



Hallcroft Infant & Nursery School  
Whitaker Close  
Retford  
Notts  
DN22 7QH  
Tel: 01777 702728  
Head Teacher: Mrs J Cook  
E-mail: [office@hallcroft.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@hallcroft.notts.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.hallcroft.notts.sch.uk](http://www.hallcroft.notts.sch.uk)

## **NEWSLETTER 2 - 23.01.24**

Dear Parents/Carers,



### **AUTHOR VISIT - GRANDAD WHEELS**

We had a great time with 'Grandad Wheels' author Brian Abram yesterday. Brian spoke to the children about what it is like to use a wheelchair and answered their questions. The children really enjoyed listening to him read some of his stories and designing a futuristic wheelchair for him. There were some very creative ideas including rocket boosters, robot arms and springs and Brian awarded prizes for his favourite designs.

### **TAX FREE CHILDCARE**

The Government offers Tax-Free Childcare to eligible families. For every £8 you pay in the Government will contribute £2. You can check your eligibility and set up an online account at <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>. You cannot get Tax-Free Childcare at the same time as claiming Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Universal Credit or childcare vouchers.

### **INDIVIDUAL AND SIBLING SCHOOL PHOTOS**

These will take place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February. If you would like a photo with non-school age siblings please come into school at 8:30 am.

### **I LOVE YOU DAY**



Please come and celebrate the love you share with your children on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February. The children will work with you on a variety of activities which will celebrate Valentine's Day. If you are unable to come please feel free to send granny, granddad etc. If this is not possible please speak to me and I will happily go and work with your child. If you have children in different classes please feel free to take one child to the other child's class.

| Class               | Time           | Location         |
|---------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Rowan (Year 2)      | 9:00 - 9:45 am | Rowan Class      |
| Willow (Year 1)     | 9:00 - 9:45 am | Willow Class     |
| Oak (F2/Reception)  | 9:00 - 9:45 am | Oak Class        |
| Acorns (F1/Nursery) | 9:00 - 9:45 am | Acorns (Nursery) |

### **VALENTINE'S DISCO**

The Valentine's Disco takes place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February. The cost will be £2.50 (this includes a drink and snack) -please pay on ParentPay. The times for each class are as follows -  
Acorns (Nursery/F1) 4:30-5:15pm -enter by the front door, exit at Willow Class door.  
Oak (Reception/F2) 5:15-6:00pm-enter by the front door, collect from Willow Class.  
Willow (Y1) & Rowan (Y2) 6:00-7:00pm -enter by and collect from the front door.  
**Acorns (Nursery) children need to be accompanied by a responsible adult.**  
Please note - there will be NO Premier PE Club that day.

## **ELIZABETHAN DANCE FESTIVAL AND TORWORTH GYM**

Willow and Rowan Class will visit the Elizabethan Dance Festival on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February and Torworth Gym on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February. On these days, children in Willow and Rowan Class can come to school in their PE kits and wear them all day. Please make sure they are wearing long bottoms - joggers or leggings.

## **Y2 SWIMMING**

ADVANCE WARNING: Please be aware that if your child has their ears pierced they will need to have their earrings taken out before school on swimming days and if they get them newly pierced and cannot take them out then they will not be allowed to swim - these are Notts School Swimming rules. Y2's will start swimming on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February and will swim every Monday until the end of the summer term. Girls have to wear a one piece swimsuit and boys have to wear fitted (speedo type) swimming trunks or shorts - not fabric shorts with pockets. Letters have now been sent home - please fill in and send back the reply slip and consent form.

## **WORLD BOOK DAY**

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March is World Book Day so we are asking all children (and staff!!) to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. We are looking forward to seeing some fantastic outfits but are very happy for you to be creative and use what you have at home or equally for your child to come in non-uniform if they are not a fan of dressing up.

## **ASSESSMENTS**

Year 2 Assessments will take place in the months of May and June so it is important that the children are in school every day.

Year 1 Phonics test will take place during week beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024. These are statutory government assessments which have to take place and it is vital that your child is in school prior to this week to recap the phonemes and also to take the test.

**Please do not book holidays during these times.**

## **DIARY DATES**

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February  | Individual and sibling school photos (non-school age sibling photos 8:30am) |
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February | I Love You Day - see above  |
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February | Willow & Rowan Class Visit to Elizabethan Dance Festival - PM               |
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February | Valentines Disco (see times for each class)                                 |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February   | Willow and Rowan visit to Torworth Gym - AM                                 |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February   | Break-up for half term  |
| Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February  | Inset Day - school closed   |
| Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February | First day back at school  |
| Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February  | First swimming session for Rowan class                                      |
| Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February | Lion Learners visit school  |
| Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March    | World Book Day  |
| Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March     | Baby chicks arriving in school  |
| Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March   | Break-up for Easter Holidays  |
| Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April     | First day back at school after holidays                                     |

*Reminder: we have some preloved school uniform (lots of trousers, skirts etc) and shoes so please ask at Reception. Uniform does not have to have the school logo on or be new!*

Mrs Cook  
Head Teacher