

Dear Parents

9 February 2022

With the lovely rain we have had our gardens are looking better than ever. The grass is coming along nicely and the trees are rejuvenated. We love the fresh air, the sound of birds, our setting and we make good use of what nature has to offer.



## **Cross Country**

We have been running daily (early morning) and most students have adapted to this activity as part of our routine. We are using this run to explore, but also to improve our fitness levels.

To ensure everyone gets the opportunity to participate in this activity, I remind you that school starts at **07:30** and that children are expected to arrive before such time.

### **Valentine's Day (Red Day-14 February)**

On 14 February, we celebrate love and friendship by exchanging cards and often something sweet to eat.

Although the origins of Valentine's Day are murky it is celebrated in many countries of the world.

At TPL we will celebrate Valentine's day as a **Free-Dress** day where we encourage our students to come to school dressed in White/Red/Pink. There is no need to source, borrow or buy any item to wear, as I am sure they will find something suitable in their cupboard to wear. It is a normal school day although we will have a surprise for our students. Please remind them that free-dress should always be practical and sensible play clothes. It is not a fashion parade, nor a competition.

## **Parent Assembly (19 February)**

Please note that the first parent assembly will be on Friday 19 February at 07:30 **ALL** parents are invited to this assembly. The Year 1 and Year 2 students will be leading this assembly and will be presenting an item to you. These assemblies are held to include you as parent but also, to give students the opportunity to speak in public and through this build their self-confidence.

## **International Mindfulness and Celebrations**

From time to time at TPL we will be celebrating our diverse student population by celebrating different important days (be it cultural or religious) in ways to make it memorable and meaningful to our students. It won't be possible to celebrate all the days on the international calendar, but we will definitely attempt to celebrate the ones important to our community and maybe even a few to show mindfulness of people outside our community. If you have specific suggestions of days to celebrate, please feel free to share those which

are close to your heart with us to ensure we attempt to include it in our calendar.

### **Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Tuesday - 1 March)**

We will celebrate Pancake Tuesday by baking and selling pancakes at school. We will soon have a meeting with the class representatives about the detail of this day, but please do take note of it. Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent in the Roman Catholic Church (and those Protestant churches that observe Lent).

Shrove Tuesday is a reminder that Christians are entering a season of penance. Why is it called Shrove Tuesday? It comes from the word 'shrive', which means to give absolution after hearing confession. So Shrove Tuesday is the day when people went to confession to prepare themselves for Lent, which begins on the following day, Ash Wednesday.



Pancakes are associated with Shrove Tuesday, the day preceding Lent, because it is a way to use up rich foods such as eggs, milk, and sugar, before the fasting season of the 40 days of Lent.

We look forward to a great term ahead. Please also find the Calendar shared for your information.

Best Regards

Rudi Brewis and the TPL Team