

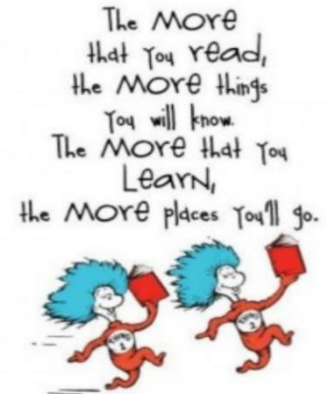


Newsletter  
Term 4  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to term 4 which is always one of the busiest terms of all. We welcome the month of March – my very favourite month of all – the daffodils are sprouting everywhere and the clocks spring forward and the days are longer. It is an exciting time of year.

There are so many things happening at school in March. Next week we will focus on reading as we hold our annual reading for pleasure week which incorporates World Books day on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Please see the details below. It is one of our favourite times in school. We hope you can join us for our Bedtime stories on Tuesday from 5pm on both sites.



Next Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March is secondary offer day for our year 6 children and they will find out which secondary school they will be attending in September. Good luck to all of year 6 families. We hope you all get the schools that you want. This is the beginning of such an exciting change for these children and their families. As a school we will begin to support the transition process for these children.

Next Wednesday is also my half a century birthday and there is something about reaching this milestone that makes you take stock and reflect on your life. I can honestly say that I feel very blessed and privileged to be where I am and to have this role at St Anne's. During my 50 years, I have worked in lots of very different schools and I can say with authority that the children and their families and all our staff at St Anne's and Little Learners are simply the best and make our school such a special place. Thank you all and here's to the next 50 years!!! Let the celebrations begin!

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Follow me on Twitter @StAnnes\_EHS

### SCHOOL DINNER MENU CHOICES

We are continuing to offer children 4 meal choices every day but we need to ask parents and carers of Key Stage 1 to complete the form to pre-book option 3 only. This is to avoid food waste and allow Sharon our amazing kitchen manager to ensure that every child can have the meal they want.

If your child is in BB, Y1 or Y2 and would like the option 3 meal, please complete this form.

Main meals, vegetarian option or salads can be ordered by the children and do not need to be pre-booked.

KS2 children can still order all options each day and do not need to pre-book.

<https://forms.gle/BeebHnAw9Li9hozm6>

You may need to copy and paste this link into your browser or alternatively the form is available on Weduc as a newsfeed notice. If you experience any difficulties booking please just let the office crew know.

### PRIME ENERGY DRINKS

Please can we remind everyone that ideally water bottle should contain water, not sugary juice or squash.

Please can we also remind you that energy drinks, including PRIME should not be in school. It would also be helpful if children didn't come to school with refilled PRIME bottles to avoid any confusion.

### READING FOR PLEASURE WEEK/WORLD BOOK DAY

Next week is Reading for pleasure week! Please find below the information shared last term for your information.

**St Anne's Book Bake Competition – (closing date Monday 27th February)**

Following the success of last year's 'reading in unusual places' competition, we would like to invite the children to bake something book inspired. Please send your entries into school on Monday 27th February when the winners will be chosen. After school, we would like to sell the cakes to raise money to buy more books for the children to enjoy in school. Please could we ask that a list of ingredients is included alongside all baked goods – we will not be able to sell any products without specified ingredients. Winners will be announced in Friday's Celebration Worship. Below are some examples of book inspired bakes - hopefully these will help to get your creative juices flowing!



### **KS1 Bedtime Story Pyjama Evening – Tuesday 28th February**

KS1 children are invited to come back to school at 5pm dressed in their pyjamas, ready to listen to some bedtime stories. On arrival, children will be allocated to one of three rooms where they will enjoy a selection of quality children's stories and some hot chocolate. Children are welcome to bring one soft teddy with them. Siblings of our EYFS and KS1 children may accompany families. The evening will finish by **5.45pm**. Please note: children must be accompanied by an adult throughout the evening.

### **Dress Up Day – Friday 3rd March**

We opted for Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> instead of Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> due to the uncertainty of the planned strike action. Children can come to school dressed as a character from a book of their choice. We are mindful of the pressures and expense that can be involved in organising costumes and so we would like to encourage as many homemade costumes as possible. If you have any pre-loved costumes that you would like donate to school, we would be very grateful to receive them before half-term. We will then make them available to parents in the first week back after half-term. Thank you to those parents who have already donated costumes.



### **NEU – STRIKE ACTION – MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup>**

As you are aware, the NEU voted to strike during February and March. The next day of industrial action is Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. St Anne's will be **fully open** on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March with only slight changes of staffing in some classes. In the classes where teachers are not in, children will be taught by very familiar staff which will ensure that children continue to have consistent teaching. All children should attend school on this day. Information about any further strike action will be shared with you nearer the time. The next NEU Industrial action is currently planned for March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **RED NOSE DAY – COMIC RELIEF FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

Another event in the very busy month of March is Comic Relief. Red Nose day will be **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March**. Children and staff will be invited to wear red to support the event and we will be holding a number of activities throughout the day.



