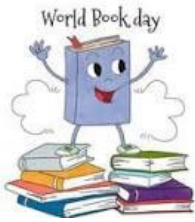


Thursday 21st March 2024

Dear Parents,



World Book Day and Book Fair

World Book Day was a great success, and we were very impressed by the creativity of our pupils, parents, and staff with their costumes as well as the amazing potato book characters which were created. Thank you all for the trouble you went to – it was a lovely way to encourage a focus on books and reading in school. Congratulations to all our winners: Dressing up: Harper Tumelty, Ellie Kearney, Maya Palenta, Gracie Kearney, Annie Gordon, Arminas Barkauskas, Emilee Wilson & Serafima Agirina.

The winning Potato Book Characters in each class were created by: Sasha Buga, Daniel Byrne, Arthur

Wilson, Victoria Ivanova, Isabella Steele, Ella McAlpine and Emilee Gordon.

We also appreciated the support of parents who helped with our book fair from which we raised enough money to get over £200 worth of books for school which was very worthwhile.

Accelerated Reader Success

Reading is the most important lifelong skill we can nurture in our children. Over the last number of years in Windsor Hill we have made significant investments in books and provide access to the ***Accelerated Reading Programme*** from P3. This programme sits alongside our taught guided reading in school, and we have seen how it is benefitting our pupils, especially in enhancing comprehension. Children choose their own books to read within their 'band' which they quiz on to progress. In addition they accumulate 'words' (the number of words they have read in their chosen books). At the end of each term we acknowledge the top 5 AR Readers, as measured by their 'word count'. Matthew Johnston, P5 is our top reader so far this year with over 1.7 million words read, Jack McAlpine, P7 came second with over 1.25 million words, third was George Murdoch, P5 with ¾ million words, Callum Ferris, P5 has read over ½ million words to be our 4th highest score and Lukas Gavenas, P7 has read over ¼ million words. Their certificates were presented in assembly. Congratulations to everyone on the progress made this term with AR.

Boys' Hockey Success

Congratulations to our boys' hockey team who performed extremely well in the recent NI qualifying tournament. They were narrowly beaten in the semi finals with hard fought 'run ins' by Edenderry, Banbridge. Mrs Jennett was delighted with how well the boys played and very much appreciated all the support Jonny Gregg has provided throughout the year. Congratulations to: Aleksander McGaffin, Ethan Gordon, Solomon Gregg, Erik Fletcher, Ethan Watson, Oliver Mallon and Callum Ferris.

Being Well, Doing Well Questionnaires

Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond to our request for parents input as we look to extend and improve our provision here in Windsor Hill, with a particular focus on improving Health and Wellbeing. Please feel free to share your views any time up until the beginning of term 3 when we will review the responses received at all levels and plan how we move forward.

Windsor Hill PS – Parent/Carer Survey

<https://forms.office.com/e/SgCPf4Teb>



School Uniform

Wearing school uniform is a valuable way of instilling in our pupils a sense of ownership and belonging. In Windsor Hill we have always taken great encouragement from the support we have had from our parents adhering to our school uniform policy and being neat and tidy. Correct school uniform must be worn every day, with no jewellery, particularly earrings which are a health and safety risk.

Children who wish to wear the 'Summer' school uniform may do so from the beginning of the new term, **weather permitting**.

This is not compulsory, and children may continue to wear the 'traditional' uniform throughout the year. Please contact the school office if you require information regarding the summer uniform.

Easter

School will close for all pupils for the Easter holidays on Wednesday 27th March @ 1:00 pm. An early dinner will be served in school as usual but there will be no Shandon Park Bus at that time so, please arrange alternative transport home for your child.

School reopens on **Monday 8th April** for our summer term.

Thank you for your continued support this term. I wish everyone an enjoyable Easter break.

Yours faithfully

I. McKane
Principal

