

Spring Term Update 4

6th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am conscious that I have sent home several information items / updates recently but there a few things I would like to draw your attention to today. As always, copies of these updates and key letters are always placed on the school website.

Social Media

I am becoming increasingly concerned about reports coming into school of inappropriate use of social media and 'group chats' by our Year 6 pupils. Whilst this is happening out of school, the upset recent posts have caused have impacted upon pupils in the classroom and at break times, meaning we have had to get involved.

Please would you be mindful of this and be as proactive as possible with your child's use of their telephone. Without wanting to sound too draconian, I would remind you that the minimum age for most social media apps is 16. That being said, I also recognise the benefits of their appropriate use. Thank you for your support with this.

Perhaps it is worth mentioning Mr Denney's e-safety evening for parents which is planned for Tuesday 5th May from 7pm. Details to come home shortly.

Arriving at School

I mentioned recently the times at which pupils should be arriving at school. Teachers have a great deal to do before the pupils come into school and they are not able to supervise prior to the following times:

8.30am – Early morning monitors (who should arrive via the main school door)

8.35am – Classroom doors open for a 'soft start'.

With this in mind and given the recent inclement weather, please avoid being on the playground any earlier.

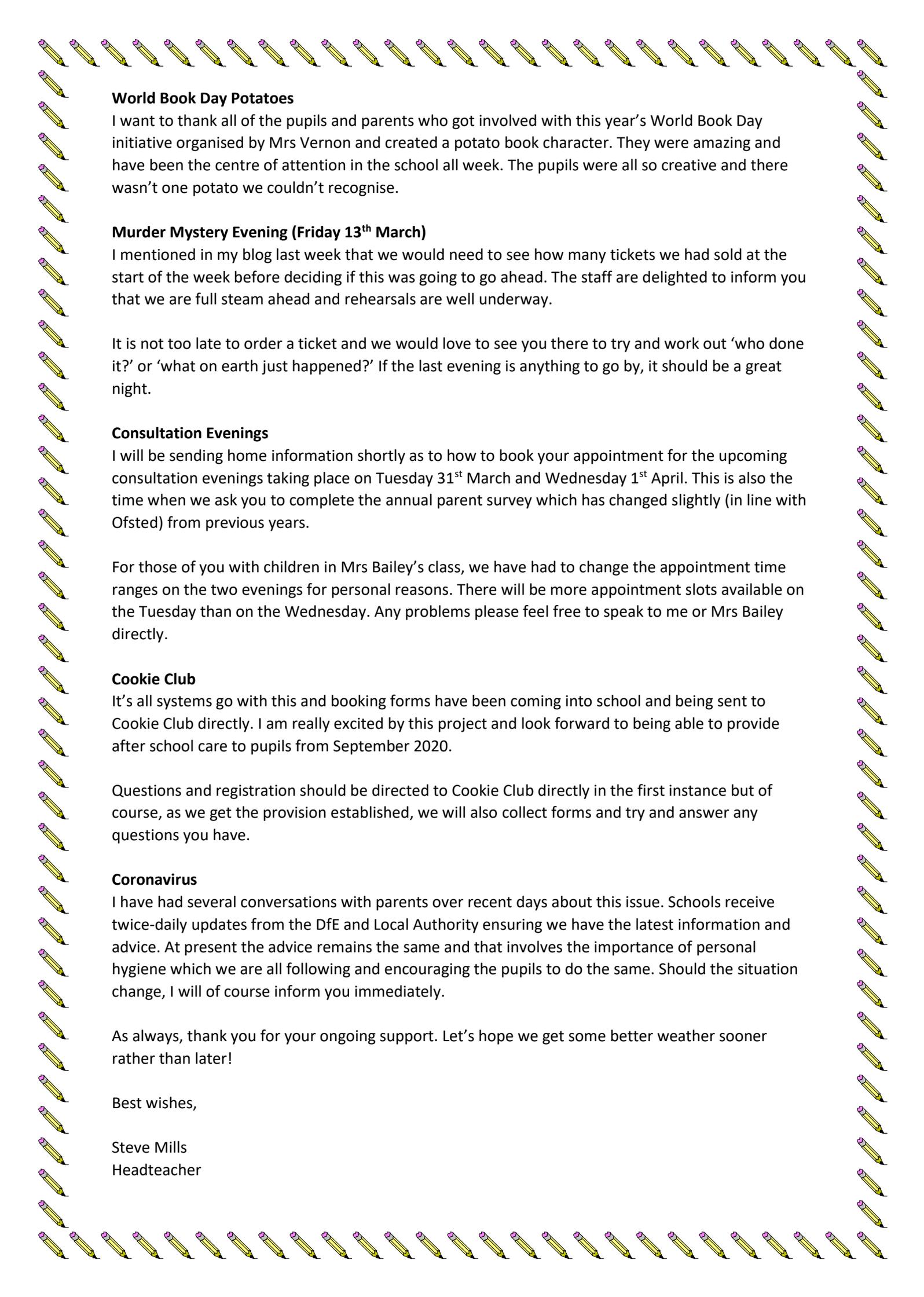
As always, teachers will be available for a quick chat or information sharing opportunity from 8.35am but should you require a more detailed conversation, please would you make an appointment via the school office at a mutually convenient time so that the class teachers are able to meet and greet all of the pupils.

