



## Newsletter 12 - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Welcome to our newsletter! We hope that you have a fantastic half term break and we look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March

### Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

Last week, across the academy, all classes marked Children's Mental Health Week. There were a wide range of activities and conversations taking place, in response to this short video

created by Place2Be: <https://youtu.be/1-d6Qm1feZE>  
The theme was 'growing together' and fitted really well with our academy-wide focus on Mental Health that has been ongoing since the first lockdown in 2020. The focus on mental health continues to be a priority here as we recognise the impact on all the children, in some ways more so this year than ever, as we go through our first full academic year 'in school' for two years. You might have already heard about one addition to your children's school experience - "Mindfulness Monday, Wellbeing Wednesday and Feel good Friday" (or Funky Friday depending on which teacher you ask!). This initiative was brought in to embed lots of aspects of effective support for Mental Health throughout our children's week, every week. Coming up soon....

Mrs Robinson will be holding a workshop, open to all parents, to provide you with tools and strategies to combat child anxiety and reluctance to come into school (sometimes referred to as 'Emotionally Based School Avoidance'), it is hoped the workshop will be face-to-face before the Easter break. Watch this space!

### A Super Celebration for our Parents

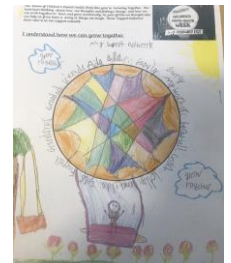
We want to celebrate the fact that **over 40** of you signed up for **free online courses** funded by the Government and offered to us through The Aim Group - an unprecedented level of uptake for a primary school! Well done parents!

You might remember that we signposted these free online Level 2 accredited courses available to help better understand some key issues around young people's mental health and wellbeing. Some included: Understanding Autism, Understanding Children and Young People's Mental Health, Understanding Behaviour That

Challenges and Understanding Specific Learning Difficulties. If some of you are reading this and wishing you too had undertaken a course, please do contact Mrs Robinson and she can signpost you further.

**Building Works Update:** We are hoping that the scaffolding will be removed over half term as the builders complete works carried out on the roof over Key Stage 2.

Last week during PSHE in Children's Mental Health Week, Pine Class in Year 4 had a discussion about feelings and the colours and pictures which match those emotions. The children then made a graffiti wall of different emotions. Year 3 children thought about their support networks and talked about how this helps them to grow emotionally.



### Curriculum Corner History



At Lindfield Primary Academy, teachers bring the history curriculum to life and engage children through a range of exciting topics and a variety of stimuli, including key texts, artefacts, studies of famous historians and school visits. History is a key subject within our knowledge rich curriculum. The journey starts in Early Years where they investigate the history of wheels. In Year 1, children investigate changes through a study of bears. In Year 2, children study the lives of significant individuals including Mary Seacole and Robert Falcon Scott. Year 3 and Year 5 focus on Ancient civilisations looking at Ancient Egyptians and Greeks. Year 4 explore the story of the Titanic, while Year 6 reflect on The Battle of Britain. We celebrate Black History month throughout the school and encourage children to develop an understanding of history in a chronological context.

Through the study of history, children also develop the key skills of enquiry by posing questions, thinking critically and considering evidence. We believe these skills support children to reflect on the constant process of historical change and the diverse nature of societies, equipping them as global citizens. The children thrive on developing their inquisitiveness to unlock treasures of the past.

### Safer Internet Week

E-Safety is a key feature of our computing curriculum at Lindfield and as part of this, we once again celebrated Safer Internet Day. This year's theme was 'Exploring respect and relationships online.' Our younger children learnt about how to play online games safely and not give out any personal information, while KS2 focused more on how to have positive interactions online, - and how to block and report anything that worries or upsets them. For more information including stories for EYRS and KS1, please visit [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)

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of the Newsletter!

### The Grand Vehicle Exhibition

After reading the story 'Toot Toot Beep Beep' by Emma Garcia and looking at Ian Callum's car designs, our Early Years children have been creating their very own vehicle designs over the last few weeks.

They began by drawing what they would like their vehicle to look like and created a list of materials they would need to create it. Wheels were the next big thing, so they learnt about how wheels work and what was used before they were invented!

The children have worked tirelessly to turn their designs into real life creations. From cutting, sticking and painting to sawing, doweling and attaching wheels; their masterpieces are finally complete! What a huge success!



### Reading Corner

On Thursday 3rd March, we are celebrating the 25th anniversary of World Book Day – with the message for all children 'you are a reader'! It will be filled with lots of exciting, celebratory ways to promote poetry and reading for pleasure.

We are very lucky to have so many local authors and illustrators in our community who are committed to helping us develop a love of reading in our children. Thank you to everyone who has offered to share their passion for reading, poetry and drama with the children in book week.

### Sports News

#### Sportshall Athletics

Our Year 6 Sports Hall Athletics team competed in the Mid Sussex competition, against 8 other schools, last week. Up first were the obstacle races, shortly followed by relays and over-and-under races. While this was happening, the children also took part in throwing and jumping events; pushing themselves as far as they could. They were determined to do their best and some PB's were definitely achieved! The competition was fierce and we are incredibly proud to say that our children came first! They are through to the county finals in May. What an incredible performance from everyone!

#### Netball

Our Year 6 netballers took part in the Mid Sussex Netball Tournament this week. They recognised the need to work together as a team and played impressively in all their games. They came up against some tough competition from local schools but they showed real determination and persevered to come third in their group! Well done girls!

#### Badminton

Some of our Year 3 children attended a brilliant badminton festival this week. They got a chance to learn and practise a variety of skills used in the game. Needless to say, they have developed an interest and love of the game!

### Staffing News

We say a fond farewell to two members of staff this week. Goodbye to Mrs Richards, EY TA, who is leaving us to take on a new role in a nursery closer to home. In her place, Mrs Humphries will be working alongside Miss Cowderoy in Hazel Class after half term.

We also say farewell today to teacher Mrs Scott, who is now officially starting her maternity leave.

We welcome two new teaching assistants to our staff team, Mrs Anna Heath, who is working across Year 1, and Ms Alison Gaylard, who will be supporting children in Years 3 and 4 from March.

Well done to these wonderful children who have been consistently Ready, Respectful and Safe!



## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Mon 21<sup>st</sup> – Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Feb: Half Term Break

**Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Feb: INSET Day – academy closed to pupils**

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar: Year 5 Ancient Greece workshop

Thu 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar: World Book Day – dress up day

Thu 3<sup>rd</sup>/Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Mar: Interim Reviews sent to parents

Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Mar: Year 4 Observatory Science Centre visit

Mon 7<sup>th</sup> – Thu 10<sup>th</sup> Mar: parent consultations – all year groups

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Apr: Spring term ends

**Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Apr: INSET Day – academy closed to pupils**

Tue 26<sup>th</sup> Apr: Summer term begins

**Thu 21<sup>st</sup> Jul: last day of summer term**