



# Panshanger Primary School NEWSLETTER

1<sup>st</sup> February 2017

## Staffing news

Panshanger said 'Goodbye' to Mrs Meins yesterday. She has been a wonderful addition to our team and all the staff and children were very sad to see her go. The kitchen will now be run by Mrs Golding (who has been working with us for the last few weeks) and we wish her well in her new role.

## Unicef Award

We are very pleased to tell you that we have recently been awarded the first stage of Unicef UK's Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA) called the Recognition of Commitment. We are always striving to create the best possible learning environment for our children and this achievement shows that we are committed to promoting and realising children's rights and encouraging adults, children and young people to respect the rights of others in school.

## Library book donations

Recently 5 children from year 6 have offered to sort and help out in the library area outside their classroom. They would be very grateful if any children from KS2 who have any books they no longer want, could bring them into school. The books can be any genre, length, difficulty but need to be in very good condition. Any questions please see - Cerys, Charlotte, Toby, Mia and Ella.

## Sign2sing

Next week the children will be taking part in a sign2sing assembly where they will learn a specially written song and simple signs. Sign2sing is an annual event, organised by the Deaf Health Charity SignHealth, which raises essential funds to help vulnerable deaf children and adults. sign2sing is a fun introduction to learning sign language and fits in well with the communication, music, PSHE and drama areas of the curriculum.

## Maths

Thank you to all the parents who came to the KS1 maths information meeting last week, run by Mr Wackett and Mrs Kay. Parents were shown a number of strategies to help their child with number fluency and enjoyed trying some of the challenges that Mr Wackett set for them. The information from the meeting has been placed on the front page of the website.

**KS2 Parents please remember that the date for your Maths Information meeting is Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February, please bring the form back to school if you wish to attend.**

## Nursery Applications

The Nursery online application system will open on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February and will close on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March. Please ensure your application is made by the deadline or your child could go to the end of the list and may not get a place at your chosen school. For more information about the timeline and process go to [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/nurseryadmissions](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/nurseryadmissions).

## Child Absences

If your child is absent from school please telephone the school office before 9.00 a.m. to report the absence otherwise it may be classed as unauthorised. Thank you.

## Cross Country Club

Unfortunately the afterschool Cross Country club for children in Years 5 & 6 has had to be cancelled until after half term. This has been due to a number of different reasons and has been unavoidable. Apologies for any inconvenience caused to both children and parents. The club will start again on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February (weather permitting).



### **School Activities/Workshops**

The children have been very busy recently in school:-

Last week the whole school took part in the 2 minute skipping challenge with **Skip2Bfit** (we still have some skipping ropes for sale at £5 from the school office and these will be on sale until Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February). **Don't forget the office closes at 2.00 p.m. prompt on Fridays.**

On Monday Year 5 attended a singing morning at Mid Herts music centre.

The children also celebrated Chinese New Year this week with a Lion Dance workshop which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part!

### **Sports News**

20 children from Yrs. 5 & 6 attended an indoor athletics event at SFO where they came second. This earns them a place in the next round to be later on today. We wish them the best of luck.

### **WGC Schools Photography Competition**

The Welwyn Garden City Centenary Schools' Photography Competition is now open for entries and closes on Friday March 31<sup>st</sup>. A poster is being sent home today as a paper copy with further details of how to enter and upload images to WGC Photographic Club.

### **Forthcoming events:**

We are as usual very busy, enhancing the childrens' learning with a range of different opportunities:

- Feeling Good Week commences the week after half term starting on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February** where the children will take part in a range of activities decided within their class groups.
- E safety workshops for the children **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February**
- E safety workshop for parents **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** (separate letter to go out soon)
- Year 6 visit to the new Airbus science centre in Stevenage **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February** (letter to go out soon)

- Anthony Lishak, the author, will be visiting on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February**
- Bringing books to life workshop **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March**
- World Book Day - **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

### **Upcoming PTA Events**

#### **Film Night**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 'Trolls' - ticket request forms coming home after half term.

#### **Adults Only Quiz Night**

The Quiz Night is on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March, please get your teams and babysitters ready as this is an Adults Only Event this year. Ticket request forms will be coming home soon.