

March

We've had a busy and exciting start to the new half term. This week we have been celebrating the power of reading through "*The World at our Fingertips*". There were many highlights including dressing up in our pyjamas for a book at bedtime and meeting children's author and illustrator **Steve Antony**. The children had a wonderful day!

Our Year 2 children are very excited about the visit of Drama Shed next week. They will be learning about the Victorians and will also get to meet Florence Nightingale.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tuesday 7th March: Year 2 Victorian Workshops (in school)

Tuesday 7th March: Reception eye tests

Friday 17th March: Comic Relief (own clothes)

Tuesday 21st March - Monday 28th March: Scholastic Book Fair in the hall 3:10pm

Wednesday 22nd March Zoolab visit Year 1 (in school)

Tuesday 28th March: Foundation Stage Spring Showcase 9:15am and 2:30pm

Friday 31st March: Easter Hats

Our Visit from Steve Antony



Yesterday we were very lucky to have a visit from the author and illustrator, Steve Antony. We all got to meet him, listen to his fantastic stories and watch him draw some amazing pictures.

He told us all about his childhood by drawing a picture. He grew up near the mountains in New Mexico in the USA. He lived with his parents and 3 brothers in a trailer and used to go under the fence to get to school!

Thank you, Steve.



As part of the World Book Day celebrations the junior children came to visit us and share stories. It was lovely to see the older children reading books and engaging with the younger ones.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is the responsibility of everyone in our school and at all times we consider what is in our children's best interests. We work to ensure our children are safe and cared for, and by doing this we are protecting their health and development and preventing them from harm. If we are worried, we will raise concerns, share information and take prompt action with the aim of ensuring families receive the right help at the right time.

Lead DSL: Mrs Harris

DSL: Miss Horton

CASS: 0121 303 1888

Tests for Years 1 and 2 in 2023

During the Summer Term all children's learning is assessed and this information is sent to the Department for Education. It is important that all children are at school during these weeks.

Year 1 will be tested on their reading through a **Phonic Screening Check of 40 words** (provided by the government). This must be done between

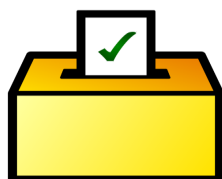
Monday 12th June and Friday 16th June

Year 2 must be tested using test papers given to us by the Government. Our Year 2 children will be doing their end of **Key Stage 1 tests during May.**

ELECTIONS

Unfortunately, on **Thursday 4th May**, school has to close due to Council elections for Bromsgrove. Due to other unforeseen closures this year, we attempted to redirect to other venues, but there is a legal duty for us to allow the school to be used as a polling station as we are a public building in receipt of Government Funding. The whole site has to be open for voters to have easy access to the polling stations on foot or by car.

This means that gates have to remain open and voters must cross the site to reach the polling station. Children will be provided with home learning activities.



SUPPORT IS A 'PHONE CALL AWAY!

Annette is available to speak to every week and holds a **Wednesday coffee morning from 9:00am in The Discovery Room.** She is there to listen and help and is able to offer support in lots of different ways. She is able to signpost parents to different organisations who can help, too.

If you would value a call from Annette, please call 0121 464 4266 and we will add you to Annette's call list. She will contact you as soon as possible.

CRIME PREVENTION, SAFEGUARDING, BEHAVIOUR AND SECURITY - CCTV

We would like to remind all parents that we have CCTV cameras operating across the whole site and focused on all the entrance gates and playgrounds. There is a camera in the foyer. The information is shown on screens in both offices. The cameras record 24 hours a day.