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## Welcome

Welcome back, I hope you have all had a lovely break and are looking forward to a busy half term. There are lots of things to look forward to with road safety workshops, book fairs and new opportunities including creative writing and Magical maths club. Last half term ended on a positive note with our Y3 and Y4 reading workshops. It was great to read the positive feedback and we are pleased you found them so helpful - we will be putting on more workshops soon.

**Mrs Twort – Acting Head of School**

## Year 6 Secondary School Places

Our Year 6 pupils will be getting notification of their new school places this week. Remember you have to return the letter to your child's NEW school, not us, and tick the box saying you accept the place. Please remember that the letter is just an OFFER until you have returned the letter to accept. It is important to accept the place you have been offered even if you plan to appeal. If you need advice or support with this please speak to your child's class teacher or our Parent Support Advisors.

## Year 6 – KS2 Sats

This is an extremely important half term for Y6 pupils as their KS2 SATs are only 9 weeks away, tests start on 9th May 2017. All pupils are working hard during lessons and we are very proud of their progress so far. There is still work to be done though, please make sure your child comes to school, on time, every day and completes all the homework they are set.

We are also offering extra support to identified pupils through booster classes, interventions and Saturday schools.

If your child has received a letter please make sure they attend as this is vital extra support to help them make the progress they need. There will also be SATs parents workshops in the next few weeks - we will let you know the details shortly.

## Year 3 and 4 Reading Workshop



On the 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February parents were invited into the academy for our Reading workshops. The teacher started the session by teaching parts of a Read Write Inc lesson and a reading lesson to the parents and children that attended.

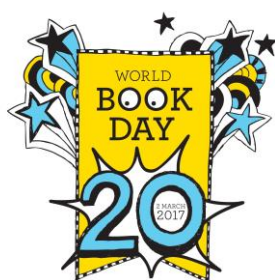
Parents then had the opportunity to sit with their child and use similar strategies to help them with their reading.

At the end of the workshop the teacher highlighted key strategies that parents could use at home to help their child make progress in reading.

Parents were also given an opportunity to ask their child's class teacher any questions about what they already did at home. They could also ask about any further strategies that they wished to use with their child.

The workshop was approximately one hour long and parents were given a pack of resources to use at home to support their child's learning in reading.

## World Book Day – 28<sup>th</sup> April 2017



Ark Chamberlain will be celebrating World Book Day in the summer term. There will be lots of exciting activities including dressing up as a book character and a visit from a famous author. We can't wait! Please make sure you spend time reading with your child every day to encourage a love of reading.

## Safeguarding

If you have a safeguarding concern then please report these to Miss M. Bowles our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Mrs. K. Hussain our Deputy DSL.

## Academy Uniform

We have been informed by the company who provide us with school uniforms that there has been a price increase with immediate effect. We will shortly be sending a brief questionnaire out to parents for their views on being able to buy uniforms directly from a local shop.

## Cashless School

We are also looking to become a cashless school. After the Easter holiday and will be sending a brief questionnaire to parents to find out if they are able to access the internet by their mobile phones or on a computer in their homes.

## Staff Favourite Book



Of Mice and Men is a classic American novel about friendship, loneliness and dreams. Working on a ranch near the town of Soledad (Spanish for solitude), Lenny and George fight for the survival of their friendship in an inhospitable environment as others try to break them. Their loyalty remains true throughout, to each other and to their dreams of the future. Although the dreams that run through the books never come true, the idea of them is central to the characters' survival. Through this, the book taught me the power of imagination as a defensive tool; when things aren't going great, we can all picture something better.

### Book review by Mr F. Mitting

## Dates for Your Diary

- 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – Assessment Week
- 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – Teacher Training Day
- 20<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – Travelling Book Fair
- 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017 – Musical Production
- 10<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017 – Easter Holidays
- 28<sup>th</sup> April 2017 – World Book Day