



What a beautiful day to end our first half-term of the year! The children are moving around the school in crazy hats and mis-matched socks, and the sun is out...

The start of week began with an assembly which I dedicated to the stories and myths surrounding Saint Valentine. While there were some giggles from our pupils when we spoke of love and relationships, the message was that today is a day when we are extra kind to the special people in our lives.

Although we have only had four days in school, we have, as always, managed to pack in a great deal. Besides the regular focus on our lessons, Year 5 set off for a Science based Eureka! workshop on Tuesday which was ably led by Mrs Marrion and her team. They thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. Treetops had an Activity Morning early in the week, where the language of Spanish was celebrated for our very young visitors – Senor Torres chatted away about the importance of gaining access to languages at a young age. Netball has played a big part of the sporting week, with fixtures being held away at Stormont and with visiting schools here from Edge Grove and Sherrardswood.

Year 1 had a wonderful time today when they were involved in making paper. I recall watching this event when I first joined Duncombe and the children today were as excited now as they had been then. It is super activity. As I alluded to at the start of my letter, it is Woburns' Charity Day and many of our children turned up in the most glorious hats and crazy socks.

This afternoon we welcomed the children from Bengoe School who joined our older pupils in experiencing the literary world of children's author, Karen McCombie. She wrote 'Little Bird Flies' and shared with the group her tips and secrets on great writing.

I have thoroughly enjoyed leading the school as Headmistress these past six weeks; your children are exceptional and I have loved seeing the school with a different mindset. As always, the team here have supported me with advice, laughter and smiles. After the break I shall be returning to my role as Deputy Head and I am delighted that Mr Phelan will be returning to take over the reins from me.

I wish you all a very happy half-term and look forward to more of this wonderful weather.

With best wishes, Miss Sands.

Woburn Charity Dress Up Day



Diary Dates

Monday 25th February - School resumes.

Thursday 28th February - Woburn Charity Coffee Morning.

Looking Forward

Monday 4th March - Year 4 Victorian Day at Duncombe.

Tuesday 5th March - Nursery to Year 3 Parents' Evening. 6.30pm to 8.30pm.

Wednesday 6th March - Nursery to Year 3 Parents' Evening. 4.30pm to 6.30pm.

Thursday 7th March - Open Morning for Prospective Parents. 9.45am to 11.30am.

Year 6 Normandy Meeting. 7pm start in New Hall.

Friday 8th March - 3K Assembly (Parents Welcome). 8.50am in New Hall.

Dress up day for World Book Day.

Monday 11th March - 6TA Assembly (Parents Welcome). 8.50am in New Hall.

Year 6 to Crucial Crew. 9.45am at Morgans School.

Tuesday 12th March - Lower School Bake Off. 2pm in New Hall

Year 5 Parents' Evening. 4.30pm to 8.30pm in New Hall.

Friday 15th March - 6TH Assembly (Parents Welcome). 8.50am in New Hall.

Upper School Bake Off. 2pm in New Hall.

Sports Fixtures

Tuesday 26th February - U9 Rugby v Kingshott (away). Time 2.45pm.

Wednesday 27th February - U11 Netball v Westbrook Hay (away). Time 3pm.

Thursday 28th February - U8 Rugby v St Edmund's (away). Time 3.15pm.

Friday 1st March - U11 Girls Football v St Edmund's Prep (away). Time TBC.

Friday 1st March - U11 Boys Hockey v St Edmund's Prep (away). Time TBC.

Wednesday 6th March - U10 Rugby v Westbrook Hay (away). 2.30pm start.

U10/U11 Netball v Ralph Sadleir (away). 3.45pm start.

Monday 11th March - U10 Rugby v Manor Lodge (away). Time TBC.

Tuesday 12th March - U9 Netball v St Edmund's Prep (away). Time TBC.

Wednesday 13th March - U10 Netball at Haileybury. Time TBC.

U11 Rugby v Heath Mount (away). 2.30pm start.

Denise Newbold

We are very sad to inform you that Denise Newbold passed away last week. Some of you may remember Mrs Newbold who worked at Duncombe for nearly 30 years as a TA and retired in December 2015. Our thoughts are with her family at this time.

Well done to this week's Lower School Stars of the Week



Book Week Events

Book in a Jar Competition

As mentioned last week and as part of our celebrations for World Book Day, there will be a competition to represent a beloved book in a jar. The closing date for the competition is **Wednesday 6th March 2019**. All the entries for Treetops, Lower School and Upper School will be judged later during Book Week. There will be lots of time during and after the half term holiday to prepare a book in a jar but please remember to clearly label the jam jar with your child's name and form.

