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Dear Parent/Guardian,

## Newsletter No 22 - 26th February, 2021

On Monday we all got the wonderful news that we had been praying for - schools to open for all children from 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

I'm sure there were many parents who were able to breathe a sigh of relief as they realised that the kitchen table may now be used for dinner plates rather than laptops, worksheets, pens, pencils, books etc!

You have done really well and you should be very proud of your efforts, your children's and also the incredible work of the St. Wilfrid's staff - thank you all!

We are all so excited to be able to welcome back and see all of our super children in person again - we are counting down the days!

**School reopens for ALL children on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.**

### Arrangements for the return of all children

While infection rates have dropped significantly we are still being reminded by the government about "Hands. Face. Space." As we did following previous lockdowns, there will be staggered start and end times for classes in order to minimise the numbers of adults on and around the school site. We also ask that adults keep 2m distance between each other and do not mix with those not in your family group. Further details and reminders will be given in next week's newsletter.

Doors will open at 8:30am to allow the children to 'trickle in'

Year Group	Start time	End time
R	9	3:30
1	8:45	3:15
2	9	3:30
3	9	3:30
4	8:45	3:15
5	8:45	3:15
6	8:45	3:15





## Lenten Fund Raising

As stated in the previous newsletter each Friday during Lent will be a Non-Uniform Day (£1 per family). Year 4 held their 'Bingo Game' today with some brilliant prizes - the money raised will go to their chosen charities, NSPCC and Childline.

Week Commencing	Year Group	Charity	Activity
1 <sup>st</sup> March	6	Alton Castle	Fill a Smartie tube with coins
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Reception	Birmingham Dogs' Home	Dress up like a dog day
15 <sup>th</sup> March	5	Trussell Trust (Erdington Food Bank)	Board Game play day - Pay as you Play
22 <sup>nd</sup> March	2	Priestley Rose Care Home	Cinema Afternoon
29 <sup>th</sup> March	3	Homely homeless charity	Picnic Party
29 <sup>th</sup> March	1	Heartlands Hospital Neo Natal Unit	Pyjama day, movie afternoon with snacks

Nursery will support Shelter. They will launch an appeal throughout Lent on the newsletter for donations of toiletries, hats, gloves etc

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March, we will be enjoying a 'drink and a cake', in our classes, at some point during the day. This is a celebration to welcome the whole school community back together. The £1 non-uniform money on that day will go to Macmillan Cancer Care and we will be reminding the children of the great work this charity do. If your child wishes to take part in this celebration of our community, they must bring a drink and a small cake for themselves on that day. Nursery will enjoy their 'drink and a cake' on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March.

## Values and Virtues

This half term, we are learning to be more **Attentive** and **Discerning**. This means that we will be making more of an effort to notice those who need our help and that we make the right choices in how to help them. We are certainly doing this during Lent, as we strive to help those in need, who are supported by our class charities and, particularly today, as we wear non-uniform in order to raise money for Cafod, Father Hudson's and Birmingham Catholic Primary Partnership's Rwanda Appeal. Thank you for your generous donations.

## World Book Day: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021

The Pandemic has forced all of us to do things differently and while we will not be able to have our usual fancy dress parade we have been able to plan some exciting things that everyone, whether in school or at home, can take part in!

Please read the accompanying sheet about the 'Masked Reader' Competition and World Book Day £1 vouchers.





### Behaviour Awards

Blue Badge: George D

### STAR AWARDS AND MERIT CERTIFICATES THIS WEEK

Nursery	Jimmy
Reception CT	Jadon
Reception SS	Emilia
Year 1M	Bogdan, Benjamin
Year 1GP	George-Arthur
Year 2B	Dominik
Year 2G	Angel
Year 3C	Dillon
Year 3M	Habul
Year 4B	Olivia
Year 4P	Oliver
Year 5B	Isabelle
Year 5M	Irtiza, Jasmine
Year 6G	Ellie
Year 6TW	Evan

Well done everyone!

### Prayers

We have a number of our families who have loved ones in hospital at the moment and we pray for their speedy recovery and return home.

The government 'roadmap' gives us hope for a return to a more normal life but we must continue to be patient and follow the rules to prevent any spikes in infection which could delay or halt the easing of restrictions. Have a great weekend and stay safe

Yours sincerely,

*R. Baker*

R Baker and staff





## Welcome to World Book Day 2021

On **Thursday 4th March 2021**, children of all ages will come together to share the joy of reading for pleasure.

World Book Day changes lives through a love of books and shared reading. Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success. We want to see more children with a life-long habit of reading for pleasure and the improved life chances this brings them. Designated by UNESCO as a worldwide celebration of books and reading, World Book Day is marked in over 100 countries around the globe.

Spending **just 10 minutes a day** reading and sharing stories with children can make a crucial difference to their future success and it's fun for all involved. That's why World Book Day continues to encourage children and young people to read for pleasure through its work with authors, illustrators, publishers, bookshops and libraries.

At **St Wilfrid's**, we are holding a **Masked Reader Competition** this year. Look out for the video link on your child's homepage and guess the member of staff who will share their favourite book. How many can you guess?

There will lots of reading activities to do Thursday and an opportunity for you to share your favourite books next week. We would love you to send in a photo of your child with their favourite book through eSchools so we can use them during the day. We'll have a day of stories and story-based activities.

£1 World Book Day book tokens will be given out to children from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March when all the children return to school. The £1 book tokens can then be swapped for one of the exclusive, new and completely FREE World Book Day books available from participating booksellers or used to get **£1 off** any full price book or audiobook instead (as long as the book or audiobook costs at least £2.99). The World Book Day £1 books are a gift from booksellers, who fully fund the cost of the £1 book token redemptions. The £1 books are also available in braille, large print & audio via Guide Dogs and RNIB.

World Book Day book tokens will be valid from **Thursday 18 February – Sunday 28 March 2021**. In 2021 participating booksellers will honour the tokens beyond the 28 March while stocks last. Please contact your local bookseller to check if they are able to offer £1 off other titles.

We look forward to hearing about your favourite books.