

# Hill West Weekly Bulletin

*Kindness, Compassion, and Connection at the heart of 'Our School'*

Week commencing: Monday 29th January 2024



*ACE; Ambitious, Curious and Ever-respectful*

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION; at a glance

<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5.00pm - 6.00pm Relationships and Sex Education PARENT Meeting for parents of children in Year 6</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9am Year 4 children depart for Whitemoor Lakes residential</li> </ul>
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 4 return from Whitemoor Lakes</li> <li>9am -10.45am Year 2 Owls Open Morning for parents</li> <li>1.45pm-3.15pm Year 2 Kingfishers Open Afternoon for parents</li> </ul>
<b>Future Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February – <b>Non Uniform Day</b> 'Hope for Peace' whole school fundraising event</li> <li>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Childrens Mental Health week.</li> <li>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – BREAK UP FOR HALF-TERM</li> <li>12<sup>th</sup> February – 16<sup>th</sup> February; FunFest holiday club in school.</li> <li>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February - ALL CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL</li> <li>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Year 6 residential to France</li> </ul>

## CHICKENPOX

We currently have a small number of cases of chickenpox in school. Please monitor your child for any symptoms, which may include.

- Fever
- Fatigue
- Itching
- Red spots

Since chickenpox is contagious, keep your child at home or limit their exposure to other people until all of their chickenpox blisters have formed scabs and no new blisters develop. It usually takes about a week for the blisters to become scabs. It is essential to notify the school if your child develops chickenpox. For more information, please follow the link. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/>



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## RECEPTION CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Our children in Reception will be performing their Chinese New Year assemblies on Thursday 8th February. We hope that many of our Reception parents and wider family will be able to join us in the Key Stage One hall.

- 9am – Robins
- 2.30pm – Wrens



## MEASLES

As half term approaches, this is an ideal time to get up to date with the measles (MMR) vaccination.



Measles is a highly infectious disease, which can be very serious. The MMR vaccination is recommended to help protect you, your child, and loved ones against measles. The vaccination is free of charge.

Children and adults can catch up on any missed vaccinations by contacting their GP practice. Children should have the first dose at 1 year old and the second dose at 3 years and 4 months old. Two doses of the MMR can provide life-long immunity.

Please contact your GP to book an appointment for Measles (MMR) vaccination. For more information, please click on the link below.

[Measles - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

## 'HOPE FOR PEACE' FUNDRAISING EVENT

Our Rights Respecting ACE Champions

recently came

together to discuss

how we, as a community, might be able to support children who are being affected by the

ongoing conflict in the Middle East

(under Article 38 of the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child). During this meeting the

children helped to plan a day which we are calling 'Hope for Peace'

**When:** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February

**What:** Non Uniform; origami dove making; designing peace rocks; connecting with nature; peace wreath making; carefully planned assemblies where the topic of war will be discussed sensitively.

We kindly request a suggested donation of £5.00. Please donate through the Hill West JustGiving page by clicking here: [www.justgiving.com/page/hill-west-primary-school-hope-for-peace-unicef](http://www.justgiving.com/page/hill-west-primary-school-hope-for-peace-unicef)

unicef  for every child



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## READING

**Tweet by Dan Wuori, Ph.D.**

<https://twitter.com/DanWuori/status/1750501623774814628>

You probably know that reading with your baby is important. But do you know why?

There's actually a long list of reasons, but today let's focus on one of the most important of them all: the development of a rich vocabulary. Your baby develops language by taking in the examples you provide. But the truth is that most of our day to day experiences can be a little mundane.

That's where books come in.

Take a moment to consider this lovely father-daughter read aloud and all of the new language introduced. It's not unreasonable to think this family might have a pet - likely a dog or a cat. But consider all the other animal words here, for example, that may not be a part of their daily experience.

In just this short snippet alone, father and daughter discuss lambs, sheep, kittens, bunnies, monkeys, and lion cubs. Notice how dad makes a point of repeating the word "lamb" as our hero interacts with the fuzzy woolen material embedded in the board book.

Notice too how he uses the opportunity to introduce additional words (ball and yarn) inspired by the pictures, even when not included in the text itself.

In a little over a minute, dad introduces his daughter to a whole collection of words that they'd be unlikely to have discussed were it not for this time spent reading together. Now imagine the impact of daily reading over a period of years.

Research consistently links vocabulary size with long term academic success. A rich vocabulary is also a tremendous advantage as children learn to read for themselves.



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Reading isn't the only way to expose young children to a rich and varied vocabulary, of course. But it sure is a great one.

Read with your children daily. It's an investment in their future that you'll never regret.

This stellar example was shared to IG by lelah and\_lou.

### SAFEGUARDING

#### Safer Internet Day - Tuesday 6th February 2024

As part of this annual celebration, we encourage everyone - including children, parents and caregivers, teachers and educators, policymakers, industry and others - to join "Together for a better internet". Save the date for Safer Internet Day 2024 which will take place on Tuesday, 6 February 2024.

Guides and resources for parents can be found on the UK Safer Internet Centre Website

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers> and covers

- Phones
- Laptops
- Smart speakers
- Games consoles
- Tablets
- Smart TVs
- Social Media

**Safer  
Internet  
Day 2024** | **Tuesday  
6 February**

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre



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**YEARN 2B**  
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## CELEBRATING COMMUNITIES

FUNDED THROUGH BEYOND COMMUNITIES 2022 CELEBRATING COMMUNITIES

- March 2nd**  
**Beats of the World**  
Dhol player, Dance Attack Performance, SuperDuper Inflatables bouncy castle, Face Painting, Mendhi, Arts & Crafts
- March 9th**  
**Bread from around the World ...On Your Doorstep**  
Come and taste breads from around the world. Children's bread making demonstrations.
- March 16th**  
**Calm your Mind**  
Holistic therapies will be offered by local therapists including reflexology, reiki, massage and more. Meditation session by Dr Singh
- March 23rd**  
**The Grand Finale**  
Musical finale, performance by Sutton Stage School, Shakespeare's Birthday Celebrations - talk with Dr Anjna Chouhan, Arts & Crafts

**EVERY SATURDAY 3PM-5PM**  
Newman Community Centre (formerly the Carpenter's Arms),  
13A Boldmere Road, Sutton Coldfield B73 5UY - NEXT TO CLIVE MARK'S

YEARN 2B 07881 200131 or 07775 424635  
yearn2be@gmail.com

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Fun Fest offers children a choice about how they spend their holidays. With a menu of over 50 exciting activities for every morning and afternoon, children can plan their own individual holiday programme.



## SUTTON - FOUR OAKS

Hillwest Primary, Clarence Road,  
Four Oaks, Sutton, B74 4LD  
Open 8.00am - 6.00pm



## SUTTON - WALMLEY

Deanery School, 14 Fox Hollies Road,  
Walmley, Sutton Coldfield B76 2RD  
Open 8.00am - 5.30pm

- For ages 3 -12 years
- Open every school holiday (except Christmas)
- £38 for a full day
- £35 for a sibling day
- £23 for a half day (morning or afternoon)
- £175 for a full week

See full club details and bookings at:

**fun-fest.co.uk**

Contact Ryan at:

suttonoffice@funfestholidayclub.co.uk

Telephone: 07788 309011

Facebook: Fun Fest Sutton Instagram: funfestsuttoncoldfield Twitter: @FunFestSutton



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