



St Ippolyts CE (Aided) Primary School

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NEWSLETTER



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Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to the second half of the spring term. I do hope you all managed to enjoy the half term break; there have been some definite signs of spring, so fingers crossed that warmer days are approaching! This week we welcomed Mrs Niven to the St Ippolyts team. Mrs Niven is teaching Class 1 while Miss Ingle is on maternity leave, and we hope she will be very happy with us.



Book Fair competition

We had some brilliant entries in the Extreme Reading challenge – thank you to everyone who took part!

Every child in school has received a £1 book token this week which can be used towards the cost of a book at the Spring Book Fair. The Book Fair is open today & tomorrow, before and after school, in the hall.





SHROVE TUESDAY



This week we marked Shrove Tuesday with our traditional Pancake Race on the playground. It was a very competitive event as usual! It was a very close final between reigning champions, Faraday House, and Morris House, but it was Morris who clinched the title of best flippers for 2023 - Congratulations Morris!

At lunchtime, Mrs Harrington Smith once again served delicious pancakes for pudding which are always very popular!





Lent

On Monday, Rev Ginni led our Collective Worship. She taught us all about Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent.

Rev Ginni also showed us how last year's palm crosses are burned to make ash, which is then used to mark people's foreheads with a cross.

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) - there is a donation box in reception. Thank you for all your donations so far!



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.



World Book Day is one of the highlights of the school year at St Ippolyts and this year takes place **next week on Thursday 2nd March**. I wonder who the staff will be dressed as this year...?!

Year 2 Parents: A date for your diary

As you will know, children in Year 2 take assessments as they come to the end of Key Stage 1. These are often referred to as 'SATs' and children are assessed in Reading, Writing, Mathematics and Science.

The assessments take place during the month of May. There isn't a national timetable like there is for the Year 6 tests; we tend to do them towards the end of the month, before we finish for the half term break. They are not designed to be stressful for children at all, and the children will be familiar with the layout of the booklets.

After school on **Tuesday 21st March**, Year 2 parents are invited to come into school to find out more about the assessments and have a look at some examples of the kind of booklets and activities that children will be doing in May. You will also be able to see samples of children's work that is considered to be 'at the expected standard'. It will also be a chance to ask the teachers any questions you may have about the assessments.

This is a drop-in session between 3.30 and 5pm and will take place in Class 2. You don't need an appointment and your children are welcome to attend with you if you want to pop in straight after school. We do hope you will be able to come along and that it will be useful for you.

Class 3 Cake Day

Friday 10th March

Dear Class 3 parents,

The PTA are holding a cake sale on 10th March to raise funds for school. This time it is the turn of Class 3 to each supply small cakes or biscuits to sell on the day. Please make sure that any tins, plates or containers are clearly named.

We would be very grateful if you could **donate 15 cakes for cake day**, to ensure that we have enough to go around & the children are not left disappointed. These cakes /biscuits can be either homemade or bought. You may want to plan some kitchen time to make or decorate the cakes with your child! **PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL CAKES MUST BE NUT-FREE.**

The cakes will be sold during the morning break to the whole of the school, any remaining cakes will be sold outside school at home time. We hope that you will be able to support us with this event, and we thank you in anticipation.

Thank you from The PTA



Pancake day

For those of you who don't already know, we do a yearly Pancake Day race held on Shrove Tuesday. From every house (Brontë, Morris, Seacole and Faraday), one person per year competes in the pancake race!



The first race was quite a close one between the four houses. Usually we have a final race between first and second place, in this case it was Faraday and Morris. In the end, Morris had crossed the finish line just seconds before Faraday. Congratulations to Morris and well done to everyone who participated!

Pancake Day, otherwise known as Shrove Tuesday, is the day before Ash Wednesday, the first day of lent in the Christian calendar.

Lent - the 40 days leading up to Easter - was traditionally a time of fasting on Shrove Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday always falls 47 days before Easter Sunday, most might think it is 41 days before but Sundays are not included. Shrove Tuesday is the last opportunity to use up eggs and fats and pancakes are the perfect way of using up these ingredients. What toppings did you enjoy on your pancakes? Did you have the classic Lemon and sugar, or maple syrup drizzled on top?