



# February

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe we are already in February. January was an extremely busy term.

I thoroughly enjoyed attending the Young Voices event at The O2. The children were a credit to the school, and it was amazing to hear their wonderful singing. I also had the privilege of attending the Holocaust Memorial Day Service at Rochester Cathedral with some of our Year 6 children. It was a poignant event, and the children performed brilliantly.

Thank you to everyone who has already provided feedback to our survey about school lunches. We will be trialling some new changes next term and the burgers next term will definitely come with a bun. I appreciate all the positive comments and constructive feedback, it is invaluable.

Finally, can I please ask that children, particularly in Year 6, do not play football before the start of school. We have had a number of accidents that have needed first aid. Children should not be on the playground before 8.30am.

**Mr Bernard - Headteacher**

# OPPORTUNITY TO PERFORM AT THE WOODVILLE HALLS IN GRAVESEND

**TUESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

We are thrilled to announce an unmissable opportunity for pupils in Years 3–6 in Term 4.

The Woodville Halls Choir Club will be learning show-stopping songs from *The Greatest Showman* and ABBA's *Thank You for the Music*, all in preparation for a spectacular performance at the Aletheia Academy Trust Concert at the Woodville Halls, Gravesend on Tuesday 24th March.

This is a chance for children to perform on a professional stage, be part of a large-scale trust event, and experience the excitement of singing alongside pupils from across our academies. It promises to be a truly memorable experience.

If your child would like to take part, please sign up via Arbor.

Rehearsals: Mondays, 12:00–12:30 in school

Commitment: All Monday rehearsals, plus the afternoon rehearsal and evening concert on Tuesday 24th March

Capacity: Limited to 30 pupils

Please note that audience tickets for the Woodville Halls Trust Concert will go on sale at 10:00am on Monday 23rd February, priced at £12.50. Tickets usually sell out quickly, so early booking is strongly advised.

Ticket link: <https://woodville.ticketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows>

We hope your child will join us for what promises to be an inspiring and unforgettable musical journey.



# Agents For Change

The Agents for Change led their first lesson with Year 5.

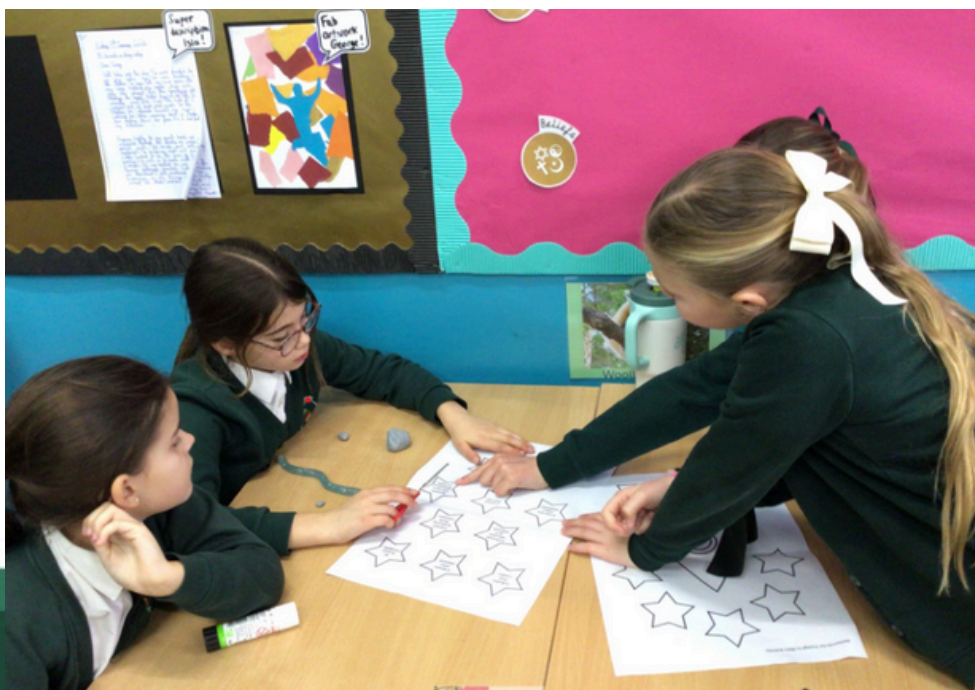
The lesson was called 'Mission to Space' and the aim was to recognise and understand what is meant by the term stereotype.

The Agents set the classes a task to work in small groups and decide, from a list of descriptions, who they would like to take onboard a rocket with them for a holiday in space. The groups discussed who they would and wouldn't want and then fed back their reasons to the rest of the class.

They were surprised to learn that on many occasions their preconceived ideas had been wrong. For example, many groups selected to take an astrophysicist on board, however, didn't think a wheelchair user would be a suitable candidate.

The Agents for Change later informed them that both descriptions were for the same person, Stephen Hawking!

The Agents for Change are doing a fantastic job at challenging stereotypes and helping to educate our children about prejudice and discrimination.



# PTA

Our next PTA discos will be next week. We look forward to seeing some amazing dance moves.

Years 1-3 - 3.30pm -5.00pm

Year 4-6 - 5.30pm-7.00pm

Please can we ensure that children are collected promptly after the discos. Thank you.



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## PE Kits

We have noticed a number of children who have not brought in a PE kit. Please can children ensure they have their kits in school.

Also, our website shows the PE kit that should be worn. We have noticed a number of kits that are not appropriate for the current weather etc.



