Newsletter 23

Dear Parents and Carers

Our annual celebration of books and reading comes up on Thursday when we celebrate World Book Day. It also marks the beginning of our School Reading Challenge. Please encourage your children to take part in all of these things, they are all designed to help our children develop a life-long love of books and reading.

**World Book Day – Thursday 6th March – Dress Up as a book character and enter the decorated plate competition**

World Book Day is this Thursday, 6th March, the children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character for the day.

We are also running a competition for the whole school to turn a paper plate in to your favourite book character. Please send these with your child on the day for us to display in school. A prize for the most creative will be awarded (one winner in each class).

**Message from the new Children and Young Peoples social prescriber:**

*My name is Sharon - I am the new Children and Young Peoples social prescriber covering the Blackmore Vale GP Practice (Shaftesbury and Sturminster) my role is to signpost children and young people to non-clinical services in the community or online. The idea is to empower children and young people for what matters to them.*

*I can support children and young people to attend groups/services to introduce them if needed. I work on the basis of about 3 or 4 contacts- if they need more then I would refer to more specific services.*

*I can signpost to services and also help them to navigate apps online etc to show them how to get support independently.*

*I can also meet with parents to signpost to services available on a 1:1 basis or drop in at school if required.*

*If you would like to contact me directly my details are below*

*Sharon Sibley*

*Children and Young persons social prescriber*

*01747 856786*

*Mobile 07944947690*

*My working hour are Wednesday-Friday 8.30am-4.30pm*

**Swimathon – Sunday 16th March at Coombe House pool –(Bookings close on Monday 10th March)**

**We hope that all our children who can swim will take part in this big new event to raise money for locally based charities. All children who swim will get 2 House Points!**

There is a sponsorship form attached to this newsletter and a link below to select the time you would like your child to do their swim (if you have more than one child, please click on the link for each child separately). They have 20 minutes to swim as many lengths of the pool as they can. We will let you know if too many children are booked in for a time slot, to see if you can do it at a different time. Please arrive 15 minutes before your allocated time with the children changed and ready to swim.

Prizes will be awarded for the best participants and fund-raisers.

All the details are on the information sheet attached.

**This will be a fantastic community event, with swimmers from our school and Shaftesbury Primary coming together to raise money for our local charities. Please encourage your children to take part!**

[**Swimathon**](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JL1ZvEsvOUSih0_sDC0CtWpXICym8w1NoiYCXomrRuhUMlNNUU04OFlTNVBKU01PNVlOWElMVkxNTi4u)

**Lunchtime Supervisor**

We are looking for someone to join our lunchtime team, from 11.45-1pm each day during term time. Please contact the office if you’d like to have a chat about this role.

**Red Nose Day – Wear something Red for a £1 donation – 21st March**

Our Year 6 children will start selling Red Noses on Friday 14th March at the top of the school and children are encouraged to wear something red on 21st March to support this great charity.

**Forest School – Wednesday afternoons**

Staff have asked that all children wear really warm clothes (including thick socks) when the weather is cold during Forest School sessions.

Year 1 continue their three Forest School sessions this term. Reception will be next, from 19th March, then Year 4 from 2nd April.

Children need to have trousers and long-sleeved tops, wellies and a **waterproof coat** (with over-trousers if they have them). The Forest School philosophy is to wear the right clothing to go out in all weathers.

Michael Salisbury, Head teacher

**TERM DATES 2024 – 2025**

**Spring Term**

Children  start back                                      Monday 6th January 2025

Spring half term                                            Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025

Spring Term ends                                          Friday 4th April 2025

Easter holidays                                              Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April 2025

**Summer Term**

Schools due to start back                            Tuesday 22nd April 2025

MAY DAY Bank Holiday                                 Monday 5th May 2025

Summer half term                                          Monday 26th May to Friday 30st May 2025

**INSET DAY                                                       Monday 2nd June 2025**

Summer Term ends                                       Tuesday 22nd July 2025

**INSET DAY                                                       Wednesday 23rd July 202**