



## Newsletter 3 - Term 3 2019

### Headteacher's Message

I have recently had the privilege of taking our school choir of 50 pupils up the O2 Arena in London for the [Young Voices 2019](#) concert. The children were fantastic ambassadors for the school and performed brilliantly alongside nearly 8000 other pupils. We are already looking forward to signing up for next year's concert. Thanks to all the parents who came along too and braved the snowy conditions.



It's been really encouraging to see the children working so hard on improving their spelling this term. We have spent a lot of time developing the teaching of spelling across the school. We would like to invite all parents and carers into school to share in their children's work and see our new approaches in action. This session will take place on Friday 8th March between 2:45 pm and 3:15 pm. Further information will be sent out early next term.

Parents and Carers should have also received a letter from Mrs Bowyer regarding "[Spellzone](#)" - an online spelling program that children can access both at home and in school to support the learning of spellings. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions regarding this.

I wish you all a safe and happy half-term break.

Best wishes - Mr Hackett

### Welcome to New Governors

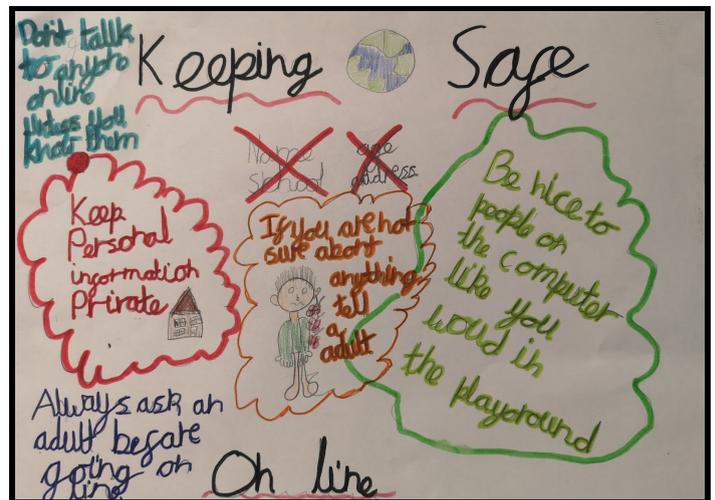
We are delighted to welcome two new governors on to our Regional Governing Body; Mr Peter Norton and Mrs Lucy Watson-Russ. We look forward to working with them both.

### Road Crossing Patrol Vacancy

We are still looking to fill our Road Crossing Patrol vacancy. Please contact the school office if you are interested, and please do share this with your family and friends. Further details are available on our website [here](#).

### Online Safety Day 2019

Tuesday 5 February was "[Safer Internet Day 2019](#)". Children enjoyed a special assembly and then carried out a range of activities in class. Here is a great poster by Robyn in Tigers Class encouraging children to stay safe online.



### Book Exchange

As you may be aware, we operate a book exchange service by the entrance to Foxes Classroom. Children are welcome to exchange any (good condition) book for another. Parents are very welcome to use this service with their child after school. To do so, please sign in via the school office. Donations of any unwanted books are always very gratefully received via the school office.



**World Book Day 2019**

We are really looking forward to celebrating [World Book Day](#) on Thursday 7th March. Children may choose to dress up for the day as a character from their favourite book. The day will start with a special assembly with the children then taking part in a range of book-related activities back in class.

**Deal Learning Alliance Spelling Bee**

Well done to our super spellers who have taken part in the Deal Learning Alliance 'Spelling Bee' competitions over the course of the past two weeks. Our Year 3 and 4 team came second in their heat, and the Year 5 and 6 team came first and progressed to the final. The final was a tense affair with the children coming second overall following "Sudden Death" against St. Margarets Primary School. Children were expected to spell some very tricky words such as arachnophobia, embarrassed, manoeuvre and fluorescent! Very well done to all who took part.

**Inter-House KS2 Maths Bee**

Our KS2 Maths Bee also took place last week. Winners were Green Griffins (Year 3 and 4) and Blue Phoenix (Year 5 and 6). Thanks to Mrs Norton and the maths team for organising another very enjoyable event.

**PTFA Update**

We are pleased to announce that, following our EGM last week, Gemma Lawson has been elected as the new chair of our PTFA. We are still on the lookout for a Treasurer and we hope to fill this position during the next committee meeting early in Term 4.

Our Valentine's Cookie Sale was really successful with raising over £290 for PTFA funds. Thanks to all of the volunteers who helped make this event possible - and to Whole School Meals for their kind donation.

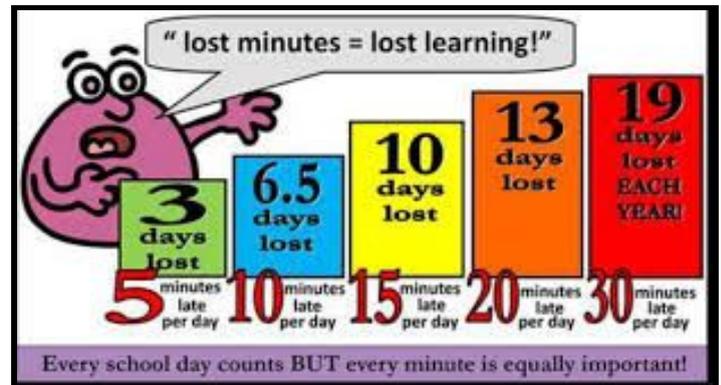
Our PTFA will also be supporting the "[Recycle with Michael](#)" scheme next term where families will have the opportunity to donate unwanted clothing to the school in order to raise money both for the Salvation Army clothing bank and PTFA funds.

**Parking at London Road**

Please could parents continue to support us by not parking in the allocated staff spaces at the London Road entrance to the school. This causes disruption to residents and presents a safety risk to pupils entering the site on foot. Thank you.

**Late Gates**

Next term we plan to run several "Late Gates". These are sessions where our Senior Leadership Team will be out at the front of the school monitoring students who arrive after the playground gates close. "Late Gates" are designed to raise parental awareness of the importance of children being in school on time every day and ready to learn. Poor punctuality can compromise learning and cause significant disruption. Thank you for your support with this matter.



**Term Dates for 2019**

**Term 4** Start: Monday 25 February 2019  
 Finish: Friday 5 April 2019 at 2:00pm

**Term 5** Start: Tuesday 23 April 2019  
 Finish: Friday 24 May 2019

**Term 6** Start: Monday 3 June 2019  
 Finish: Friday 19 July 2019 at 2:00 pm

**Future Staff Training Days**

Monday 22 July 2019 & Tuesday 23 July 2019  
 Polling Day (school closed) Thursday 2nd May 2019