

# HENDON NEWS

28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2019

## From the Headmaster:

Dear Parents,

Does your child read for pleasure every-day?

A report out to-day, ***What Kids Are Reading 2019***, written by Professor Keith Topping, University of Dundee, urges parents and schools to encourage our children to commit to reading for at least 30 minutes per day.

This report, the biggest-ever study of its kind in the UK, argues that students who average a daily reading time of 30 minutes or more are likely to encounter 13.7 million words compared with 1.5 million words for those who average less than 15 minutes per day during a school life-time. The report also states that there is little evidence to separate boys and girls in terms of academic attainment, however, it does argue that boys have a greater preference for reading non-fiction, especially sports biographies.

This report also echoes findings of teachers, especially in the secondary sector, who have found that children do not read for pleasure at home, despite countless studies recognising that reading for pleasure is vitally important as it helps children develop rich vocabularies and correlates with improved outcomes at GCSE.

So what is reading for pleasure?

For me, reading for pleasure means a book that is self-chosen for enjoyment and for a

purpose that is not linked to my work. For many children to-day reading for pleasure does not have to be something an adult has prescribed nor does it have to be a paperback. For the current generation there are many websites that allow children to access books and reading materials for free via book apps and e-books for tablets and phones (see ***The Book Trust*** <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/> and ***National Literacy Trust*** <https://literacytrust.org.uk/> for on-line resources). ***The UK Literacy Association*** <https://ukla.org/> also presents a digital text award biannually and is a great resource for teaching professionals and parents alike.

Research by Professor Teresa Cremin and Dr Natalia Kucirkova also acknowledges that some apps actually enhances and extends a child's reading by adding a different level of challenge and experience. So parents, why not try using an e-book to encourage your child to read for pleasure, certainly there is no better time to encourage your child at home than next week as we shall be focusing on reading with our own Hendon Prep Book Week 2019 as we celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 7th March when children will be encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character!

P.S. The Headmaster is currently reading for pleasure: Peter Ackroyd, *Albion: The Origins of the English Imagination*.

## School News:

- **World Book Day:**  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March is World Book Day and children are invited to dress up as a character from one of their favourite books. If they have a copy of the book their character is featured in they are welcome to bring the book into school. We ask that children taking part in World Book day bring in a suggested donation of £1 that will go to our current fundraising project 'Solarbuddy', a charity aiming to provide 6 million children living in developing countries with a solar powered light so that they can study after dark. Parents do not need to spend a great deal on money on a costume for their child, indeed we always look forward to seeing original and home-made costume ideas.
- **Cognita Calling:**  
As part of the Cognita calling initiative Year 6 are looking forward to connecting with Kingscourt School in Hampshire to share details of their favourite books and writers and present their Book Day character costumes.
- **200 Million Minutes**  
We are taking part in the 200 Million Minutes Reading Challenge – a global reading initiative from education charity Achievement for All. Beginning on World Book Day children, around the world will try to collectively read for 200 million minutes! Every child at Hendon Prep will be given a special bookmark on World Book Day which they will use, at home and in school, to record how many minutes they have been reading for. All reading counts. The children can read anything. Paperbacks, magazines, comics, plays, newspapers and e-books are all great. They can read on their own, as part of a group or with an adult. The challenge will run until Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April when all of the minutes will be added up! Find out more at [www.200millionminutes.org](http://www.200millionminutes.org)

### REMINDER DATES:

- **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March :** Cross Country @ Lyndhurst House
- **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> :** Y3 Trip: House of Illustration  
Image Theatre Presentation: Pinocchio  
Y 6 & 7 Trip: Bedford School - Chemistry Lecture
- **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>:** 6K Class Assembly: 8.40am  
Parents' Evening:  
Year 1: Surnames A – L  
Year 2: Surnames A – L  
Year 4 & Year 6
- **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>:** World Book Day
- **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> :** International Women's Day
- **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> :** British Science Week  
Year 5 & 6 Trip: Royal Observatory, Greenwich
- **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> :** Barnet Dance Competition: Arts Depot: 7pm
- **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> :** Parents' Evening:  
Year 1: Surnames K - Z  
Year 2: Surnames K - Z  
Year 3, 5, 7 & 8
- **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> :** Year 7 & 8 Trip to Body World's Exhibition  
Cross Country Competition: Hereward House  
HPPG Cake Sale 3.20pm

## HIGHLIGHT OF THE WEEK:

This week the Nursery & Pre-School children took part in a Nutrition Workshop, learning all about and tasting healthy foods. Learning how to make healthy choices from a young age is a great life skill!



## Next Week's Lunch Menu:



## THIS WEEK'S MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Dish of the Day</b> Lamb Meatballs in fresh Tomato and Herb sauce	<b>Dish of the Day</b> Creamy Chicken with Sweetcorn	<b>Dish of the Day</b> Traditional Beef Lasagne	<b>Dish of the Day</b> Roasted Chicken With Gravy	<b>Dish of the Day</b> Pizza (Pepperoni)
<b>Vegetarian Option</b> Sweet Potato and Leek Gratin	<b>Vegetarian Option</b> Broccoli and Cheese Bake	<b>Vegetarian Option</b> Vegetable and Quorn Lasagne	<b>Vegetarian Option</b> Egg Noodles with Stir-fry Vegetables	<b>Vegetarian Option</b> Pizza (Vegetable and Margherita)
<b>Side Dish</b> Spaghetti Garden Peas Coleslaw	<b>Side Dish</b> Sauté Potatoes Green Beans Roasted Carrots	<b>Side Dish</b> Garlic Bread Sweetcorn Steamed Courgettes	<b>Side Dish</b> Creamy Mash Potatoes Medley of Spring Vegetables Cauliflower	<b>Side Dish</b> Baked Potatoes Wedges Baked Beans Broccoli
<b>Jacket Potato</b> Served with filling of the day	<b>Jacket Potato</b> Served with filling of the day	<b>Jacket Potato</b> Served with filling of the day	<b>Jacket Potato</b> Served with filling of the day	<b>Jacket Potato</b> Served with filling of the day
<b>Salad Bar</b> A range of composite & basic salads	<b>Salad Bar</b> A range of composite & basic salads	<b>Salad Bar</b> A range of composite & basic salads	<b>Salad Bar</b> A range of composite & basic salads	<b>Salad Bar</b> A range of composite & basic salads
<b>Pudding</b> Yoghurt Fresh fruit salad	<b>Pudding</b> Yoghurt Fresh fruit salad	<b>Pudding</b> Banoffee Pie Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Salad	<b>Pudding</b> Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Salad	<b>Pudding</b> Ice Cream Yoghurt Fresh Fruit Salad

### Daily Salad Bar

With a selection of home cooked meats and freshly prepared salads

