

7 May 2021

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

*'By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.'*

– Benjamin Franklin

Dear Parents/Carers,

I do hope that everyone is well and that you have all managed to make the most of the sunshine when it has put in an appearance this week. Another week has once again flown by with all children now settled into the summer term and busy enjoying their daily learning opportunities. Do read on into the newsletter to see some of the fabulous learning that is happening across the school this term.

We are currently giving consideration to a number of summer events that would normally take place during the term at school. The Government continue to move ahead with their 'roadmap out of lockdown' and we are planning how this will affect some of the events in school towards the latter part of the term. We are considering how we can continue with certain things in the safest way possible, although any arrangements will be subject to changes based on the Government requirements. We will provide you with more information as soon as we can.

### **Parents' Evening Consultations**

We will be holding parent consultation meetings in the final two weeks of this half term. These meetings will be an opportunity for you to speak with your child's class teacher to discuss how your child has settled back into school post lockdown, in addition to outlining the next steps for your child with their learning. Further details will follow as to how this will work and how appointments can be made nearer the time. Furthermore, an end of year report will be shared with you during the penultimate week of Summer Term 2, which is the week beginning 12 July 2021. We will write to you again with further details nearer the time.

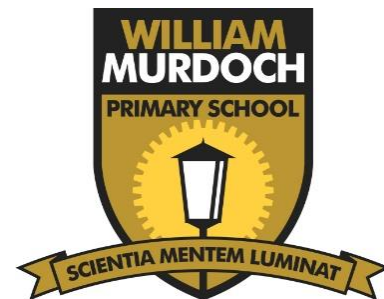
### **Oxygen for India Emergency Appeal**

The public health emergency in India continues to see daily case numbers rise, whilst deaths as a result of COVID-19 are at record levels in the country. On Wednesday of this week the school held a non-uniform day to support the British Asian Trust Oxygen for India Emergency Appeal. I am very pleased to report that due to the generous donations of pupils, staff and parents we have raised the not so inconsiderable sum of £904.20. Many thanks for all your support and generosity.

### **COVID-19 Champion Update**

#### **#SafeRamadan 2021 Guidance**

This web page contains guidelines and advice, and signposts resources to help Muslims in Britain make the most of the month of Ramadan, as well as friends, neighbours and colleagues of Muslims,



whilst staying safe and supporting the fight against the virus. For latest overall COVID-19 guidance, visit [www.mcb.org.uk/coronavirus](http://www.mcb.org.uk/coronavirus)

## **Vaccine**

A new study by Public Health England (PHE) has shown that one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine reduces household transmission by up to half.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/news/one-dose-of-covid-19-vaccine-can-cut-household-transmission-by-up-to-half?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_source=0f83fc10-95b9-45b1-91d9-07d821ea5639&utm\\_content=daily](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/one-dose-of-covid-19-vaccine-can-cut-household-transmission-by-up-to-half?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=0f83fc10-95b9-45b1-91d9-07d821ea5639&utm_content=daily)

If you are 40 or over go to <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/> or schedule your appointment today by calling 119.

## **Year 5 Warwickshire Cricket Coaching**

This summer term Year 5 children will receive specialist cricket coaching from coaches employed by Warwickshire Cricket Club. The aim of the coaching is for children to enjoy participating in cricket through engaging sessions, with an emphasis on fun, and on developing and improving the core skills of the game, using a range of practices and game-based scenarios to be able to implement player learning. This week, the pupils in Year 5 enjoyed their third coaching session and we look forward to a number of them hopefully attending the *Chance to Shine* cricket festivals later in the year.

## **Birmingham Football Club Experience**

I am delighted to announce that some of our children will be taking part in Birmingham City Football Club's Pitch Activation Day at St Andrews Trillion Trophy Stadium next week. Children will be in their class bubbles and will have the opportunity to take part in a Primary Stars P.E lesson on the first team pitch. They will also get to take part in a stadium tour where there will be a chance to see the first team players' dressing room. It will give the pupils a chance to experience what it is like to be a first team player at Birmingham City FC.

## **Eid**

In normal times we would be celebrating Eid together with our Reception children putting on an assembly performance and afternoon Eid parties. With the current COVID-19 restrictions, as with the other festival assemblies, we are having to make do with virtual celebrations. Miss Rafiq will be sharing a special Eid assembly next week which children will watch during the school day in their classes. May I also take this opportunity to send our best wishes to all those in our school community who will be celebrating Eid Mubarak and we hope you are able to celebrate safely with your families.