PE Kits

Again, with the weather in mind, would you please ensure your child has appropriate PE kit in school each day which should include a change of socks. We will try and get outside as much as possible and there is nothing worse than spending the rest of the day in a pair of wet socks or tights.

Play Equipment

Exciting times! You may have seen the new play equipment has now been installed but pupils will have to wait a few more days until they can use it. We need the cement to complete harden and the rubber base to be put down before pupils start to explore. I have spoken with our pupils but if you would also keep an eye on younger siblings and ask them to wait just a little bit longer.



World Book Day Potatoes

I want to thank all of the pupils and parents who got involved with this year's World Book Day initiative organised by Mrs Vernon and created a potato book character. They were amazing and have been the centre of attention in the school all week. The pupils were all so creative and there wasn't one potato we couldn't recognise.

Murder Mystery Evening (Friday 13th March)

I mentioned in my blog last week that we would need to see how many tickets we had sold at the start of the week before deciding if this was going to go ahead. The staff are delighted to inform you that we are full steam ahead and rehearsals are well underway.

It is not too late to order a ticket and we would love to see you there to try and work out 'who done it?' or 'what on earth just happened?' If the last evening is anything to go by, it should be a great night.

Consultation Evenings

I will be sending home information shortly as to how to book your appointment for the upcoming consultation evenings taking place on Tuesday 31st March and Wednesday 1st April. This is also the time when we ask you to complete the annual parent survey which has changed slightly (in line with Ofsted) from previous years.

For those of you with children in Mrs Bailey's class, we have had to change the appointment time ranges on the two evenings for personal reasons. There will be more appointment slots available on the Tuesday than on the Wednesday. Any problems please feel free to speak to me or Mrs Bailey directly.

Cookie Club

It's all systems go with this and booking forms have been coming into school and being sent to Cookie Club directly. I am really excited by this project and look forward to being able to provide after school care to pupils from September 2020.

Questions and registration should be directed to Cookie Club directly in the first instance but of course, as we get the provision established, we will also collect forms and try and answer any questions you have.

Coronavirus

I have had several conversations with parents over recent days about this issue. Schools receive twice-daily updates from the DfE and Local Authority ensuring we have the latest information and advice. At present the advice remains the same and that involves the importance of personal hygiene which we are all following and encouraging the pupils to do the same. Should the situation change, I will of course inform you immediately.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support. Let's hope we get some better weather sooner rather than later!

Best wishes,

Steve Mills
Headteacher