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9th February 2018

Dear Parents,

At the beginning of the day Beech class treated their parents and the children and staff at the school to a very informative and energetic assembly about all forms of life including a 9m imitation python! We enjoyed looking at the pictures, listening to the facts, hearing the songs and watching the dancing. Thank you Beech Class.

Indeed, it has been a busy week with the fire crew and fire engine working with the children in Y2 and 'putting out' the burning models of The Great Fire of London. Last week was the baking of the bread 'in Pudding Lane' so that the events of The Great Fire of London and life in 1666 can be brought to life in an exciting and safe way. The children's writing about the bread making has been remarkable with the detail, sequencing and quality of language used to describe the process and the features of the dough such as 'flexible', 'elastic' and 'pliable'.

Parents' Evening

Staff were very pleased to see you this week and to share your child's progress and to give advice and tips on 'next steps'. I was delighted to talk with many parents and joined in with some of the appointments too. If you missed your appointment, please contact staff after half term and they will arrange to meet with you or will carry out a telephone conference if your commitments make it impossible to get into school in person.

World Book Day

There is still plenty of time to sort out something for your child to wear on World Book Day on 1st March. I have found 3 books about bees and so can, at last, wear my bee suit into school for the day and will read one of the stories to the children. Staff are interested in welcoming in parents to read stories to their class using books chosen by staff at key points in the day. If you fancy wearing a costume (any children's book character) and would like to read to a group of children on 1st March, then please speak to your child's teacher about a convenient time to pop in. This is likely to be no more than 15 minutes of your time and you will have a chance to read the book in advance so please consider volunteering on the day although only parents with existing DBS clearance will be able to participate.

Questionnaires for Parents

Please be kind enough to return your questionnaire responses after half term and well done to those of you who have been quick off the mark and sent them in already. Your views really matter to us and as promised, I will publish results and the actions arising from the survey data.









Pupil Absence

If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please ensure that you ring in to school to let us know what type of illness they have and an indication of how long they might need to be absent. Please remember that sickness or diarrhoea will require a minimum of 48 hours after the last bout. Class photographs on 22^{nd} February

Please be aware that the photographer will be taking a group photo of each class with their class teacher and teaching assistant on 22^{nd} February. We ask, that as usual, children come to school in their smart uniform. Please refrain from sending in children with large bows in their hair. The School Library

Thank you to the lovely parents who have donated more hours of their time to sort out the library and replace the books. It is now operational for the children and there will be some exciting events for them to get involved in after half term. Their 'extreme' reading pictures are displayed on the walls and there is still room for some more if you want to create one over the holiday.

The half term beckons and I wish you all a happy time and hope that you get a chance to relax as well as enjoy getting out and about and enjoying Plymouth. If you are at a loss as to what to do then please open up the Hyde Park Explorers book and try out one of the challenges.

We return to school on Monday 19th February



Yours sincerely, F.A. Hill Head Teacher