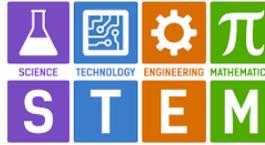


Dear parents/ carers,

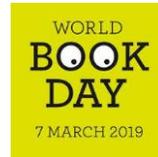


Upcoming Events

| | |
|--|---|
| Monday 25 th February | School opens |
| Wk beginning 25 th February | STEM week |
| Tuesday 26 th February | Parent partnership meeting, 2.30pm |
| Thursday 28 th February | Rec & Y1 performance of "The Princess and the Pea" at The Lighthouse, Salford |

March

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 5 th March | STEM exhibition 2.45 – 3.45pm |
| Thursday 7 th March | World Book Day – dress as a word |
| Friday 15 th March | Comic Relief – Red Nose Day £1 |
| Friday 29 th March | Spring Fair 9 – 10.30am |
| Wednesday 3 rd April | Spring celebration assembly, 9.15am |
| Friday 5 th April | School closes |



Summer Term 2019

April

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Tuesday 23 rd April | School opens |
|--------------------------------|--------------|



School Year 2019/ 2020

For your information below are the proposed school term dates for next year when all children are expected to be in school. We do not authorise holidays during term time so please do not arrange any holidays during these dates.

| | |
|----------|---|
| Autumn 1 | Monday 2 nd September – Friday 18 th October 2019 |
| Autumn 2 | Monday 28 th October – Friday 20 th December 2019 |
| Spring 1 | Monday 6 th January – Friday 14 th February 2020 |
| Spring 2 | Monday 24 th February – Friday 3 rd April 2020 |
| Summer 1 | Monday 20 th April – Friday 25 th May 2020 |
| Summer 2 | Monday 8 th June – Monday 27 th July 2020 |

The following dates are likely to be in-service training (INSET) days when school is closed to pupils to allow staff training.

1. Monday 2nd September 2019
2. Friday 18th October 2019 (TBC)
3. Monday 6th January 2020 (TBC)
4. Monday 8th June 2020 (TBC)
5. Monday 27th July 2020



STEM Week

This half term's theme week is 'STEM Week'. In case you don't know STEM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths and during the week beginning Monday 25th February we will be learning about these subjects in a cross-curricular, exciting way in school. This will include working with STEM Ambassadors from Manchester Science & Industry Museum. On Tuesday 5th March 2.45 – 3.45pm there will be an exhibition in the hall when we will be sharing our learning of all things STEM! We hope that you are able to come along.

The Princess and the Pea Project, Reception & Year 1



Over the past two months our Reception and Y1 classes have been involved in a music project based upon the traditional tale of "The Princess and the Pea" by Hans Christian Andersen. This is being organised by Stockport Music Service in partnership with the Greater Manchester Music Hub.

The project culminates in an interactive performance and workshop on Thursday 28th February at The Lighthouse in Salford, when our children will perform with over 600 other children from schools across Greater Manchester. Children and accompanying staff will be dressed up as characters from the story and we are sure that this will be a fabulous event.

As this performance is only for children, an extra concert for parents and carers of the three Heaton's primary schools is being arranged at a closer venue in March and we hope that parents and carers of Reception and Y1 children will be able to attend.

Parent Partnership Meeting

We will be holding our termly parent partnership meeting on Tuesday 26th February at 2.30pm. The group meets with Mrs. Mullane and Ms. Varetto to discuss issues and share ideas to help make Mersey Vale even better. Everyone welcome!

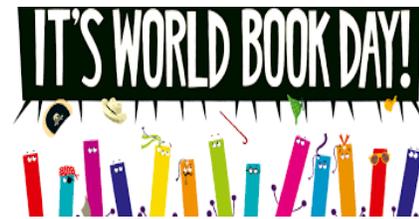


Leading Parent Partnership Award

2018-2021

World Book Day

On Thursday 7th March 2019 Mersey Vale will be joining in with World Book Day, which celebrates the joy and value of books and reading, especially for children. Throughout school everyone will be involved in activities related to books and to words as one of our targets this year is to develop children's vocabulary, understanding and use of words in their speaking, reading and writing.



This year rather than dressing up as a book character we would like all children to come to school dressed as a word. Ms. Mather has put together details on the following link [Vocabulary Parade Letter](#) and this idea will be explained to children further in an assembly and in class. We will award the children with the best costumes a prize of a book of their choice. We are also asking for a donation of £1.00 for 'Book Aid International'- a charity that increases access to books and supports literacy, education and development in Africa. Thank you for your support.

Friends of Mersey Vale

Our Friends of Mersey Vale group is now planning ahead for the Spring Fair which will take place on Friday 29th March at 9am. We really do need as many helpers as possible to ensure that events are successful. Please come along to our next planning meeting to be held on Wednesday 27th February 2019 at 2.30pm and support us at events as money raised is used to benefit ALL children in school.

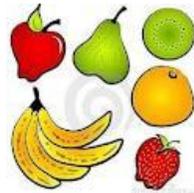
Dinner Money

For Year 3 – Year 6 children only. Dinner money is £2.15 per day/ £10.75 per week which must be paid in advance to ensure that your child receives their school meal. Please make payments using Parentpay. Meals can be in advance for the half term 25th February - 5th April = 30 days = £64.50. Please see Mrs. Ahmed in the school office for any information about school dinners. She is available Monday – Friday 8.45am – 12.45pm.



Healthy Snacks

At Mersey Vale we have a system of healthy snacks for children to have at morning break. On offer each day is wholemeal toast, pitta bread, crumpets, pieces of fresh fruit, raisins, fruit juice drinks, water etc. Most children have two items each day (snack and drink) and this costs £2.50 per week and should be paid using Parentpay. Children who prefer to bring their own snack may bring healthy items but chocolate biscuits, crisps, sweets and fizzy drinks must not be brought as snacks. Our school policy is that children should only have healthy snacks at morning playtime. Please help your child to make healthy choices. Snacks can be paid for in advance for the half term 25th February - 5th April = 30 days = £15.00



School Policies

Parents may be interested to know that many important school policies are available on our school website in the About Us – Key Information section. The Governing Body regularly review and agree all policies in line with local and national guidance. <http://www.merseyvale.stockport.sch.uk/policies/>

Spring Celebration

On Wednesday 3rd April we will be holding our annual special 'Spring Celebration' assembly at 9.10 am where we will be singing a selection of songs and reading poetry about Springtime and Easter. Everyone is welcome to join us. We would like all children in Reception, Y1 & Y2 to make and wear a decorated Easter bonnet or hat with a Springtime theme; daffodils, chicks, eggs, bunnies... We'd like the children in Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 to take part in a different competition by decorating a hard-boiled egg or eggs ... Be as imaginative as you like! There will be prizes for the best creations! Below are some pictures to give you some ideas!



Yours faithfully,

Jayne Mullane

Jayne Mullane
Headteacher



Claire Varetto

Claire Varetto
Deputy Headteacher