## **Nursery/Reception Places for September 2021**

There remain a limited number of Nursery and Reception places for the next academic year starting in September 2021. If you have a child (or know of a friend or family member who has a child) who is born between 1.09.2017 and 31.08.2018 (Nursery) or 1.09.2016 and 31.08.2017 (Reception), we strongly encourage you to apply as spaces are strictly limited. Please register your interest by either telephoning the Main Office on 0121 554 0999 or via email on [enquiry@williammurdoch.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@williammurdoch.bham.sch.uk). We are more than happy to help with completing the application process.

## **Art Competition Winners**



### **Michael Y1.1**

In Year 1 the children have been working through a unit called 'Language in Art'. As part of this unit the children learnt about how the artist Vincent van Gogh used different materials to create his work. The children studied 'Starry Night' by van Gogh and then created their own versions of the painting. Michael used different painting techniques very well in his work.

### **Tasmeen Y3.3**

In Year 3 the children have been creating lots of great work as part of the 'Mythological Paintings' unit. The children studied Picasso's 'Minotaur' and were tasked with creating their own interpretation of the famous work. Tasmeen worked very hard and was extremely creative in her work. It was very pleasing to see light and shade being used so well in a piece of work.



## Mr Panichi's Book of the Week

### Lower School



#### **A Child of Books – Sam Winston & Oliver Jeffers (Illustrator)**

A slightly older child picture book which celebrates the power of stories and imagination. Threading through it is a narrative spoken by a child who invites her friend on a journey through landscapes where all types of tales can take place, etched in a font that will be familiar to those who know Oliver Jeffers' previous books. The illustrations are full of words and letters, shaping extracts from well-known books into whatever environment the children are exploring, using typography in playful ways.

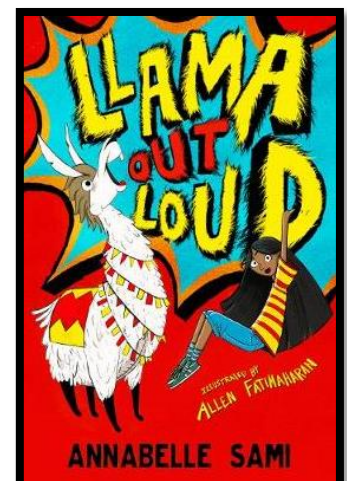
The opening page, with an unadorned picture of a pen, a bottle of ink and a blank sheet of paper, invites you to weave your own tales and as you move through the book, getting you involved in the many stories that already exist. One spread shows the two children playing hide and seek in a forest accompanied by the text 'we can lose ourselves in forests of fairy tales'. The tree trunks are books and their branches are made up of strings of words which are phrases from and titles of fairy tales. A great book to read for those pupils looking for a slightly more challenging text.

### Upper School

#### **Llama Out Loud – Annabelle Sami**

Yasmin is a selective mute. She is overshadowed by her larger than life, extended family. Even on her birthday, she is not the centre of attention. When she is bought a toy llama, that turns out to be alive (only when she is alone) and tries to solve all her problems, chaos ensues. Levi, the llama tries his best to solve her problems in a fairy godmother type way, but fails hopelessly.

This own voices story will have you and your family laughing their heads off. There are lots of cringe worthy moments with Yasmin, who eventually finds her voice and friendship along the way. Levi is one of the most annoying but lovable characters ever and will definitely become a favourite. A great read for any child in year three to six.



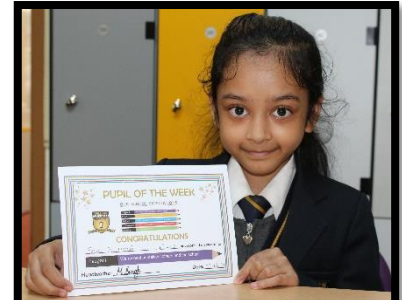
**Pupil of the Week**



**Ravneet – Y4.1**



**Eesa – Y4.2**



**Sara – Y4.3**

Have a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Singh  
Headteacher

**Dates for the diary:**

W/C 31 May 2021  
7 June 2021

School closed for half-term  
Pupils return after the half-term break

