

# REFFLEY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER OCTOTBER & NOVEMBER 2023

# Message from Miss Fendley

We're not wishing to take any of the fun away from Halloween and Bonfire celebrations for children but just feel the need to remind our pupils to take great care if they intend to go out for early 'trick or treating' gatherings/bonfire parties, to take great care . . . and please remember, not all children like fireworks or Halloween characters! On a separate note, we have tried to be very organised this year and printed many of the special days we will be celebrating throughout the year in school; however, there may possibly be the odd event that creeps into our school calendar at a later date, for which we offer apologies in advance.

## Yr. 4 visit to Roydon Common

Even the rain didn't dampen the spirits of our Yr. 4 pupils when they accepted an invitation from Norfolk Wildlife Trust to attend a *free* trip to Roydon Common earlier this month. After such a wonderful 'Indian Summer' the weather broke and heavy rainfall had been forecast, so our visit was condensed to an action-packed (but dry!) morning. So, all pupils, staff and our wonderful, accompanying volunteers, managed to 'dodge the spots' and keep dry, plus have a really good time. *Many thanks NWT*.

## We are looking for Parent/Carer and Local Authority Governing Board members

We have two vacancies for new members to join the Governing Board, one falling within the parent/carer category and the other as a Local Authority member. If you would like to find out more about these very valuable roles, please give Miss Fendley a call to have an informal chat about what the role entails.

#### An excessive volume of drivers on the school site

We continue to receive too many vehicles driving onto our school site. This problem creates a major breach regarding the safety of our pedestrian visitors, particularly pupils from upper KS2 walking to and from school on their own. Please ensure that you do not drive onto site unless you have permission from a senior member of staff to do so. We would appreciate drivers, holding a disability badge, registering a copy of their badge with the school office please.

### Applying for Pupil Premium based Free School Meals

Your family's income/circumstances may be such that your child may qualify to receive Pupil Premium based Free School Meals; extending free meals from Yr. 2 through to Yr. 6. Pupil based free school meals also attracts other benefits connected to this status. If you feel this could be the case for your family, we would encourage you to make an application to Norfolk County Council.

## Remembrance Day 'service' at Reffley Academy for pupils and staff



Once again, weather permitting, we intend to assemble as a whole school on the back playground to hold an early Remembrance Day 'service' on **FRIDAY**,  $10^{TH}$  **NOVEMBER**. After the half term break, Poppies and related goods will be on sale in school for pupils to purchase, if they wish to. We recommend at least a minimum of £1 for slap bands & 50p for wrist bands, Poppy zip tags, etc. (please send in small change, many thanks).

Non-uniform day to mark 'Kindness Day' & anti-bullying week

To celebrate the fact that we are all different, we're holding a non-uniform day to highlight *Kindness Day on MONDAY*, 13<sup>TH</sup> NOV; which also heralds the start of Anti-Bullying Week too, 13<sup>TH</sup> - 17<sup>TH</sup> NOV Throughout all year groups, children will join in with discussions about how the way we all behave, act and speak to each other impact on relationship and making small changes can greatly improvement friendship groups.





Non-uniform day for Children in Need - Friday, 17th November

We'll be following Pudsey's theme of spots again this year for children wishing to join in with a non-uniform day in exchange for a small donation to go off to this worthy charity. We don't expect parents & carers to spend excessive amounts of money on specialist merchandise, as customised clothing makes the wearer so much more of an 'individual'.

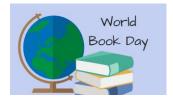
Christmas Jumper Day in aid of 'Save the Children Fund' - THURSDAY, 7th December
We will be assisting the children's charity, Save the Children Fund, in their fundraising
efforts by holding a non-uniform day for children wishing to wear a Christmas jumper,
T-shirt or dress instead of their regular school uniform. All donations received will be sent off to
Save the Children charity.



SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR - FRIDAY, 15TH DECEMBER, 3.15 to 4.45 P.M.

We were absolutely amazed last year by the number of people who attended our Christmas Fair, the corridors and classrooms became gridlocked! This year we intend to organise things a little differently by holding as many stalls and activities on the outside of the building as possible, this will allow more space for people, pupils & prams to move around with greater ease. We are aware that this plan could be scuppered by the weather, so plan 'B' will be to use the inside space to the best of our ability. Children will be making lots of reasonably priced things for grown-ups to buy and we also hope to have some lovely seasonal songs from the school choir too.

Numbers Day -Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February - another non-uniform day to assist the NSPCC Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform showing 'NUMBERS' such as football shirts, tops with numbers or even clothing worm inside out, showing the size label! Donations received into school will be sent off to the NSPCC children's charity.



Pupils can dress as their favourite book character for WORLD BOOK DAY on THURSDAY,  $7^{\text{TH}}$  MARCH

All pupils are welcome to dress as a character, but please remember, their costumes must be functional for a school day! N.B. Yr. 4 will be swimming on that day, so will not be able to use hair gel/dye/face paint as part of their overall attire.

#### NEW YEAR PREVIEW

Wednesday, 10th Jan Yr. 3 trip to The Lion King, Lyceum Theatre, London

Wednesday, 17th Jan School Choir visiting 02 Arena for Young Voices Concert