

# Milton Abbot Primary School



Newsletter 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 Spring 1, Issue 2

[www.miltonabbot.devon.sch.uk](http://www.miltonabbot.devon.sch.uk)

Dear Parents, Carers, Guardians and Friends of Milton Abbot,

**May I begin by congratulating** Mrs. Weatherston and Miss Pawlik for their fantastic efforts at the Exeter Epic 10K Trail on 25<sup>th</sup> January. They said it was tough going at times (we love a challenge at MA), but they were certainly smiling for the photographs at the end, as they held their medals aloft! They raised over £140 from kind donations, which will be going towards equipment for the children to share and enjoy at school. They also featured in our 'Sport Stars' assembly last Monday, which included a brief exploration of racism heard on the terraces at some sports grounds and sporting events. We shared news headlines from the BBC sport page, to help make the children aware of this ongoing issue on a local, national and global scale. We explained that as they grow older, they will face choices in how they behave and treat others; our school message is always one of equality, diversity and standing against prejudice. A serious start to the week, but a much more jovial end with our usual Celebration Assembly fun. Best wishes, Mr. Luxford.

**Reading for knowledge, reading for pleasure!** World Book Day is on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March and we will be inviting the children to come dressed as their favourite character from a book. However, we will be holding a range of activities during the week, including 'The Big Boy read', during which we invite any Dads, Step-dads, Grandads, Uncles, etc., to come and read to their child as part of a National incentive to get more boys enjoying reading. Watch out for this poster (below) to share further information:

**This year we will spend a whole week celebrating books!**

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March @2pm: Big Boys Read**  
Dads, Grandads, Uncles, Brothers are invited to come into school and share stories.

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March: Shared Reading**  
Children will share stories together across all year groups.

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March: Inventing Stories**  
Children will invent their own stories and create their own books.

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March: Dress up as a Book Character**  
Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character and bring a story on a plate to share in school (decorate a paper plate to share your story).

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March @2.30pm: Reading Champions Assembly!**  
A special reading champion assembly to celebrate a love of books through awards. The children will also have a real storyteller in school today!

## **Safeguarding Matters and Personal Wellbeing: E-safety Drama Workshops on 10<sup>th</sup> February**



Tik Tok

We have booked *Bigfoot Arts Education* to come and lead a Safer Internet Drama Workshop with each class, as part of our ongoing commitment to keeping our children safe online. This is especially to commemorate Safer Internet Day in February. These workshops will be tailored to the age of the children with 'Boo the Bunny surfs the Web' for KS1 and a focus on Cyber safety and bullying for KS2. With this topic in mind, we have been advised by several parents that 'TikTok' is a video-sharing social networking service, which the providers state is suitable for aged 13 or over. Please be aware, that if you do allow your child to access 'TikTok' that several of our parents are concerned that it is very open on chat access, so please do ensure your child knows who they are talking

## HOOT (PTFA):

Thank you to our HOOT members who were able to attend our first meeting of 2020 on 8<sup>th</sup> January, their time and ideas are always much appreciated. We have some lovely events for the children to look forward to including:

- Valentine Disco on 14<sup>th</sup> February (£3 on the door) from 17:00 – 18:30
- Easter Egg Hunt on 27<sup>th</sup> March from 15:30 – 16:30
- May Day Breakfast on 1<sup>st</sup> May (we hope to get the Maypole out for some dancing!)
- Sports Day and Summer Fair on 24<sup>th</sup> June – 13:30 til 17:00

Each event will rely upon people lending a hand and a smile! HOOT's next meeting is 7<sup>th</sup> February after school – all welcome as ever, it starts at 15:30 and usually lasts an hour.

## Pupil Parliament and Curriculum Council



The Pupil Parliament have worked hard this week preparing for their Cake Sale and Art Auction, they were extremely organised and sensible. We congratulate them for raising £110 to give to the World Wildlife Fund who are collecting to help support the recovery in Australia following the devastating wild fires.



Curriculum Council will be meeting soon to share their feelings about learning and to begin to plan our podcast and sharing different curriculum activities. Indeed, I've had a little practice myself, when I was invited to share my leadership experiences on a Parliamentary Review podcast. Watch this space.

## Dates for your diary:

- **HOOT! Valentine Disco on 14<sup>th</sup> February for the whole school (17:00 - 18:30) - a flier coming out soon!**
- World Book Day - 5<sup>th</sup> March - see above - this is our costume day
- **Sports Relief - more news to follow but we always like to get Sporty somehow between 9-13 March**
- Year 4 'Day of Dance' with OCRA on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February at Tavistock College (letter to follow)
- Tawny Owls trip to the Eden Project is 27<sup>th</sup> February (letter sent out)
- **Heatree (Year 6 residential): dates have CHANGED from your initial letter, apologies for any inconvenience. Now running from 6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> July (which we have just been told by Tavistock College is their transition week for Year 6 going into Year 7, so we are busy scratching our heads over this one...it all seemed to be going so well!!)**
- **Half-term break is 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> February**