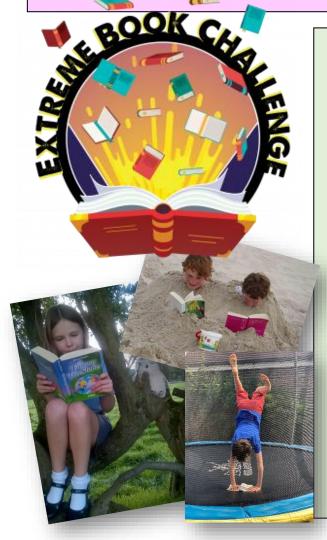


The February half term break marks the half way point of the academic year, it hardly seems possible to be here already! It has been good to see the lighter evenings start to return and we are looking forward to some warmer playtimes.

We have had a busy few weeks since Christmas and the children have been working very hard, especially on their maths skills. If you have any opportunity to keep this going over the half term, it would be really helpful. It does not need to be written or formal maths; instead, real life experiences such as paying with cash and working out change, measuring ingredients when cooking, telling the time and working out timetables etc – these are brilliant ways to practise reasoning skills and make a big difference to children's confidence.

The spring term resumes on Monday 20th February, have a lovely week!



Competition time!

Win a £5 Book Fair Token!

To celebrate our forthcoming Book Fair we are holding a competition to win a £5 book token (one token per class)

Who is our most extreme reader?!

Send in a photo of you doing some extreme reading - it might up a tree, in a tent, on a bike, upside down...the possibilities are endless! Send your photo by email to your class teacher by **Tuesday 21st February.** Good luck and happy reading!

Good luck Miss Ingle!

Tomorrow, we will be waving goodbye to Miss Ingle as she heads off to start her maternity leave for baby number two.

After half term, Class 1 will be taught by Mrs Niven (Mon-Wed) and Mrs Stewart (Thu-Fri).

We wish Miss Ingle and her partner lots of love and best wishes at this exciting time of their lives.





Office Update

We are very grateful for your support and patience in helping us while Mrs Stansbie is flying solo in the office. Sadly however, there have been a few occasions when parents have become frustrated if their query is not dealt with immediately or there has been a short wait to be seen. Mrs Stansbie is doing a brilliant job of manning the office singlehandedly and it is really upsetting for her to be on the receiving end of cross words when she is doing her very best to keep things running smoothly. Please bear with us, especially at busy times. Many thanks.

Mr Smith

After half term, we say a temporary goodbye to Mr Smith, who is completing his final placement at another school as he approaches the end of his teacher training degree.

He will be back with us at St Ippolyts in mid-May. Good luck Mr Smith – we know you'll be brilliant!



SPRING ASSESSMENT WEEK & PARENT CONSULTATIONS

This term's assessment week will take place in the week commencing **Monday 6th March.**

Please try to avoid absence and appointments in that week.

Parent consultations will then take place in the week commencing 20th March. We will be offering face to face appointments in the hall on Monday 20th March, or you may choose to have a phone call or video meetings with your child's teacher on the other days that week. We will send home a letter closer to the time for you to choose which you would prefer.



Books needed for Kenya

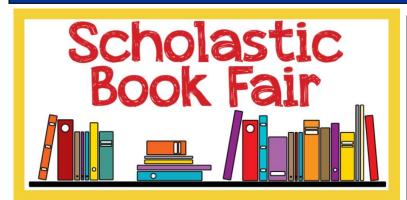
One of our parents is working with a brilliant local charity called 'Just Be A Child', which sets up libraries in Kenya. They're currently boxing up books for the next shipment to Kenya in June and would love any books that you no longer need. Please bring any donations (baby, child or adult books) in after half term (w/c 20-24 Feb) - there will be a donation box in reception. Thank you!

WORLD BOOK DAY

Advance notice for costume planning purposes!

World Book Day is one of the highlights of the school year at St Ippolyts and this year takes place on Thursday 2nd March.

Everyone in school dresses up as a story character and the children take part in a fancy dress parade in the morning with prizes for the most inventive or original costumes. We spend the whole day on book-related activities, and it is always lots of fun.



The Book Fair is returning! 23rd and 24th February Before & after school To celebrate World Book Day, every child will be given a £1 book token which can be spent at the Book Fair.







FRIDAY 3RD MARCH 5.30 – 7PM

We are so excited about the return of the school disco! Tuck shop, nail painting, tattoos, hair dying & spiking and lots of DANCING!

For those of you who are new to the joy of a school disco, here are a few things you need to know:

- ★ The disco takes place in the hall, with entry via the front main doors.
- Booking is open now, online on the PTA website. Numbers are capped so book early to avoid disappointment.

<u>www.pta-events.co.uk/stipps</u>

- ★ Nail painting, tattoos and hair styling can be paid for on the night.
- ★ There is a tuck shop selling snacks and drinks.
- ★ The disco ends at <u>7pm</u> and you will need to come into the hall to collect your child. It can be congested so please be patient. Please also park sensibly at pick up time because there are lots of small children around in the dark.
- ★ Reception children need to be accompanied by a parent/carer during the entire disco (or a nominated adult). Please note that we can only accommodate parents of Reception children. Other children should be left and collected at 7pm.
- Please ensure that your child brings their pocket money in a named wallet or purse.
- ★ BOOKINGS CLOSE ON WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH. PLACES MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE.

This week's article from our Pupil Journalists, Annie & Zaina



Internet Safety Day

On Tuesday, classes from primary schools all over the UK were taking time to think about the internet, and how to stay safe on different websites. This meant using resources online to find different ways on how to prevent being cyberbullied. This means being bullied online by a stranger. A lot of children in the country access websites online that are not appropriate for them, and it is important to be responsible and say no.

You may have seen posters about being safe on the internet around our school, especially outside class four. One of them is even an acrostic poem, about how to be smart on the internet. The main theme for this year is knowing who to talk to. This can really help you at a scary time. If this is something that has happened to you, or is happening now, then remember to speak up. You could talk to a parent, a teacher, another trusted adult, even an older sibling.