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## Founder's Day

The 13<sup>th</sup> February is Founder's Day. If your child is in a group/club e.g. Brownies, Guides or Cubs, they can wear their uniform to school on this day.



# World Book Day

On Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> of March, we will once again be joining in with the World Book Day celebrations.

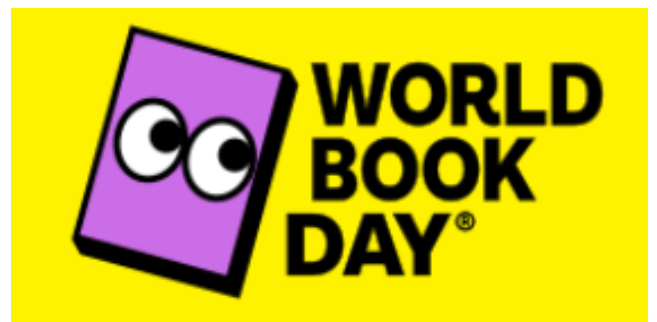
World Book Day is all about encouraging children to develop a love of books and to read for fun. Data shows that reading for fun is the single biggest indicator that a child will grow up to enjoy a happier and more successful life – more than their family circumstances, their parents' educational backgrounds or their income.

Sadly, today, only one in three children likes reading. At Cliffe Woods Primary School, we are passionate about inspiring our children to see reading differently.

This year, we are planning to organise a book swap (more details to follow), alongside other fun, book-based activities. We would again like to invite any child who wishes to, to come to school dressed as a character from a book. We are aware that not every child enjoys dressing up, so there is no pressure to do so and equally, we do not want to put additional costs on families to buy elaborate costumes. Children are welcome to come with just a home-made accessory or item that links to their character.

The link below gives some low-cost ideas:

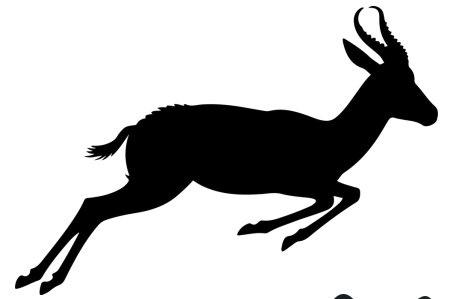
<https://www.worldbookday.com/resources/dressing-up-ideas-for-parents-and-carers/>



# Class Assemblies

The last two weeks have seen Springbok and Tiger class put on two excellent class assemblies. It has been great to see so many parents attend.

This week is the turn of Panda's class. I am looking forward to see their performance.



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## Stay and Play - Reception



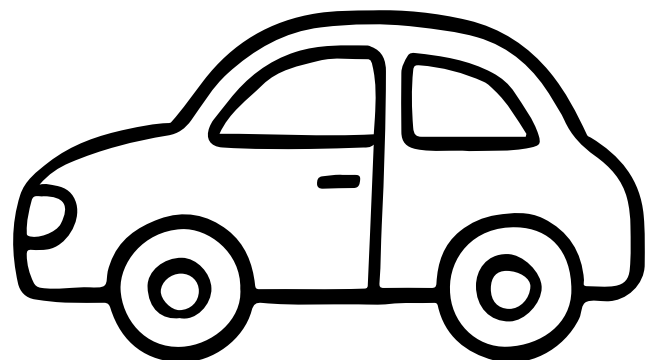
Thank you to all parents who attended our stay and play sessions, and the EYFS team for organising them. The children had a great time showing their parents the amazing environment they have and the parents looked like they had lots of fun too!

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## Car Parking

Can we please remind everyone to park considerately in order to keep us all safe. It was brought to my attention last week that a car left our car park at high speed.

No parents should be entering the staff car park before or after school.



# Enrichment

We had another exciting and successful visit to The O2 to perform with the Young Voices choir. 30 of our singing stars joined 8,500 other children. They had an incredible experience. They were excellently behaved! A huge thank you to Mrs Hatton for organising, Mrs Green supporting and our amazing parent helpers.



# Diversity

January 27<sup>th</sup> was Holocaust Memorial Day, and this year was the 81<sup>st</sup> anniversary. Twelve children from Year 6 attended the commemorative event in Rochester Cathedral. They spoke, sang and performed a piece linked to the theme of “bridging generations”.

They were a credit to the school and even performed to the rest of the school the next day.



# Dates for the Diary

Please take a careful look at the following dates, all of which can be found on the Events Calendar on the school website, and make a note of any that may affect your child.

## Date

## Event

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February

Panda Class Assembly - 2.30pm

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February

NSPCC Number Day

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February

Yr 4 swimming starts

Sustainable School Uniform Shop - 3.00pm

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February

Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February

PTA Disco - Yrs 1-3 (3.30pm-5.00pm) Yrs 4-6 (5.30pm-7.00pm)

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February

PTA Teacher Appreciation (Hearts to be returned)

Panther Class Assembly - 2.30pm

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

Founder's Day

Last day of Term

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Start of Term 4

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February

Yr R Hearing & Vision Checks

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

PTA meeting at 7.30pm

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

World Book Day (details to follow)

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March

Mothers' Day PTA Wrap

Recorder Festival

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March

KS 1 Choir Festival

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

Class Photos

Yr 6 trip to the Theatre

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Staff Development Day - School closed to pupils

## Have Your Say Meetings:

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 2.30pm - To discuss School Streets feedback/Lunch provision

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 9.00am

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30pm

