. We will be



holding a book and cake sale after school on **Friday 4th March-** GIPA welcome donations of cakes on the morning of Friday 4th March, home-made or shop bought. We would also be grateful for donations of children’s books- you can bring these to the entrance hall from Monday 29th February. Children can bring some coins after school on Friday and choose a new book or two to read; any remaining books will be boxed to join the next container travelling by sea to The Gambia.

As we have decided to postpone our school book week until the summer term GIPA would like children to have the opportunity to dress up next Friday.



Children can come in any costume, making a donation of £1 to our Book Day collection. It would be lovely to see some favourite story book characters! On Thursday and Friday staff will be sharing their favourite stories and arranging times for children to visit another classroom to share books with their friends.

Thank you for your support.