



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with mixed emotions that I write this week's newsletter. On the one hand, yesterday's World Book Day was a joy...it was wonderful to see so many of you at the PTA Breakfast Book Swap and it was lovely to see the children dressed up, so happy, and for us to have a super day focused on books!

On the other hand, you'll all know that the situation in Ukraine is worsening. To think that such horror is happening in today's world is extremely sad and we've tried to talk briefly to the children about what it all means and what we can do. We asked you on Tuesday if you might help us out in donating goods for the hundreds of thousands of refugees affected. Your response in wanting to help has been overwhelming. I understand that there are all sorts of reasons why people may not be able to donate and so want to emphasise how much we appreciate everyone in our school community and the sense of togetherness and belonging that we hope will only continue to get stronger as we move further out of the pandemic.

As always, thank you so much, and have a lovely weekend.

*Simon Parker (he/him).*

### WORLD BOOK DAY!

Well, I think that we can safely say that we celebrated World Book Day in style yesterday. Thank you to the PTA (who raised over £220 for a 'free' event) and Year 6 librarians who hosted the free book swap breakfast. The parade was so much fun and our children enjoyed a wide variety of activities from meeting authors online to reading with friends, arts and crafts and much, much more!

Reading is the gateway to the world and although we want our children at UPS to be competent and confident readers, we also want them to develop a love for reading as well.

As part of this drive, today we have launched the next step of Ten-A -Term for each year group on See-saw. These excellent lists of recommended reads have been put together by Mrs. Hopkins and should be readily available at the local library, or can be purchased from Urmston Book Shop (or indeed most book shops). Again, certificates will be given in assembly to anyone who participates in the challenge. There is no need to read all the books to receive a certificate, so please get involved.

Alongside this, Mrs. Byrom has found this useful link from the Money Saving Expert website with great ways to turn your little ones into bookworms.

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/team-blog/2020/03/12-free-or-cheap-kids--books-tricks/>

Thanks everyone, Mrs Hall

### UKRAINE APPEAL

As said above, the response from our appeal has been wonderful. Mrs Hall and Cath Martin are filling up their cars as we speak and will make sure all of your donations get to the drop-off point. Here they are with Daisy, Momi-na, Max, Anna and Erin, who are pictured with (just most of) the goods that you've provided. Thank you again.



### A special mention...

I just wanted to make one special mention regarding the Ukrainian refugee appeal and say a huge thank you to a family (and in particular a little boy!), who showed quite incredible generosity in their donation. We all have limits on what we can do to help but the empathy and thoughtfulness shown is inspiring.

Again, thank you.

### PTA Sponsored Bounce

Our super PTA are putting on a sponsored bounce on 24th March! It is always a nice fundraiser for the gang so please do take note of the sponsor forms that you'll have had tomorrow, or will be getting today! Thanks in advance for your support.

### BEING MORE...Penny and Margot's kindness, respect and responsibility

It is so important that our children are immersed in the notion of being actively positive and doing that bit more to make the world better for themselves and others. We'd really love you to get more involved with this so please email me at [s.parker@urmstonprimaryschool.com](mailto:s.parker@urmstonprimaryschool.com) so that we can celebrate, as a school, the fantastic things that our children are doing for others in the community and be inspired to 'be more' ourselves.

This week, I've heard about Penny, who has been taking part in a big litter-picking clean-up around the area...well done Penny and thanks so much!

Margot has also has also been 'being more' . She has been growing her hair and raising money for the Princess Trust, and on Saturday she had her hair cut. She decided she wanted to give as much hair as possible and had twice the length chopped off that she needed to! She has raised a whopping £1090 and the just giving page is still open!

We are so proud of her and think her new haircut looks fantastic! Great stuff Margot and super 'being more'.

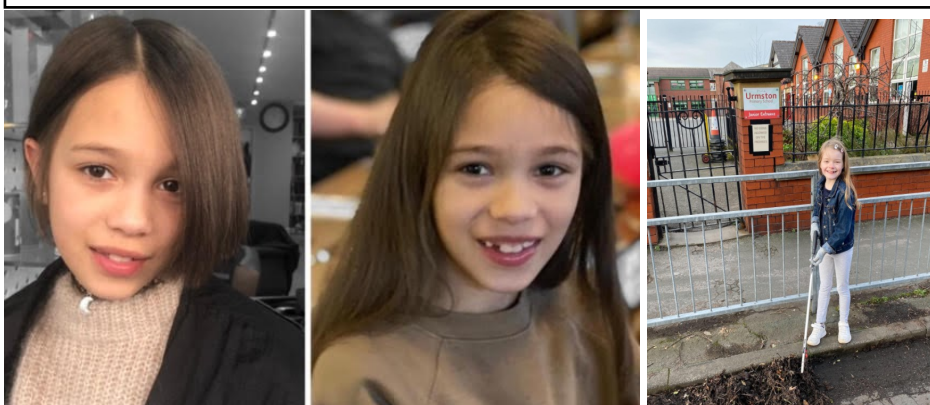
[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Margot-Cooper10?utm\\_campaign=lc\\_fr\\_share\\_transaction\\_fundraiser\\_page\\_donation\\_received\\_-\\_nth\\_donation&utm\\_content=9a9657af-d684-4e00-a9ae-4ee8399a8960&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=postoffice&utm\\_term=1645626988962](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Margot-Cooper10?utm_campaign=lc_fr_share_transaction_fundraiser_page_donation_received_-_nth_donation&utm_content=9a9657af-d684-4e00-a9ae-4ee8399a8960&utm_medium=email&utm_source=postoffice&utm_term=1645626988962)

### PROVISIONAL DIARY DATES

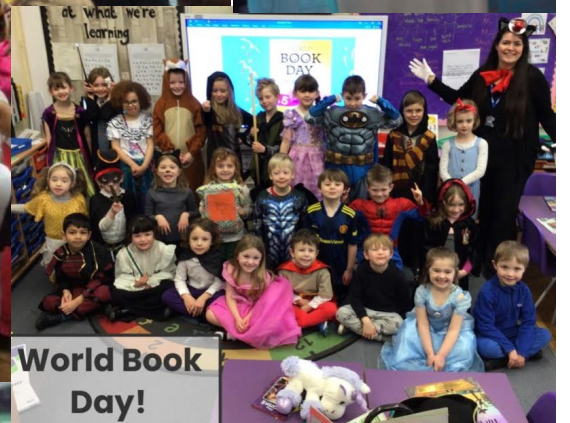
Neurodiversity Celebration Week And World Autism Awareness Week are coming up. We will be looking at ways of celebrating our uniqueness in all sorts of ways with our children and are considering how we might use this time to kick-start everyone's deeper understanding of our differences and similarities. This is something that we'll be looking at more closely in Diversity Week in the Summer. We're also looking at dates for our next SEN Forum so watch this space!

Red Nose Day is on 18th March and we'll be doing an Urmston's Got Talent Show to display our brilliance! You'll be receiving a letter about this imminently!

Parents Evening is on the week beginning 21st March. It will be face to face in the infant and junior halls and you'll have booking details for this next week. Note for Y6 - yours will be a couple of weeks after so if you need to speak to your child's teacher before then, please get in touch.



**SALE SHARKS! Tickets V Wasps on Saturday 19th March—available via <https://www.eticketing.co.uk/salesharksrugby/EDP/Event/Index/266>**



World Book Day!

