

BOORLEY PARK NEWSLETTER 23

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

World Book Day was a fantastic celebration at Boorley Park this year, with children and staff coming together to share their love of reading in so many creative ways! We started the day with an incredible costume parade, where everyone showcased their amazing outfits, transforming into their favorite book characters. Thank you very much to parents, carers and the PTA for sourcing wonderful costumes for the children to enjoy. The fun continued with our "Masked Reader" activity, where staff members read excerpts from favourite books while hidden behind a mask and children had to guess who the reader was. Throughout the day, there were various reading activities, including each class contributing to a whole-school display which can be seen in the library.

Our focus book, 'Nen and the Lonely Fisherman' by Stephen Fry, was a central theme of the day. Children worked together to unravel clues about the story throughout the week, engaging in discussions about the book's themes and characters. At lunchtime, we even had themed puddings inspired by the book, making it a memorable World Book Day celebration of reading for all!



INSPIRING MINDS

In Year 1, we have been excited to learn about the artist Megan Coyle as part of our Art unit. We begun by learning about collaging using recycled magazines. The children were all engaged in finding different shades of both Primary and Secondary colours to create a colour wheel. We are all excited to create a finished piece at the end of term of our favourite animal from our Marvell Zoo trip!



NURTURING FUTURES

This week, we have been focusing on the theme of perseverance across the school. In Early Years and Key Stage 1, the children have explored the concept of the "Learning Pit", a visual representation of how we sometimes feel stuck or challenged while learning but with effort and determination, we can climb out and find success. In Key Stage 2, we learned about "Austin's Butterfly," a powerful story that shows how persistence and a willingness to keep improving, even when things aren't perfect, can lead to incredible results.

Both of these examples helped the children understand that trying hard, even when things get tough, is not only rewarding but also an essential part of achieving our goals and improving in our learning. We are proud of the perseverance shown by the children this week.

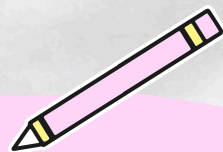


STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY



We would like to extend a big thank you to all our families for the effort put into ensuring children are wearing the correct school uniform. As part of our focus on taking pride in ourselves, it has been clear to see that the children are taking pride in their appearance by wearing their school uniform with such care and attention. It's wonderful to see the children looking smart and ready to learn each day. As a gentle reminder, we kindly ask that children wear school shoes rather than trainers, as this helps maintain a consistent appearance in line with our school policy. We appreciate your support in helping us maintain high standards and ensuring that all children are dressed appropriately for the school day. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

BOORLEYPARK@BOORLEYPARK.ORG



SAFEGUARDING NOTICES

Building resilience in children is an important part of helping them navigate life's challenges with confidence and adaptability. Parents can foster resilience by creating a supportive and loving environment where children feel safe to express themselves and learn from mistakes. Encouraging problem-solving skills, teaching them how to manage emotions, and celebrating effort rather than just outcomes can strengthen their ability to persevere. It's also crucial to model resilience as a parent - showing how you handle stress or setbacks provides a powerful example for them to follow. Most importantly, let your child know that it's okay to fail and that every stumble is an opportunity to grow stronger. Small, consistent steps in building resilience can make a lifelong impact on your child's well-being.



KEY DATES



March 2025

Thursday 13th March Year 3 Trip to Staunton Country Park
Wednesday 12th March - 2:00pm-3:00pm Rock Steady Concert - In the hall
Wednesday 19th March 1:30-1:45pm Listen2Me Violin concert for Wren Class – In the hall
Thursday 20th March 2:30-3:15pm Year 1 Parent Workshop–Sewing - Year 1 classrooms
Friday 21st March - Red Nose Day
Wednesday 26th March Year 1 Trip to Marwell Zoo
Thursday 27th March 2:45-3:15pm Year 2 Parent Workshop-Life Cycles – Year 2 classrooms
Monday 31st March Choir Performance (Time TBC)

April 2025

Tuesday 1st April Year 3 & 4 show - 9:30am
Tuesday 1st April 2:45-3:15pm Year 5 Parent Workshop - Food Tasting - In the hall
Wednesday 2nd April Year 3 & 4 show - 2:00pm
Thursday 3rd April PTA Easter Disco (Time TBC)
Friday 4th April – Last Day of Term

Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April Easter Holidays
Tuesday 22nd April – INSET day - School closed to all pupils

Wednesday 23rd April – First Day of Term
Friday 25th April – Year 2 Trip to Sea City Museum

May 2025

Friday 16th May 2:30pm Year 3 Parent Workshop Summer Picnic– On the field/Hall
Monday 19th May 3-3:15pm Year 5 Parent Workshop - Art Gallery - In the Hall
Tuesday 20th May 9:00-9:30am Year 1 Recorder concert - In the Hall
Tuesday 20th May 3:00pm Year R Book Look – Year R classrooms
Thursday 22nd May 3-3:15pm Year 4 Parent Workshop - Clay dragon eye art exhibit - In the hall
Friday 23rd May 2:30-3pm Year 2 Parent Workshop - Art Gallery - classrooms
Friday 23rd May – Last Day of Term

Half Term Holidays - Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May 2025

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEVELOP EMOTIONAL LITERACY

Emotional literacy refers to the ability to recognise, understand and express our feelings effectively. It plays a crucial role in strengthening a child's wellbeing by enhancing their relationships and resilience. However, emotional literacy is not necessarily an innate talent, and its development may present challenges. This guide gives parents and educators practical tips on supporting children to cultivate this essential skill.

1 NAME THE EMOTION

Encourage children to identify and name their emotions. This helps them understand what they're feeling and why. Use simple language and relatable examples to make it easier for them to share their emotions. This builds a foundation for emotional understanding and open communication.



2 MODEL EMOTIONAL EXPRESSION

Demonstrate healthy emotional expression by sharing your feelings visibly. When children see adults properly displaying how they're doing and what they're thinking, they learn to do the same. Discuss how you handle emotions in different circumstances, providing a real-life framework for young ones to follow.



3 MINDFULNESS ACTIVITIES

Teach children mindfulness practices to help them stay present and manage their emotions during more challenging moments. Activities like deep breathing, meditation or yoga can reduce stress and enhance emotional regulation. Regular practice can improve focus and emotional stability, which can significantly help children both as they're growing up and throughout their adult life.



4 USE STORYTELLING

Incorporate storytelling to help children understand emotions. Stories can offer relevant scenarios illustrating how the characters experience and manage their feelings. Discuss the emotions depicted in stories and ask children how they might feel in similar situations.



5 PRACTISE EMPATHY

Teach children to consider others' views and emotions – and to explore why they might think or feel this way. Role-playing and discussing various scenarios can enhance their ability to empathise. Understanding others' emotions helps children to develop compassion and improves their social interactions.



6 ENCOURAGE JOURNALING

Suggest keeping a journal to make note of thoughts and emotions, as writing can provide an outlet for self-reflection and emotional processing. Encourage children to write about their daily experiences and feelings, helping them gain insight into their emotional world. Do this alongside them, so they can see and experience how to do it effectively.



7 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING

Do what you can to help children develop problem-solving skills to assist in managing emotional challenges. Discuss potential solutions to emotional conflicts and encourage them to think critically about what they (and others) can do to process their feelings in a healthy way. This empowers children to handle emotions positively and build resilience.



8 CREATE A SAFE SPACE

Establish an environment where children feel safe to display their emotions without judgement. Encourage open exchanges and reassure them that all feelings are valid. This supportive atmosphere promotes trust and encourages children to express themselves with confidence.



9 USE VISUAL AIDS

Take advantage of visual aids like emotion charts or mood meters to help children identify and express their feelings. Use these tools regularly in your interactions. They provide a visual representation of emotions, making it easier for children to communicate their emotional state.



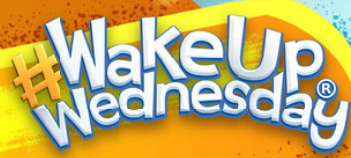
10 CELEBRATE EMOTIONAL GROWTH

Acknowledge and celebrate progress in emotional literacy, and praise children for expressing their emotions and handling them effectively. Positive reinforcement is a useful tool that will encourage continued growth and reinforces the importance of emotional literacy – encouraging young people to maintain the good habits and healthy behaviours that you've taught them.



Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice-Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School and works on secondment one day a week for Minds Ahead, an organisation that supports schools in improving their mental health provision.



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