

10.11.23

Dear Parents and Carers

Message from Mrs Rawlins – 10.11.23

I hope this finds you well. We had a lovely Remembrance assembly this morning, where we were thinking about the importance of peace in our world. The assembly included a short time of silence to show respect for all those affected by conflict at this time. We also thought about those people and families who are supported by the Royal British Legion. Thank you for sending in donations to buy poppies – we actually ran out this morning, so we will need to ask for more next year! Also, all children had the chance to make a red poppy as well as one of the other poppies we have learnt about – a purple poppy for animals who served in wars alongside soldiers, the Black Poppy Rose, which raises the profile of the contribution of black soldiers, especially where those stories may have been overlooked in the past, and the white Peace poppy, which first appeared in the 1930s and its purpose is to remind people to focus on making and living in peace. I will be adding the poppies to a display in school and add photos to the website in the 'News and Events' section.

We have had a good week in school, and I know that teachers appreciated being able to meet with so many of you at parent/carers consultations. We know that it is best when home and school are able to work together to support children, and it was good to talk about progress as well as next steps in learning!

Next week in school:

Anti-bullying week ('Make a Noise about Bullying') and Odd Socks Day: On Monday, we will be beginning 2 weeks of work to consolidate children's understanding of issues around bullying and what we do about bullying when it is reported to us in school. As a celebration of our individuality, we will have 'Odd Socks Day' on Monday, where children can wear odd socks to school if they would like to!

Year 2 visit to the Fire Station – Thursday: Year 2 children are very much looking forward to visiting the Fire Station on Thursday morning as part of their learning about the Great Fire of London.

Children in Need day – Friday: On Friday, children are welcome to come to school in something colourful or spotty, as we celebrate the work of Children in Need in our 'Do Your Thing' assembly. This is probably our favourite assembly of the year! Children are able to sign up to show us a talent – but they only have 1 minute...! Children can sign up with me in the lunch hall next week, or let me know via their teachers. They do have to be brave enough to be able to show their talent on stage in front of the whole school though!

Half-termly tea – Friday after school from 3.25pm: All are welcome to come along to our next half-termly tea on Friday. Do drop in for a while for a drink and a chat. We will also have our very popular book table, and I am hoping that lots of adults and children will enjoy spending 5 minutes drawing as part of 'The Big Draw' (no pressure, but it will be fun, I promise!!).

A few other things to pass on to you:

Free Storytelling session tomorrow: Here is the information about tomorrow's free storytelling session:

- *On Saturday, November 11th, at 10.30 am it's Time for a Story again at Milton Road Library: this month on a theme of trees, leaves and remembering. Come for a FREE Saturday morning hour of fun and interactive storytelling for children under 10 and their families. This month we feature, alongside storyteller Marion Leeper, some brand new storytellers telling and reading their stories. Drop in to check out the stories any time between 10.30-11.30, or stay for the whole hour.*

Online workshops for parents and carers: Our local Mental Health Support Team have asked us to flag up some free online workshops being run by NESSie (more information about them here: [Cambridgeshire](#)

and Peterborough parents - NESSie IN ED, CIC). The workshops will be held on Teams and cover the following areas of concern parents/carers may be experiencing with their children – anxiety, self-harming behaviours and school refusal. Here is the link to book a place on a workshop:
<https://procfu.com/nepubbooking>

Amanda Gilbert, our Education Family Inclusion Adviser: Amanda has asked us to let you know about her availability for appointments on 28th November, either online or via a telephone call. I have attached a document from Amanda with the information which you may find helpful.

Wishing you a good weekend. As always, please do contact us if we can be of help. If you have any specifically KS1 questions, please contact Sophie Morris at smorris@arbury.cambs.sch.uk and for anything particularly involving KS2, please contact Kate Dowdall at kdowdall@arbury.cambs.sch.uk.

Kind regards

Diane Rawlins
Assistant Headteacher