

26<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents

**Assemblies** – On Monday Mrs Tottle-Nugent spoke to the children about Winnie the Pooh, whose 98th birthday was last week. She spoke about his friends and in particular their different personality traits. For example Owl being very wise, Piglet being brave and Kanga being very kind. All these friends have different traits that we should try to copy in order to be a good friend.

On Tuesday Miss Anderson spoke to the infant children about “speak out day”. She read the book “Speak Up” by Nathan Bryon. The central message is that it’s important to be brave to speak out about what you believe in.

On Wednesday Mrs Dinnage promoted reading for pleasure with the junior children by reading one of her favourite books from her childhood, Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland. The children were reminded and encouraged to be appreciative for not only what they have in terms of gadgets and toys, but also to be appreciative of the ability to read, as well as the books that they have available to them.

On Friday we were delighted to welcome one of our parents, Dr Lorreta Besong who spoke to the Junior children about her experiences of arriving in the UK from Cameroon. It was a powerful talk about being bullied because of the colour of her skin. She talked about children being empowered to walk tall and surround themselves with people who make them happy and to be confident to stand up to any bullies. Thank you so much to her for giving her time to do this for us. Tomorrow it is Holocaust Memorial Day (which Year 6 have been learning about) and Sunday it is Racial Justice Day. Let us pray for tolerance and respect for all races – we are all part of the human race.

**Maths Evening** – Many thanks to the parents from Years 4, 5 and 6 who came to the maths evening on Wednesday, I hope you found it helpful. The handouts have been uploaded to the website and can be found here <https://www.st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk/learning/our-curriculum/maths/>

It was useful to hear parents’ feedback about MathsShed. A couple of pointers:

If the questions says to write the answers, note the plural answers, so you will need more than one answer. Do include spaces in between numbers and symbols when writing a sum and look out for the “finish” sign at the bottom of the screen so you record that the work has been finished. We will pass on the glitches to the software company. Please email any screenshots of issues to the office.

**Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL)** – The children have continued to enjoy the dressing up and various activities in the playground. The rule is that if there are any issues with equipment/toys, the staff remove those items. This week we had to remove the music sound system and the trucks for a day, but then the children played sensibly with them for the remainder of the week. We have more activities pending including a mud kitchen and den building.

**A Star is Born** – Mrs Tottle-Nugent urgently needs all the final music for the shows next week. She hasn’t got everyone’s yet and some pieces have been cut to only a minute (for the audition) and might need to be longer. Her email address is [h.tottle-nugent@st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:h.tottle-nugent@st-monicas.enfield.sch.uk)

**Last One Standing** – This is a brilliant competition run by one of our dads, Tom Colon. All you need to do is pay £5 and then pick a football team who might win a Premier League football match each week until just one person is standing (no sporting prowess necessary!) Click here for more information - <https://app.goodhub.com/lastonestanding2024>. The closing date for entries is Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

**Save the date! – Friday 23rd Feb** – The Friends are organising a celebration of International Women’s Day. Please come and support our school & local businesses at a Girls Night Out! Link for more info and Tickets: <https://app.goodhub.com/girlsnightout>

**Parents’ Evening** – This takes place in the week beginning 26<sup>th</sup> February with the in-person evening set for Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February (not 8<sup>th</sup> as stated in diary dates). During Covid all our meetings were virtual and since then we have kept a hybrid model with 20 in-person and 10 online meetings. However, we are looking to review this and would like **ALL PARENTS to complete this form by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**. <https://forms.gle/M1S52DVun4eVhYT99>

**Purple Mini Micro scooter missing** – Please can you check your scooter and make sure you have the right one as a child’s has gone missing but there is a similar one there in its place.

### **Diary Dates**

**Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 7pm** – “A Star is Born” performance for parents/families – Reception, Years 1, 2 & 3

**Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb** – Deadline for registering interest in “Last One Standing” football competition

**Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb 7pm** – “A Star is Born” performance for parents/families – Years 4, 5 & 6

**Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 7.30pm** – Year 6 parents’ meeting regarding residential trip to Hilltop & a consultation about Sex Education

Have a lovely weekend

Kind regards

Kate Baptiste, Headteacher