### **WALK FOR WATER – KENYA HOPE CHARITY**

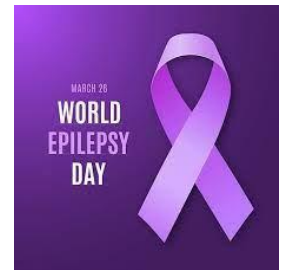
We have been supporting the Kenya Hope charity through our links with Locking Castle Church. We will be holding a sponsored walk during the day on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March to support children in our link school in Kenya. The walk will hopefully raise money so that children in this school can have a school dinner. Only about 170 pupils out of the 500 pupils at Malanga Primary School in Kenya can afford a school dinner and we would be raising money to pay for all children to have a meal at school. The money we raise is going to buy a field next to the school so that it can be used to grow food for all of the children who would otherwise not eat all day. The charity has chosen to walk for water because the distance children walk to get fresh water in this area of Kenya is 6km every morning before school starts. As part of our walk, children can choose to walk either 2km or 3km around the school. We plan to hold the event throughout the afternoon on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March on both school fields. You should have received sponsor forms in your children's book bags. There is a link on the form to make donations directly.



### **EPILEPSY AWARENESS DAY - PURPLE DAY MONDAY 27<sup>th</sup> MARCH**

As a school, we would like to support World Epilepsy day – Purple day- on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March. We have children in our school who have epilepsy and we want to raise awareness and understanding of this condition among our school community. If children and staff would like to support Epilepsy awareness day, please wear an item of purple clothing with your school uniform – it could be socks, a t-shirt, a jumper, a scarf, a tie, a headband, a badge etc

There are two websites where more information can be found and donations can be made to support Epilepsy awareness, please see the links below.



<https://www.thedaisygarland.org.uk/donate/donate/5/credit-card>

<https://epilepsysociety.org.uk/get-involved/purpleday#:~:text=The%2026th%20March%20is%20Purple,condition%20and%20raise%20vital%20funds.>

### REMINDERS – TOYS and CARDS

Please can we remind children not to bring any trading cards into school. Much as we want to support children to collect and swap with other children, it always ends up with lost cards, mistaken swapping and very upset children. Please encourage your children to keep the cards at home.

Please keep all toys at home where they are safe. Many thanks for your support.

### READING AT HOME

Reading with and to your child at home can make a huge difference to your child's reading progress and enjoyment of reading. Sharing books and stories with your children at home can support the develop of their vocabulary and comprehension. Reading is such a crucial skill that opens up so many doors for children and enables them to be access the whole of the school curriculum.

Here are some statistics from the National Literacy trust

- **Fewer than 1 in 2** children aged 8 to 18 said they enjoyed reading in 2022, which is as low as the number has ever been.
- **Fewer than 3 in 10** children and young people aged 8 to 18 said that they read daily.
- In 2022, **3 in 10** (28.0%) children and young people said that they read poetry in their free time at least once a month.

Let's get more children reading at home. To compliment reading books with and to your child, there are a number of website and apps that can also support your child's reading.

<https://readtheory.org/> - reading comprehension for KS2

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> - Phonics

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/> - reading  
**Teach you monster to read** – Phonics App



### MENTAL HEALTH PRACTITIONER

Please see this message from Shannon, our new EMHP, who will be joining our school at our Hewish site on Thursday mornings from term 4. Shannon will be supporting staff with training and will be working across the school as well as working with some children 1:1.

*Hi all, my name is Shannon. I'm an Educational Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP) and I'll be working at St Anne's Church Academy on Thursday mornings on a long-term basis. My role involves providing mental health support to children and young people that may be experiencing some difficulties. I also support schools to implement a whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing through activities such as workshops and assemblies. I'm looking forward to getting to know the St Anne's community! If you have any questions, please email [awp.mhstnorthsomerset@nhs.net](mailto:awp.mhstnorthsomerset@nhs.net).*



## NUT REMINDER

Please can we remind everyone that we are a **nut-free school**. Snacks and lunch boxes must **not** contain anything nutty including chocolate hazelnut spreads like Nutella or peanut butter. PLEASE support us. If it was your child who was severely allergic, you would want everyone to support them and keep them safe. Please consider the safety of others. Your consideration and co-operation is greatly appreciated.

## DIARY DATES

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February** – Reading for pleasure week

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February** – Bedtime stories at school from 5pm

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March** – Book day celebrations – dress as a book character.

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March** – Red Nose Day

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March** – Year 3 family worship @ WW and Hewish

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** – Year 5 Aerospace Bristol Trip

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March** – Walk for water sponsored walk for Kenya Hope Charity

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March** – Epilepsy awareness day / Purple day

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March** – Last day of Term 4