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Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you to share with you an exciting development for our curriculum we have been working on. When I last wrote to you about our new curriculum I promised that we would find a way to make sure this was enhanced with more trips and enrichments...well here it is. Outlined on the next two pages of this booklet are our plans for 'Birdsedge Brilliant Books Weeks'. A week every half term, dedicated to curriculum enrichments for all children.

Our First week will be taking place Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February and the Theme is 'Wellbeing Week'. This fits in with the National Children's Mental Health Week taking place that week but will also involve a wide range of learning around how we keep ourselves safe and well. Including Safer Internet Day on the 8<sup>th</sup> and a healthy eating focused 'Food Show Down' event on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

I am also delighted to let you know that we will be taking all children to Eureka on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, where we will enjoy a fun day together, creating very special memories and learning more about how we keep our bodies healthy and happy. There will be no cost to families for this, with the trip costs being covered by a very generous local business who are keen to support such an important enrichment for our children. We thank them enormously. A separate letter with consent for this trip will follow.

Future weeks we want to include in our long term plan include themes like: Science Week, Arts Week, Eco Week, Around the World Week, Seaside Week, Fantasy Week, Black History Week and Amazing Animals Week. Next week we will be getting children's ideas through a simple survey of some of the activities and enrichments they would like to be included in their future weeks. I would also love to hear from you too! At the link below you will find a short survey I have created where you can input your ideas or thoughts on places you would like your children to visit or experiences you would like them to have. I would really appreciate your input to this.

<https://forms.office.com/r/G9yjWNdKtQ>

If you have any questions, queries or thoughts regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact me here at school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kindest Regards

Mrs D Waddington



# Birdsedge Brilliant Books Weeks!



At Birdsedge First School we believe that in a quality curriculum, the teaching of clear knowledge and skills should be balanced with enrichments that motivate and inspire children. Ultimately, we want to ensure that our curriculum is enhanced by experiences that ensure there is a real love and buzz for learning.

To do this we are planning to hold regular 'Birdsedge Brilliant Book Weeks'. A themed week, driven by quality books and texts, that enable children to use and apply skills they have been taught in the wider curriculum. Our aim is of course to create awe, wonder and enjoyment as well as a revisit of previously learned skills and knowledge to support our commitment to retrieval practice.

We know and understand that important messages, themes and agendas shouldn't just be celebrated or recognised during one week but interwoven throughout the year in everyday school life and learning. However, we see the importance of regularly reminding ourselves about important factors and value the opportunity to revisit and remind each other through these very special weeks.

The key components of these drop down weeks are:

1. A special week that feels different and memorable for children
2. A whole school quality book that drives the theme
3. Opportunities for enjoying and exploring further books to enrich the theme in classrooms
4. A purposeful project for children to complete and present by the end of the week
5. Enrichment in a trip or visitor/experience in school
6. Revisit of skills and subjects from the previous half term

## Whole School Overview

### Writing

Pages for own Book:

Instructions: How to achieve Mindfulness

Non Chronological Report: What Makes Me Awesome

Recount: Our Wellbeing Trip

Wellbeing Poem: Revisit of Poem type taught in Autumn Term

### Music

Using and applying music skills taught in Autumn Term to create a Happy Piece of Music.

### Science

How a Healthy Diet and Lifestyle can support a Healthy Mind. Balanced diets and benefits of exercise.

Ready Steady Cook Food Showdown.

### PE

Take part on a new physical activity to support your wellbeing – dance, yoga, pilates, running, walking, etc.

### Theme

## Wellbeing Week Growing Together

### Overall Project

I Am Awesome Text

A book to support children's individual growth and celebration to keep and share.

### Key Books

Happy Right Now Julie Berry – Introduction to Mindfulness and helping your own Happiness.

You are Awesome Matthew Syed – introduction to Growth Mindset and helping your own success and achievements

Rain Before Rainbows by Smriti Halls– what happens when tough times occur and how to overcome them

Woodford World Rhyming Books by Justine McMohan

### Enrichments

Dress to Express Day – Launch of Week, coming to school dressed in own choice of clothes with a chance to explain what you have chosen and why

Whole School Wellbeing Trip – Mid Week Trip to Eureka. Making special memories and learning about how we keep our bodies healthy and happy

### DT

Design and Make front cover of book, using a Moving Part using skills covered in Autumn Term,

### Humanities

Geography – Wellbeing around the world. Researching how different cultures promote and look after wellbeing.

### RE

Chinese New Year February 1<sup>st</sup> - Consideration of Chinese New Year traditions and how they benefit Mental Health.



# Birdsedge

**B** Brilliance  
 in our knowledge  
**E** Excellence  
 in our Education  
**S** Success  
 in our Lives  
**T** Trust  
 in each other

# BEST

*where our BEST classroom is roofed only by the sky*