World Book Day Fancy Dress - Friday 8th March

To enter into the spirit of celebrating World Book Day, we are inviting both staff and pupils to dress as a book character on **Friday 8th March**. This year's theme is Literary **Heroes and Villains**. The outfit can be as simple or as elaborate as you wish! Some ideas can be found on the following website:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/ideas/dressing-up-gallery/>

Please keep your costume in keeping with the theme of books.

Children and staff will be invited to participate in a Costume Parade at breaktime to showcase their efforts. Please could children bring in £1 on the day, as a donation to our House Charity.

We look forward to seeing the children in character and on the playground catwalk!

Miss Cartwright, Head of English.

Year 5 Attend Science Workshop

On Wednesday Year 5 visited PHC Hitchin for a Science workshop on Sound. Upon arrival, the children donned white lab coats and entered the lab. The children had already learnt a lot about sound in Year 4 and I was super impressed with how much knowledge they had retained. They were all very eager to answer questions and couldn't wait to use the equipment available to them. They measured their voices in decibels and used tuning forks to observe vibration, they even made their own set of pan pipes! An interesting and productive morning was had by all. A huge thank you to PHC for hosting the workshop and well done Year 5 for your amazing behaviour and fantastic knowledge!

Judith Marrion, Science Leader.



Swimming Changes

In preparation for the Upper School Swimming Gala on Friday 22nd March, Years 5 & 6 will be swimming at Hartham on the following dates:

Friday 1st March – Year 6

Friday 8th March - Years 2 & 3 as normal

Friday 15th March - Year 5

Friday 22nd March – Swimming Gala

This means that Years 2 & 3 will not be swimming on the 1st March, 15th March and 22nd March.

Chef Michael Gets Recipe Published!

We are excited to inform you that our Chef, Michael Goulston has just had a recipe published in the new Tilda Rice recipe book. Michael was approached by Tilda to create a recipe in his capacity as LAGA School Chef of the Year 2018. Here is his tasty Jerk Chicken recipe for you to try at home. Well done Michael!



Warren Restaurant Menu for the week commencing 25th February 2019

Monday	TUESDAY	Thursday	Week Commencing 25th February 2019
<p>The Soup Kettle Seasonal soup with 50/50 homemade bread</p> <p>Tasty Entrée Korean BBQ chicken legs with kimchi slaw</p> <p>Flexitarian Gochujang Quorn with roast cauliflower</p> <p>Jacket Potato Bar Tuna</p> <p>On the side Edamame beans Sweetcorn Warm new potato salad</p> <p>Tasty puds Greek yogurt sundaes with fruit coulis</p>	<p>The Soup Kettle Seasonal soup with 50/50 homemade bread</p> <p>Tasty entrée Katsu pork with noodles</p> <p>Flexitarian Red pepper omelette with fried rice</p> <p>Pasta Bar Tomato and Basil</p> <p>On the side Chinese leaf with bean sprouts and peppers</p> <p>Tasty puds Apple and blackberry oat crumble with custard</p>	<p>The Soup Kettle Seasonal soup with 50/50 homemade bread</p> <p>Tasty entrée Roast Beef</p> <p>Flexitarian Aubergine and courgette lasagne</p> <p>Pasta Bar Cheesy Leeks and peppers</p> <p>On the side Aubergine & courgettes Sweetcorn and peppers</p> <p>Tasty puds Peach slices in jelly</p>	<p>FRIDAY</p> <p>The Soup Kettle Seasonal soup with 50/50 homemade bread</p> <p>Tasty entrée Pupils choice cod fillet fingers with homemade tartare sauce</p> <p>Flexitarian Crispy chickpea & pepper fritters</p> <p>Pasta Bar Roasted Vegetable and Pesto</p> <p>On the side Oven chips Peas Honey glazed carrots Baked beans</p> <p>Tasty puds Soft scoop chocolate ice cream and Fruit</p>
<p>Wednesday</p> <p>The Soup Kettle Seasonal soup with 50/50 homemade bread</p> <p>Tasty entrée Butter chicken with mango chutney, onion salad and raita</p> <p>Flexitarian Simple tomato and lentil sauce with 50/50 pasta Jacket potato Bar Cheese and Beans</p> <p>On the side crushed new potatoes, sautéed cabbage and carrots</p> <p>Tasty puds Strawberry banana smoothie Shortbread Biscuit</p>			