

Soaring High Newsletter

February 2023
Our School Values are



Love, Honesty, Forgiveness, Respect, Hope

New trees

Thank you to the parents who sent me messages about the Notcutts Native Tree Offer. To celebrate being 125, the garden centre was giving away trees. We got three Prunus Avium - wild cherry trees. Mr Woodall has planted two on the front of school and one in the school garden. I'm sure we all look forward to the gorgeous white blossom – in years to come. Thank you Notcutts!

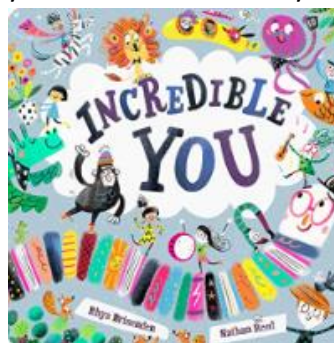


Map day

Last Friday we had a whole school focus on mapwork as part of our Geography curriculum. The children joined in with a whole range of tasks, from creating 3D maps in Year 1, using compasses and reading OS maps in Years 2, 4 and 6 to creating, securing knowledge of Great Britain and the UK in Year 3 and understanding contours in Year 5. Thank you, Miss Novak and all the class-teachers, for all your hard work.

World Book Day

This year world book day takes place on Thursday 2nd March, in the first week after the holidays. Our chosen book this year is *Incredible You* by Nathan Reed. Mrs Alexander will be running a potato character competition. The idea is to create a potato showing your favourite character from a book. Winners will be chosen on Friday 3rd March and the prize will be books! In terms of dressing up – we invite the children to dress up as someone they are really interested in or inspired by. It might be someone they want to be as a career in the future, or an animal, a historical figure or someone who lived in a different decade. We look forward to seeing the range of interests and ambitions our young people show!



Contact information

It is essential that we have up to date contact details for parents on our school system. We use the mobile numbers to send out important information such as parent evening appointments. If you have changed your number, moved house or got a new email, please let the staff in the

Friday Assemblies

Soaring High Assembly takes place each week on Friday at 2.30pm. We look forward to seeing you and celebrating the great work the children are doing. The final Friday will not be the usual Soaring High, but instead a singing assembly. Please do join us.

Parking

Unfortunately I have had an email complaining about parents parking in the local area. The local resident was upset that parents of this school were impolite and intrusive. I hate to think of our school being associated with unfriendly behaviour. Our school is our community. We should be setting the example we want from our children at all times.

Access to the front of school is by prior arrangement only.

Opening times

With the weather cold and wet please remember that we have little in the way of shelter against the elements. School gates (and only Nursery) open at 8.30am with the school doors opening at 8.40am.

Attendance

As a school, we are put under huge scrutiny for our attendance figures. If your child is ill you must let school know each day to keep us up to date. Please remember

office now. Also – if you know a friend has new contact details, please nudge them to contact the office too!

Singing Assembly

On Friday 17th February we have a new focus in our 2.30pm singing assembly. The children are all learning to sing a short song from a language other than English. This is to help us understand the wide range of languages spoken by our children - 18 in addition to English. I've heard some classes sharing their songs already and it's safe to say – they have done an amazing job!

Safari in the Serengeti Day



The topic this term in Reception has been based around the Serengeti in Tanzania. On Friday 3rd February children will be finding out more about the culture and life in the Serengeti. One of the activities they will be exploring will be traditional dance, and Reception plan to perform a short dance during assembly on the Friday at 2.30pm. They will also be exploring different storytelling traditions and crafts celebrating the animals of the Great Migration as well as the people who live and work in the Serengeti.

Assembly themes

The new birthday assemblies are working really well. Even the older children are (sometimes secretly) pleased to be sung to by their friends. We have been learning some new birthday songs to help make the occasion more unique to us. In other assemblies we have been thinking about Chinese New Year, 'Being rich': thinking about our class artists, the King Midas story, the Widow's Mite and what makes Dukinfield a really special place to live. The older children have also been learning about some inspirational people from history: Helen Keller and Christopher Reeve. There have been some really meaningful conversations about the lessons we can learn from remarkable people.



Looking ahead



Monday 8th May has been announced as an extra Bank Holiday to mark the coronation of King Charles III. Staff are already thinking as to how we can mark this occasion in school. We will also be asking the School Council for their ideas to make it a special event to remember for a life-time. It's also really nice to think about the summer too – warmer days are coming!

we do not authorise term time holidays. Penalty notices will be put in place and may lead to prosecution. No term time holidays!

www.ravensfield.tameside.sch.uk/documents/news/attendance-letter.pdf

Safety on school grounds

Dogs are not permitted on school grounds. Any bikes or scooters being brought onto school grounds must be dismounted and wheeled in. At all times, we must consider the safety of everyone, even on the large playgrounds.

Letters

If you send letters for school staff in your child's bag, please let the teacher know via ClassDojo or leave a message in the office so we can be sure to get them.

Thanks

Diary Dates

- ❖ 1st February NEU strike action. Please see website for details of classes closed.
- ❖ 3rd February *Safari in the Serengeti* Day in Reception
- ❖ Singing Assembly 2:30 Friday 17th February.
- ❖ We finish for half-term on Friday 17th February at 3.15pm.
- ❖ School reopens on Monday 27th February.
- ❖ Thursday 2nd March – World Book Day
- ❖ Friday 10th March – Science Day
- ❖ Friday 17th March – Mother's Day Event(s) details to follow
- ❖ Friday 31st March – we finish for Easter. School closes at 2pm.