# **Boldmere Junior School**

## **Weekly Newsletter**

#### A message from Mr Sadler, Head of Junior School

Dear parents and carers,

First of all, I hope the children enjoyed a fantastic half-term break and for those of you lucky enough to spend it with them, that you did too. The wild weather certainly played a part, but you also won't need me to inform you of the concerning events that developed during the course of the week on a more global scale. Naturally, the on-going situation in the Ukraine is worrying to us all but as I know from personal experience, it is very difficult to both explain to and reassure little ears, or indeed to shield them from the news more generally. Anticipating that the vast majority of children will have some knowledge of the situation, I have shared with the whole school a fantastic and informative segment from the CBBC Newsround programme as part of an assembly launching our new value of the month, appreciation. In my opinion, the Newsround section tackles the issues with sensitivity and at an age appropriate level. The video shared in my assembly, along with some other excellent resources, can all be found at the CBBC Newsround website, the link for which is shared here. <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround">https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround</a>

From that which we cannot control to that which we can, this week will see us celebrate World Book Day. I remind you that the children are invited to attend school in their pyjamas and slippers for a day of story sharing so please bring along a favourite book. As an alternative to buying or making a costume we would be really grateful for donations of any of the books that were mentioned in a previous newsletter for our school library, and if any books donated could include within it your child's name, the date and a short message to both remind of its inception and to inspire the many future readers that follow. There will be many exciting book related events shared in school this week, including something we know the children are going to love...a 'remote' visit from children's author and illustrator Jen Carney <a href="https://jen-carney.com/">https://jen-carney.com/</a> I look forward to sharing with you this visit and other book week related fun next week. This said however, I do just want to stress that as much as we value book week, reading for pleasure retains the highest priority in the school all year round, simply because in the wise words of Dr. Seuss, 'the more you read, the more things that you'll know, the more that you learn, the more places you'll go!' To highlight perfectly this holistic school focus on reading, you may have noticed some of the 'celebrity' attention some of our reading related tweets have been attracting recently, and this was again the case this week as can be seen in our 'Tweet of the Week' segment below!

Finally from myself this week, a reminder that the vast majority of Year 6 children should have found out today (1st March) which secondary school they have been allocated for September. Experience tells me that this can be quite a stressful time for both children and their parents, therefore, if there is any way in which we can support, please do ask myself or a member of the team.

## <u>Values</u> <u>Ambassadors</u>



6F Reece

6FS Ewan

6J Annabel

5PJ Amy

5E Ethan

5B Matei

4M Alana

4K Ben

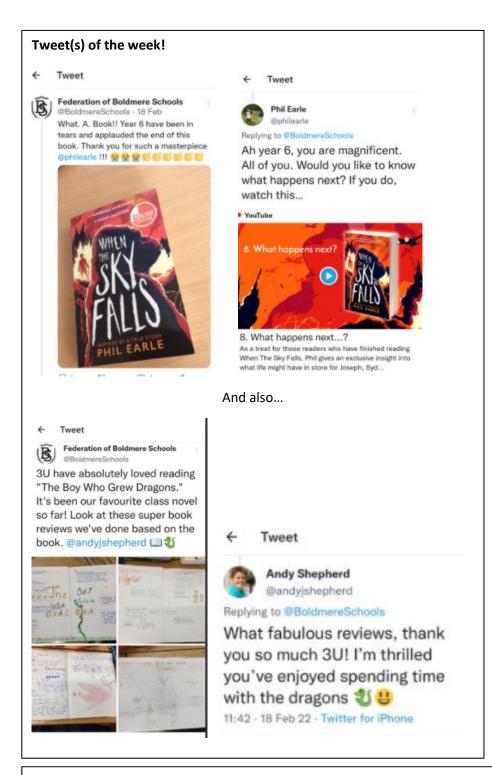
4W William

3H Aariz

3U Mason

3P Whole class

Well Done Everyone!



### **Diary Dates**

#### Remainder of 2022

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April
Break up for Easter holidays
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April
Children return to school
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May
Children break up for May halfterm.

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June Children return to school Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July Children break up for the summer holidays

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September** Children begin the new school year

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October Children break-up for October half-term

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October
Children return to school
Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December
Children break up for the
Christmas holidays.

