



# HANDSWORTH NEWS

BRANCHING OUT, GROWING TALL  
HAND IN HAND, ONE AND ALL



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

It is hard to believe we are half way through the academic year already! Time flies when you are having fun!

What a week we have had! On Tuesday, we were treated to a performance of 'This is Me' by our extremely talented parents. We were also very proud of our Digital Leaders who led assemblies for all children and helped with the Internet Safety Workshop for parents. On Wednesday, we celebrated WOW day with Year 2 and enjoyed hearing about the Year 1 Forest School experience. The week ended with Always Club and we still managed to have energy for the school disco!

We are looking for parents who would like to be involved in our **Electrifying Science Week** which will take place from 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> March. You are welcome to do an assembly, or visit your child's class and do a talk to the class about your job and how it might be linked with Science. You may wish to donate something towards Science Week or volunteer to help out at the 'Wheels to School' sessions. Please contact Miss Jordaan for more details.

Thank you once again to Friends of Handsworth for organising the disco for the children. They were so excited at school today! A perfect way to end the half term.

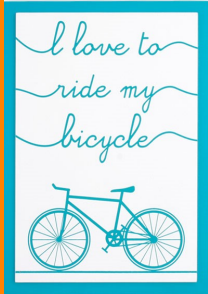
Thank you all for your support.

Have a lovely half term break,

Mrs Nairne







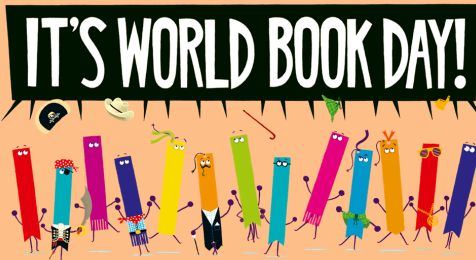
Thank you to the parents who attended the Internet Safety Workshop on Tuesday, was good to see so many of you there. We will be uploading the PDF version of the PowerPoint onto the website soon.



Our Computing Lead Mrs Giacuzzo has put together an information sheet with instructional websites for parental safety on various systems, websites and devices, we will upload this to the website too. There's a lot of info on there, but it will give you many options for where to find help. It also contains the websites that were discussed this during the session.

Mrs Giacuzzo is happy to answer any questions from parents, so please feel free to email the school office with any queries you may have about Internet Safety.

Thank you Mrs Giacuzzo, Mr Dawes and our wonderful Digital Leaders for providing the Internet Safety assemblies and workshops for parents, staff and children this week!



At Handsworth, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 6th March (although it is officially on Thursday 5th). There will be lots of opportunities for you to discover new stories, share old favourites and take part in competitions.

We would like everyone to get into the spirit of the day:

**Dress up as a book, a character or an author.**

As Friday is also the start of Science Week, why not challenge yourself by choosing a book character with a Science theme?

**Who's behind the book?**

Every child will hear a story read out loud by a teacher. All you have to do is choose which story you want to hear; the mystery is that you won't know which adult is reading the story until the day...

**Buy a book at the pop-up book stall that will be visiting Handsworth during the day.**

**Get Caught Reading**

Where is the most unusual spot you can settle down with a book? Ask your parent or carer to take a photo of you reading in your strange place and email it in to [school@handsworth.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:school@handsworth.waltham.sch.uk) with 'Get Caught Reading', your name and class in the subject line. We'll post them on the website and the best ones will win a prize.

**100 words**

Write a story in less than 100 words and partner up with another pupil to illustrate it for you. We'll create a book of the best ones.

**Read, Write, Refer**

Our school library is a fantastic place to read books, to work in peace and to look up new information; visit it during Science Week, when we will be launching the Lunchtime Library.

**Get ready for World Book Day: dress up, buy a book and be prepared to have your mind expanded!**





We all can dance  
when we find music  
that we love

Giles Andrae  
PICTURE QUOTES.COM

*I love  
when we dance  
to our  
favorite songs.*



Thank you to our wonderful parents who surprised the children to a performance of This is Me on Tuesday morning. What a great start to Random Acts of Kindness week! The children, staff and parents loved it! You can see a video on our website!



This week we have the privileged of sharing the celebration of E-safety week. E-safety is very important as online is a huge part of our lives. This year the theme was #Freetobeme.

This means that as a community we are striving for a safe space, where we can be ourselves without the fear of bullying, while being able to express ourselves online. The Digital Leaders were able to spread this message to the children in both KS1 and KS2 and share some facts and tips on how to do this while still being aware and safe.



### Our eSafety Top Tips!

- 1** People you don't know are strangers. They're not always who they say they are. 
- 2** Be nice to people like you would on the playground. 
- 3** Keep your personal information private. 
- 4** If you ever get that 'uh oh' feeling, tell a grown-up you trust. 

**Wanted!  
Part Time  
Librarian.**

Our new Scholastic Book Club is up and running!  
Go to <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/handsworth>  
to browse the latest books and order online.



For every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club, our school will earn 25p in Scholastic Rewards.

Please place your order online by March 2nd, 2020.



# Branching out, standing tall, hand in hand, one and all.

Teachers have been involved in training sessions to learn more about the teaching and learning of Maths through Maths Mastery. Our Maths leaders are guiding the process as we look to create an innovative approach so all children can achieve.

We are partnering with the organisation Investors in Diversity, to explore the FREDIE principles (fairness, respect, equality, diversity, inclusion and engagement) and to identify and areas for further training and development.

The English team have taken a comprehensive audit of the over 70 books our children study during their time at Handsworth and are working with teachers focus on increased diversity.

Subject leaders are working in their curriculum teams to further develop and refine our curriculum.

## QUALITY OF EDUCATION

Place a rigorous focus on diversity and inclusion through a contextually relevant curriculum which celebrates the uniqueness of all children.

Continue to embed the consistent teaching and learning of Maths through Maths Mastery resulting in attainment exceeding that of pupils nationally.



"In Maths we have been using manipulatives and resources to help us understand. We give reasons to explain our answers."





## Every school day counts, being in school matters!

Attending school regularly and maintaining a routine of good attendance at school is important to allow children to fulfil their potential.

Please demonstrate your commitment to your child's education with regular and punctual attendance and by not taking holidays during term time. Any child who is absent from school due to a holiday will miss out on important learning.

Holidays taken during term time will be categorised as an unauthorised.

Things you can do:

- Establishing a good routine in the mornings and evenings so children are prepared for the school day ahead.
- Ensure children arrive at school on time.
- Arrange dental and medical appointments outside school hours when possible.
- Always inform the school before school starts if your child is absent due to illness.
- Take family holidays outside term time.
- Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work.
- Praise and reward your child's achievements at school.
- Discuss any problems or difficulties with the school – **we are here to help and will be supportive.**

**Please don't be afraid to ask for help if a problem arises, we want to work with you!**

100%	0 Days Missed
95%	9 days of absence 1 Week and 4 days of learning missed
90%	19 days of absence 3 weeks and 4 days of learning missed
85%	28 Days of absence 5 weeks and 3 days of learning missed
80%	38 days of Absence 7 weeks and 3 days of learning missed
75%	46 days of absence 9 weeks and 1 day of learning missed

