

Newsletter

Dear Parents,

We have had a wonderful week looking at 'Teamwork.' An area where that was particularly celebrated was in finding out the final amount of money raised for Zoe's Place. Christmas Fair, Poetry Recitals, 12 Deeds of Christmas, Book Floods to the Grand Finale - Finham Does Strictly. A monumental team effort that raised the grand total of **£5177.38**. What an AWESOME achievement. The 17 children that were involved in the Strictly Extravaganza have been invited to lunch with the Lord Mayor and Patrons of Zoe's Place as a thank you for their efforts. We are all very proud of what they have achieved and they are an inspiration to us all.

Another area where the team have been an inspiration is our Nursery, Reception and Year 1 Team, who have been teaching reading in a different way. We made a brave decision to abandon the reading schemes and teach through real books. Every Child a Free Reader! Add this to the wonderful curriculum work we have been doing, Book Floods and the Amazing Bedtime Stories with Community Readers now signing up to take part. Kirston Nelson, the Director of Education is this week's story. The Bishop of Coventry, David Moorcroft and Cllr David Kershaw have also signed up to read to our children. All of this added together has led to Finham Primary School being nominated for the Prestigious Egmont Reading for Pleasure Award. To be nominated was wonderful, but then to be supported and have a research paper written about us by Johnny Solity, supported by Michael Morpurgo that backs up what we are doing as a pathfinder in teaching reading internationally...You Can't Cheat Pride!

I will leave you with 3 crazy international statistics.

Children that are brought up in an environment that is language rich hear 32 million more words used in context than children that don't live in a language rich family.

Children who read 500 books for pleasure before the age of 7 outperform all other children, regardless of social and demographical background.

Teenagers that read for pleasure do better in maths in any school test measure at 16 because they have a better cognitive understanding.

So let's just keep reading - it really is the most important thing!

Have a great weekend.

Kindest regards
Richard Machin
Head Teacher

STAFFING UPDATE

Unfortunately Mrs. Wilding will be off from Finham Primary School for at least another 3 weeks. We have worked very hard to put in a stable solution so that the children's learning continues as that is the most important thing. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to come in and see Mr. Machin.

LOST PROPERTY

We have moved the central point for lost property to the main school reception area. Each year group will still keep their own lost property, but anything that is handed into the office and is not named will be kept in this central point. We will regularly recycle lost items that have not been claimed, we are unable to keep large amounts of lost property in school due to lack of space. It is very important to name your children's belongings, so that we can try where possible to return lost items to the rightful owner.

NURSERY APPLICATIONS

If your child was born between 1st September 2014 – 31st August 2015 you are eligible to apply for a Nursery place at Flinham Primary. The deadline for applications is 31st January 2018. Please collect an application form from the school office. We will then contact you by the end of March 2018 to let you know what place your child has been offered.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Are you unsure whether your child is eligible for Free School Meals? Check on the website www.coventry.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals to see if you are eligible from the criteria listed. If you are then you can make an application on line. You can still apply even if your child is in Key Stage I and is already receiving a free meal due to Universal Free School Meals. If you need advice or further information, please contact the school office.

ALVIS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

Alvis Junior Football Club run many successful boys teams in all age groups and they are now introducing a coaching academy for girls in years 3,4,5 and 6, with the idea of running girls football teams in the future. The sessions will be run by FA qualified coaches and will take place at the Alvis Football Club on Saturday mornings 10.00am until 11.30am. The cost is £3.00 per session on a pay as you go basis. The sessions will be based around football skills, game play, fitness and fun! No previous experience is needed to take part but we do recommend that you wrap up warm and wear shin pads for safety. If you have any queries or would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact Nicki Dandy 07971140446.

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 24th January – Year 1 Inspire Workshop, 9:00am
Tuesday 30th January – Year 2 Inspire Workshop, 9:00am
Wednesday 7th February – Year 3 Inspire Workshop, 9:00am
Tuesday 13th February – Year 2 Assembly, 9:00am
Wednesday 14th February – Year 6 Inspire Workshop, 9:00am
Friday 16th February – Teacher Training Day
Monday 19th February – Friday 23rd February – Half Term
Monday 26th February – Year 6 Trip to Birmingham Botanical Gardens – Info to follow