

I hope you all had a lovely half term, in spite of the weather! As the weather gets sunnier, please remember that it can still be cold, and we spend a lot of time learning outside, so please send your child with appropriate clothing.

You will be aware that the Covid rules have changed. I am awaiting further clarity on some of the guidance but **it remains the case that if a child is ill or has Covid they SHOULD be off for 5 clear days, and test negative before returning.** I appreciate that is difficult with fewer tests available, but please keep unwell children away from school. Children seem to be affected very mildly but school adults are getting ill and being off sick for longer than 10 days in many cases and this is causing problems for staffing the school, and for the school finances. I appreciate your understanding and responsibility on this matter.

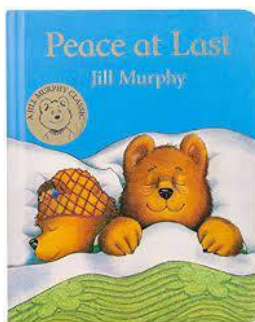
Dr Mitchell

Diary Dates: *(New dates will be in red)*

- Week beginning 28 February, Parent/Carer consultations
- World book week w.b. 28 February
- Thursday 3rd March, Bedtime Story Club **with special guests!**
- Sunday 6 March – DIS takes over Junior Parkrun!
- Friday 11th March – **Animal Dress Up Day for Raystede**
- Thursday 24th March, Bedtime Story Club
- Thursday 7 April, Bedtime Story Club
- 11 April – 22 April inclusive – Easter holidays
- Wed 27 April, class photos

Learning Round Up

Reception have been reading and re-telling the book 'Peace at Last' by Jill Murphy. Year 1 have been reading and working on 'Here We Are' by Oliver Jeffers and Year 2 have been reading 'Tell Me a Dragon' by Jackie Morris. There has been some incredible story work across the school!



Message from 'TAKE SHELTER'

Hidden under the top playground at Downs Junior School is a 300-capacity WW2 air raid shelter. After the war the entrances were sealed and the shelter was left untouched for over 30 years, until it was re-discovered by workmen during a routine drain inspection in 1984. The underground museum includes video clips, 1940s themed rooms as well as rare local pictures, information and stories. We are extremely lucky to have a dedicated team of senior volunteers, who were all children during the the war, so are able to share their personal stories with visitors. Parent and carers attending our open morning will have a guided tour underground, and will be able to meet and chat with Alan David and Ann.

Free Parent & carer visits to Take Shelter on Tuesday 08 Mar at 0930. To book a place visit www.takeshelter.org.uk and click on the link.



Don't forget next week is Book Week!



Please see the book week information coming home separately. Your child may express their love for books in their clothing if they wish but instead of a 'dress up day' we will be bringing our favourite music to school, as our week is focusing on books with a music theme.

Chair of Champions

Dolphin - Mila and Finley; Turtles-Jimmy and Louie; Seahorses- Izzy and Frankie; Starfish- Emma-Louise and Rudy; Kingfisher – Safina and Anika; Puffin - Layton

