

# Longman's Hill Community Primary School Newsletter



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Spring Term 2016

11/03/16

## WORLD BOOK DAY

All of the children had a fantastic day on World Book Day, completing a range of activities in their classes. During the day, each of the classes wrote part of a story which was started in Early Years and passed through school, each class adding the next part. At the end of the day, the complete story was shared with the children in assembly. It was really great and will be displayed in the school but we wanted to share it with you all, so here it is:

### The Girl and the Rainbow Dragon

Once upon a time, there was a girl who lived in an icy palace with her icy dog, Freeze. One snowy Monday morning, Ice Girl went for a walk through the Magic Forest.

The snow was dripping off the leaves as Ice Girl made her way to the market, to meet her Granny.

Suddenly, from behind an old, crooked oak tree crept a colourful creature. "I'm here to grant you one rainbow wish!" exclaimed the dragon, as he cackled quietly under his breath. Ice Girl thought for a second before replying. "I wish for a feast to be served for the whole kingdom!"

Meanwhile, Freeze was growling fiercely at the dragon's feet. "Follow me and I will grant you your wish", the dragon told Ice Girl. So she followed him around the kingdom.....

"Where are we going?" she asked politely. "To the rainbow Fortress" he said, with an evil cackle, and he locked her inside, alone.

"How will I get out of here?" she said to herself. "I need a plan!"

Freeze ran home to get help, but no one understood him, except Ice Girl. Did she have a plan?

While Freeze was gone, Ice Girl sobbed. She had just about given up hope when a tiny, ice bird appeared at the bars of the window. "Why are you crying?" asked the bird. The girl told the bird the whole story, then begged him to help her. When Freeze returned without reinforcements, Ice Girl did not panic; she quietly eased herself between the icy bars of her sparkling prison and the tiny bird followed her. As the girl and bird slipped into the next chamber of the ice fortress, she realised that she had trespassed into the vicious beast's sleeping-lair.

The dragon slowly opened his glowing red eyes and peered at the girl. Suddenly, the ice bird swooped down and drove his sharp, icicle beak into the round pool of volcanic lava, blinding the emerald, scaly monster. Ice Girl, Freeze and the bird fled from the fortress.

Blinking like an owl, she stumbled into the sparkling light. Suddenly, she felt cold, vacant eyes glaring at her. As she spun round, she noticed frozen children trapped within gigantic blocks of ice. Amazingly, she felt a bolt of ice power run through her body. She summoned an almighty power and set the children free!

### Aims and values Questionnaires.

Many thanks to those of you who took the time to send in your views and ideas on the aims and values questionnaire. All of the responses will be looked at in detail by myself and the Chair of Governors and we will draw ideas from your thoughts when drafting the school's aims and values statements.

Most of the comments about the school were overwhelmingly positive, and it was a real pleasure to read them. We will also consider the constructive comments about what we can put in place to further improve the school.

One thing which was mentioned, was about ensuring we give plenty of notice to parents about events which will be taking place in school, to allow you to plan time off if necessary. I just wanted to remind parents that we send out an annual set of dates at the start of every school year, which lists all of the events which we have planned before the start of the academic year. This list includes the dates of parents evening, Christmas shows, sports days etc. Additionally, the list is always published on the school website- look under News and Events / term dates. We also then flag these dates on newsletters as the time gets nearer. We hope that this helps. School trips are generally not planned a year in advance, nor are the sporting competitions, but we do try to let you know as soon as events are booked, for example with the whole school trip planned for July, we first informed you via newsletter at the end of January. As you will appreciate, sometimes learning opportunities are offered to school at short notice, such as the recent visit to Early Years and KS1 by Farmer Karl and we cannot always give as much advance notice as we would like.

### SPORT RELIEF FRIDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2016

Just a reminder that Sport Relief takes place on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March. The organisers are encouraging us to get our trainers on and walk for charity. We are taking the entire school out and about in the local area during the day to walk 1 mile or 3 miles to raise funds for this cause. Children in Early Years and KS1 will walk a mile and KS2 will walk 3. If you would like to 'sponsor' your child to do the walk you can do so by sending in a donation on the day of the walk. Children do not have to bring a charitable donation, but all children will participate in the walk. Your child can wear a sports kit of their choice, which does not have to be school uniform, but which should have long leggings or jogging bottoms, as it is likely to still be a bit cold for shorts! Many thanks.

Rev Pete has sent the following information regarding activities at St Wilf's over Easter. On Good Friday (25<sup>th</sup> March) there will be a morning of children's activities in the church for children and their families from 10am till 12noon. Come along and join in the activities to include a treasure trail, crafts, biscuit decorating and a short informal worship time.

### Yorkshire Brain Tumour & Research Charity

I've been asked by Yorkshire Brain Tumour & Research Charity if I can distribute some information regarding Flat Cap Friday.

It takes place on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March and they are encouraging as many people as possible to take a selfie wearing a flat cap to post on websites and social media to promote the charity.

**Since we are already fundraising for Sports Relief on the same day, we will not be participating in flat cap Friday** but if you want to post photos of you and your family to raise awareness, go for it!

You don't have to fundraise but should you choose to donate, the easiest way is by texting "FLAT20 £5" to 70070

### Midday Supervisor Vacancy

We have a midday supervisor vacancy at school. The role is for 5 hours per week, 12.15-1.15pm daily. The role involves supervising the children whilst playing outdoors, administering basic first aid when appropriate and supervising the children whilst eating lunch in the hall, and other light duties including wiping tables. If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in applying for this role, please speak with the office staff. The role requires a DBS check before the successful applicant can take up the position.

### PTA Dissolved

On 10<sup>th</sup> February, the PTA held their AGM. All parents were invited, by letter, to attend the meeting. One parent attended the meeting, in addition to the 3 remaining members of the school PTA. During the meeting the 3 members announced their intention to step down from their respective roles of Treasurer, Chair and Secretary with immediate effect which means that the PTA is no longer in existence at our school. The members have tried on several occasions to recruit new members but to no avail and they felt that having given hours of their own time and effort, it was finally time to resign their posts. The members of the PTA have worked very hard to raise funds on behalf of the school for many years and I would like to thank them on our behalf for their commitment. The funds which they have remaining will be transferred to school and used to purchase a class based i pad for each year group.

### Polite Request

Whilst it is not within the school remit to monitor the behaviour of parents, I would like to remind parents that we expect you to act appropriately whilst on school premises. As a school, we believe it is very important to model appropriate behaviour to the children and it is not acceptable for parents to use inappropriate language or swear at one another in front of the children whilst dropping off / collecting children from school. Please try and speak considerately with one another and if there is an issue between parents that needs resolving, may I politely request that it is dealt with off the school site. Many thanks.

### Dates for Your Diary- Spring term

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March - class photos

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March- Sport relief children come in sports outfit and bring donation

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March - some Y5/6 to Selby High for Quicksticks competition

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March & Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March - parents' evenings

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March- some children from across school gymnastics competition

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March - last day of spring term before Easter break

**CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

