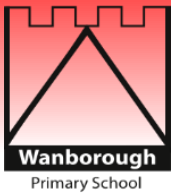


Wanborough Primary School
NEWSLETTER

ISSUE
3
Dec '20



Dear Parents,

I'd like to thank everyone connected with the school for their efforts in making this this term go so successfully.

Whilst we have been fortunate to avoid the virus disrupting bubbles in school, I'm aware that many people have had to endure tests and the nervous wait for results or had older children, family members or work colleagues having to isolate - which has meant there has not been a day or weekend that has gone by without someone having to worry. Hopefully, the new year will be kind and whilst we will continue to keep all the measures we have in place for at least another term there is now a hope that as the year progresses we may return to a new normality.

Your words of encouragement, gifts and support have been most appreciated and we hope that your child has enjoyed the Christmas experiences we have been able to offer this year. Please have a good look on our website and twitter at the events that have been going on in school and a special song or two from the children in Reception / Year 1 and a special rendition of a Christmas classic from the staff!

On behalf of everybody at the school, may I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Regards,

Andrew Dwyer

Value of the Month for January is:

T H A N K F U L N E S S

'Count your blessings' is an old saying, but it reminds us to be thankful and not take things for granted. As a family you may like to talk about:

- Remembering to let other people know when you are thankful.
- Not taking things for granted.
- Practical ways of showing gratitude.
- How it feels when someone thanks you!

Report Cards

For this academic year the first report cards will be issued at the End of Term 3. Normally, we would send them out at Christmas, but following our transition timetable in Term 1, curriculum adaptations and the recent parent's evenings we will issue them in February with a follow up full report at the end of the school year.

Changes to SATs in 2021

In early December the Government announced the following changes in the Primary School testing arrangements for 2020/21.

For primary assessments, Key Stage 1 tests in English, Reading and Mathematics, and the English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling tests at Key Stage 1 and 2 will be removed for one year, in recognition of the challenges posed by the pandemic.

In the Spring we will inform parents of the changes and explain how both the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 assessments will be conducted through teacher assessment and the tests for Year 6 in Reading and Mathematics.

Diary Dates

Fri 18th Dec

School Finishes at:

Rec	1pm
Y1/Y2	1.10pm
Y3/Y4	1.20pm
Y5/Y6	1.30pm

Mon 4th Jan

Start of Term 3

Non-uniform for Fire and Air House

Teacher Training Days

2020/2021

1st Sept / 19th, 20th, 21st Oct / 23rd July

Surviving Winter Grants

£200 towards energy costs

£300 towards boiler repairs

These grants are from the Surviving Winter Fund, where people who receive the winter fuel allowance donate it to help those more in need. They are aimed at those on a means tested benefit and of pensionable age, or working age with a disability or Long Term Health Condition and are on Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payment, and be in fuel poverty. Top up vouchers are provided (prepayment customers) or credit is applied to the energy account (credit customers). We can also help with LPG gas bottles, wood and coal.

Heat, Eat & Talk Vouchers

This is a different fund which offers up to £150 to cover fuel, food vouchers and mobile phone vouchers. Eligible households are low income, in receipt of benefits or significantly impacted by Covid-19.

These are both limited funds so will be used up at some point, but they have just opened. Both these sources of support can be looked into for Swindon residents by referring them into our Warm & Safe Wiltshire advice service:

<https://www.warmandsafewiltshire.org.uk/>

Freephone 0800 038 5722

Email warmandsafe@cse.org.uk

Reminder

Have you made After School Club, Breakfast Club and Hot Dinner bookings for Term 3?

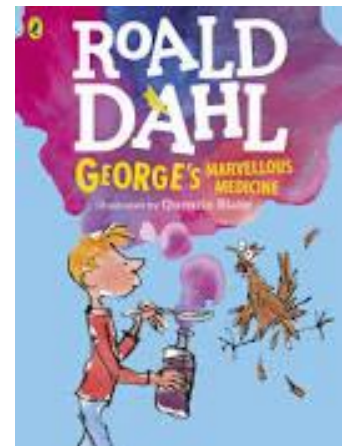
Wanborough Primary School Staff Book Review

It might not surprise you that the staff at Wanborough Primary School LOVE a good book, especially if it's a children's author! We've been talking together and thought it would be a great idea to share with you some of our favourite books we have been reading and, perhaps, you might want to give them a go too! Each term, a member of staff from KS1, LKS2 and UKS2 will be writing a short book review for you to enjoy. Here's our first three...

George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl

Review by Miss Corbyn, Year 2

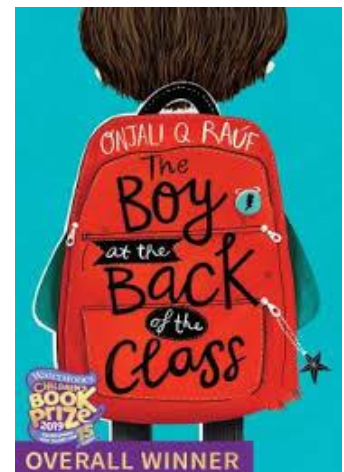
It's not a secret that I LOVE Roald Dahl books and this one really is 'marvellous'. Eight year old George wants to get revenge on his grumpy grandma, who is always mean to him! Thanks to a very clever idea and some marvellous medicine, he does just that BUT the results are not quite what he expected! If you enjoy funny stories about mischief then this is the book for you. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do and it has you laughing aloud!



The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q Rauf

Review by Miss Grierson, Year 4

This book is a firm favourite of mine, which takes you on an emotional rollercoaster with a plot which continuously keeps you hooked and wanting more – I didn't want to put it down! The book tells a story of a new refugee boy joining a school. Although the boy doesn't talk, a group of children in his class are desperate to become his friend and uncover his secrets. Before long, his new friends are helping him on a secret quest.



Malamander by Thomas Taylor

Review by Mrs Hayden, Year 5

It's always a good sign when you firmly know this is your new favourite book within just a few chapters! Malamander is a story brimming with subtle wit (just check out the main character's names); a fast moving story; a slight tinge of creepiness and, of course, chapters that leave you on a cliff hanger. It is set in the seaside town of Eerie-On-Sea where a mythical aquatic creature is said to torment the shores. Our pair of unlikely heroes are on a mission to get to the bottom of things and find out what caused the disappearance of Violet's parents twelve years ago...