#### **BIB** update from Mrs. Preece

Welcome back to the beginning of what I know will be a busy half term.

It's book week this week. The BIB children can come dressed in their favourite colours on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**. This is to reflect the themes in the books 'Mixed 'by Arree Chung and 'The Colour Monster' by Anna Llenas.

We also welcome **Miss Greenland,** who will be on placement with us from BCU. She will be working in all the classes in the BIB.

#### BIB celebrations from the before half term:

Giraffes- Whole class, for taking part in the Cinderella Ball and having a lovely time.

- LK- Samuel Burchell, for demonstrating a caring and thoughtful attitude towards his peers and staff.
- ED- Alfie Wylde, for working hard all week.

We are all looking forward to the nicer weather and some exciting things to come over the coming few weeks.

#### **Covid update**

As was the case pre-half term, I do not wish to take up much ink space on our newsletter with matters relating to Covid, instead focussing on the positives in school. However, I do advise parents to look out for the parent mail shared today following the Government's stance that we now move into the phase of 'living with Covid-19.'

#### **Busy Bodies**

Welcome back to all our lovely families, we hope that you have all had a brilliant half term break together.

Thank you to all our families who have completed our Busy Bodies survey. Your comments have been very kind and complimentary to all our staff, you have been very constructive and supportive with your remarks regarding the continuous hard work of our team. We thrive to continue developing our club to enable our amazing children to have the access and opportunity to engage in various learning and play activities, thus enriching their social engagement with children of all ages within our setting.

We will do a follow up of the outcomes of the survey, either individually or via the newsletter in the coming weeks.

March booking forms- Please be aware that your March booking forms are due in by this Wednesday 2nd March and your payments must be paid by this Friday 4th March.

Please check your child's ParentPay account to ensure that your payments are up to date. We must remind our families that fees are paid a month in advance of care being provided, it is your responsibility to ensure that your accounts are up to date.

**Extra sessions payments-** We will be deducting all extra sessions for February by the end of next week, please ensure that if have had any additional sessions during February that these are paid prior to or along with your March payments.

**Covid-19 update**- In line with the recent Government updates, that there is no longer a need or expectation for us to isolate, the responsibility is down to the individual or in the case of a child the parent to make this decision.

As per your parent contract we will be returning to following the sickness/cancelation policy which is outlined in your parent contract with us. Should you need any further clarifications around this, please do not hesitate to contacting the Busy Bodies Manager in the first instance.

#### **School Uniform Grant**

We have been advised by the Sutton Coldfield Charitable Trust that they are currently able to support eligible families with regard to a £100 per child school uniform grant. Eligible families will need to complete an application, included on which will be proof of benefit. Application forms and further information can be collected from the school office. There is a swift turnaround on this with completed applications needing to be returned to school by **Monday 14th March.** 

#### **PTA News**

#### Coin Wars Winners!

After many hours of counting, we are excited to reveal that the winning classes who will receive their donuts are: Parrots (2S) in Infants

3U in Juniors

Congratulations and Well Done!

We would also like to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who took part in our Coin Wars competition. We were so impressed with how many coins were brought in and to see the enthusiasm and healthy competition it inspired. Together, we have raised over £2,000 for the PTA, which is incredible! As a Thank You the PTA have organised a little treat for all the children which will be given out later this week.

#### Mothers' Day Elfridges

The Elfridges shop reopens its doors on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March for children to select a gift for the significant female(s) in their life. Gifts are suitable for Mothers, Carers, Grandparents, Aunties etc. Elfridges is <u>strictly</u> a pre-order only service. Tickets cost £2.50 each and are available to purchase now at <u>www.pta-events.co.uk/boldmere</u> Ordering will close at midday on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

#### **PTA Summer Ball**

The tickets for the 2022 Summer Ball are now available to purchase! Tickets cost £50 each and can be purchased now at <a href="https://www.pta-events.co.uk/boldmere">www.pta-events.co.uk/boldmere</a> The Ball will take place at Aston Wood Golf Club on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022 from 7pm until 1am. If you have any queries please contact <a href="mailto:boldmereptaball@outlook.com">boldmereptaball@outlook.com</a> Don't miss out, it is sure to be a fantastic evening including a 3 course meal, live band, auction and games.

