

I hope you had a great holiday and enjoyed the sun and the outdoors. We are starting to show several prospective heads around and the interviews will be held before the end of term.

Attendance

I cannot quiet believe how many holiday request forms I am receiving. The percentage is far higher than any of the other schools in the academy. Several parents have now received fines and this will continue to increase through the year. I am conscious about the cost of holidays and how difficult it is for some parents to take time off work during the holidays. However when your child is absent for just a week, it is so difficult for them to catch up. We have a meeting every month with the Educational Welfare Officer and review every child whose attendance falls below a certain percentage. If your child has had several bouts of illness through the year which results in a worrying attendance rate, we are obliged to ask for medical evidence when they are ill. If I ask you to come and see me it is to discuss your child's absences as it may-be having a negative impact on your their wellbeing/ progress. We are understanding, but there are strict regulations regarding attendance.

Mental Health and Well-being

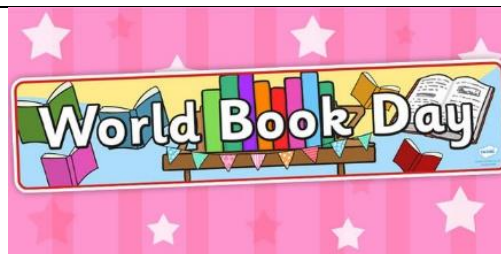
Many thanks to all the parents that were able to attend this workshop last night. It was great to be able to discuss with you, in detail, how we are supporting your children in this vital area of their development and share with you the approaches we are using. For those of you unable to make it, please see the links below for the resources. We also have a parents section in our school library which has lots of great resources that can help you to support your children too. We are hoping to hold more workshops relating to emotional wellbeing and mental health so if you think a particular aspect would be helpful, please let us know.

[Alphington Parent presentation mental health and well being \(1\)](#)

[tmh-parent-leaflet-final-all-approved-laid-out-for-web](#)

[wrap guide](#)

[100FreeCopingStrategies](#)



Friday 2nd March

Donate to dress up! Bring your favourite book character to life. You can find plenty of ideas at <https://www.bookaid.org/support-us/world-book-day-dress-up> . Donations are £1 per child for BookAid International.

Extreme Reading!: Bring in a photograph of yourself reading in the most extreme poses, conditions or places that you can think of. These will be displayed in the main corridor for all to see and there will be a prize for the most extreme reading picture!

Sponsored reading!: We will be kicking off a sponsored reading week from the 2nd to the 9th March. This will raise money for the school to buy lots of lovely new educational books for the children to read at school.

Wooden Spoon Competition!: We would love the children to design, decorate and dress-up a wooden spoon as a book character and bring it to school on Friday 2nd March. During the day itself they may be used for storytelling and drama activities, and then will be display in the library for everyone to see!

A quick update on forthcoming PTFA event

Mother's Day craft – Friday 9th March 3.30pm to 4.45pm in the school hall. If anyone can help, the PTFA still need a couple of people to supervise the children making their crafts.

Easter Discos – Wednesday 28th March – Year 1, 2 & 3 at 5.45pm until 6.45pm and Year 4, 5 & 6 at 7pm until 8pm, again the PTFA would appreciate some help.

Bingo & Bubble – Friday 20th April from 7.45pm until late, more details will follow soon.

Summer Fayre – Friday 6th July from 6pm until 9pm

Please feel free to get in touch with the PTFA with any suggestions / questions via their Facebook page – alphingtonptfa@hotmail.co.uk or catch one of the team at school.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 5th March – 2TF assembly at 3pm
Monday 12th March – 1C assembly at 3pm
Thursday 15th March – Parent café at 2.30pm
Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th March Years 3/ 4 production
Wednesday 28th October - School discos
Thursday 29th March – Talent show
Friday 30th March – start of the Easter holidays
Tuesday 17th April – First day back at school
Wednesday 18th April – Year 3 meeting for parents at 9.00am
Thursday 19th April – Year 2 meeting for parents at 9.00am
Friday 20th April – Year 1 meeting for parents at 9.00am
Monday 23rd April – Year 4 meeting for parents at 9.00am
Tuesday 24th April – Year 5 meeting for parents at 9.00am
Wednesday 25th April – Y6 meeting for parents at 9.00am
Thurs 26th April – Foundation meeting for parents at 9.00am
Tuesday 1st May – Year 2 SATs
Wednesday 2nd May – Year 5 London
Thursday 3rd May – Year 5 London
Friday 4th May – Year 5 London
Friday 11th May – Parent Café at 2.30pm
Monday 14th May – Year 6 SATs
Tuesday 15th May – Year 6 SATs
Wednesday 16th May – Year 6 SATs
Thursday 17th May – Year 6 SATs
Monday – Friday 21st to 25th May – Year 6 Grenville House

