

News on the Nineteenth

Wormley C of E Primary School (VC)
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Have Faith, Show Respect, Take Responsibility and Achieve

www.wormleyprimary.co.uk

February 2019

LEARNING CONSULTATION EVENINGS

It was lovely to see so many families at the consultation evenings.
Thank you for your continued support in helping your child reach their potential.

WELL BEING

Next month we will be assessed for our work towards a *Well Being Award*.

The pupils' well-being is central to our school and we have been trialling strategies to support the children such as the Daily Mile (exercise), Mindfulness (being present and calm in the moment) and emotional check-ins (to recognise our feelings).

If you have any feedback about these strategies, please let us know. This week is the school's *Well Being Week* - the children will take part in yoga, walks, relaxation and other activities.

ENRICHMENT DAY

On Thursday 14th February we had a very interesting enrichment day learning about how we might *love our planet* more. We wanted the children to *make connections* between their actions and the impact of their actions. We wanted them to recognise their *responsibility* for looking after the planet. The children watched videos about the plastic pollution of the seas and learned how much waste we all make each year.

Did you know?

Each of us will send **64 tons of waste** to landfills over our lifetime.

Every day, a person sends **20 gallons of sewage** through the system.

In the UK over **35.8 million bottles** are consumed each day, with **16 million** of these failing to reach plastic recycling facilities.

The children were asked to make a pledge and these included using less plastic throw away bottle, switching off lights when they are not needed, composting fruit and vegetable waste, collecting litter from around school and learning more about protecting the planet.

We had a fantastic assembly where each class presented their learning.



NURSERY ADMISSIONS



Admissions to nursery schools and nursery classes in schools are managed directly by the schools and not by Herts County Council.

If you wish your child to attend the nursery classes at Wormley, you need to fill in an application form at the school.

All applications should be handed in by **15th March**. Letters offering confirmed places will be sent out to parents in the week beginning **29th March**. You will have until **26th April** to accept or refuse the places you have been offered. Morning places will be offered first to families requesting 30 hours.

READING CHALLENGE TERM



Don't forget the Reading Challenge at Wormley School this term.

The government expectation is that children in **Year 2** can read **90** words a minute and children in **Year 6** can read **150** words per minute. They need to read with this fluency to cope with the tasks/tests and to access the full curriculum.

Daily practice is the only way to improve fluency.

We have invested £1300 in new home reading books across the school so the children will have more choice in the books they take home to read. We have been advised to change books less frequently and encourage children to read and re-read the same book to develop greater fluency and deeper understanding.

We are able to tell which children are reading regularly by looking at their *reading records*. This helps us to decide who needs extra support. Please record in the reading records when you read each day.



Children can collect raffle tickets as rewards for reading at home and in school - in fact anywhere! There is a prize draw each week on a Friday and a Grand Prize Draw at the end of term for *3 sets of family vouchers for a trip to the cinema!*



WORLD BOOK DAY

7th March is *National World Book Day*.

Children can dress as a character from a favourite book or alternatively dress as the book draw a front cover, write a blurb for the back cover, make a sandwich board and hook it over your head!

Don't make reading a chore - make sure it's an enjoyable experience. Save a 10 minute time slot each day to snuggle up with your child and share a book, poem or magazine. Take it in turn to read to each other. Choose books children enjoy. Praise them for their reading.

Please encourage and read *with* your child as much as possible, at least every day, whatever their age. This *will* make a difference and will support your child to achieve their potential.

Thank you

AUTHOR VISIT

We've been offered a free afternoon assembly and book signing for KS2 by the science fiction author **Sue Hampton** on **Thursday 21st March**. There will be opportunities to purchase her books - more information will follow.



NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK 2018

11th - 15^h March

This year's science week - *The Origin of Birds* - has a focus on animals and their habitats.

Did you know?

The scientific question of within which larger group of animals birds evolved, has traditionally been called the **origin of birds**. The present scientific consensus is that birds are a group of theropod dinosaurs that originated during the Mesozoic Era.

Children will be working scientifically by: identifying and grouping the species; comparing their movements, their appearance, their adaptations, their habitats; researching the gestation period of birds; asking questions, following lines of enquiry, making careful observations, taking measurements, recording, classifying and reporting findings.

We will be incubating and hatching chicks over a 2 week period. There will be an opportunity for children to watch how chicks hatch from an egg by watching first hand.



The week will begin on **Monday 11th March** with a visit from a number of owls who will fly silently across the children's heads as they gather in the hall. The children will then become scientists, dissecting owl pellets to identify the diet of owls.

Do you know your blackbird from your swallow?

Perhaps not.

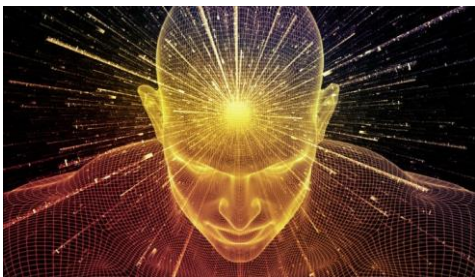
This week children will learn about different species of birds and learn to recognise and name the common garden birds. This will help them take part in the **Big Garden Birdwatch** January 2020.

Since the best way to learn is through first-hand experience, we have arranged **3 visits to RSPB Rye Meads Nature Reserve**, Rye Rd, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire SG12 8JS

Read more at <https://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/>

Letters have been sent to all children. At the reserve, the children will be able to visit bird hides so they can observe wetland birds and garden birds.

Throughout the week we will follow up specific learning linked to each year group's unit of learning from the Science National Curriculum.



OUR VALUES FOR THE MONTH IS *Wisdom*

The children will be learning from the Bible what *Wisdom* means and how they might grow in wisdom.

They will be learning from a range of sources of wisdom from other religions too.

"Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold. She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.

Proverbs 3:13-18

On **March 6th**, we will hold two **Ash Wednesday Services** in school to mark the beginning of Lent.

As we draw towards the end of term, we will explore **Salvation** in preparation for Easter.

The children will be learning that the Bible says that Jesus died on the cross so that anything that we might do wrong, might be forgiven - and this is what Christians believe.



BOOSTER CLASS

Booster Club has started for some of our Y6 pupils.

If your child gets an invitation to come to the club, don't forget.

A special time for extra revision and help in areas you find tricky!

Be prepared for Secondary School

SMOKING/VAPING

A reminder - it is unlawful to smoke or vape on school grounds or just outside the gates.

It is unhealthy for children to walk through smoke whilst coming and going to school.



ATTENDANCE

Our attendance is back up to **96%** but we must aim for at least **97%**.

We have had to issue fines to a few families when attendance falls below acceptable levels.

Obviously unless children are sick, they need to be in school to learn.

Driving into school

The safety of our children, staff & parents is one of our greatest concerns. If you use the Breakfast/ASC and you drive into school please control your speed whilst entering & leaving school and be mindful of pedestrians. Thank you.

SWIMMING GALA

On Wednesday 30th January 12 of our very talented swimmers from Yrs. 5 & 6 took part in the annual swimming gala held at The John Warner School. They raced against schools from the local area and took part in both solo and team events. All of the children involved did Wormley proud and raced as fast as possible, with some stand out performances. Well done to those children who took part!

THE DRAGON'S APPRENTICE

The Dragon's Apprentice teams presented their projects to the Super Dragons in the boardroom last week.

Once again, the Super Dragons were really impressed by the confidence and entrepreneurial skills of all the children.

We are immensely proud of the children for not only doing so well in the competition but for inspiring so many others.

They will make their presentations in one of our assemblies this term.

WELL DONE TO OUR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS!

**Dragons'
Apprentice
Challenge**