



HANDSWORTH NEWS

**BRANCHING OUT, GROWING TALL
HAND IN HAND, ONE AND ALL**



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends.

The Year 5 children had an amazing time at Young Voices and they represented the school brilliantly; the teachers loved it too! Our children had a good chat with Tony Hadley which was an added bonus! It was an experience they will never forget. Thank you to the staff who supported the children and gave them this wonderful opportunity.

You will see on the next page of this newsletter, we have included our priorities for Behaviour and Attitude. Other priorities will follow over next few weeks. We have added quotes from children and information about how we are working towards them. As always, we are interested in your comments and suggestions as we work together to provide the best for our children.

At Parents'/carers' Evening last November we asked for your feedback on what we could do better. The most common suggestion was communication. One of our school Governors is interested in hearing your views on how we communicate with parents/carers and what we could do better. If you have any ideas, please don't hesitate to email Richard Trainor at richard.trainor@handsworth.waltham.sch.uk. He's very keen to learn how we can improve.

Next week is Random Acts of Kindness week, it would be good to see you by the stage in the KS2 playground at 8.30am on Tuesday for an enjoyable start to the day! This will be followed by our Internet Safety Workshop at 9am in the small hall. We are also looking forward to our school discos next Friday!

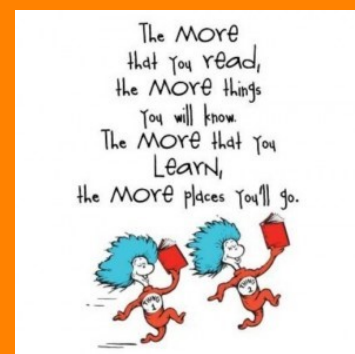
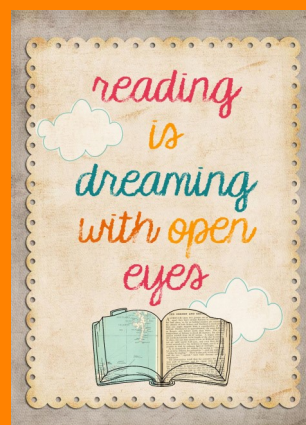
Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Nairne

Does anyone have subscriptions to magazines, and not know what to do with them when they have been read? These magazines would be a great resource for our children. We encourage our children to read a wide range of material and are asking for good condition, old copies of non-fiction magazines - e.g. National Geographic Kids, Science, Football, This Week Junior, etc. to try and build up our collection in school.

It is fine if the crosswords, etc. are complete, but no cut up ones (whole magazines only).

Thank you.



The children enjoyed another musical assembly led by Mr Mussell.



In Year 1 we have been learning about 3D shapes and their properties. We enjoyed a problem solving lesson, we were given pictures of 3D buildings to construct and had to predict which building would balance, which would collapse and which would be unstable. We then made the buildings and had to see if our predictions were correct. We used amazing mathematical language in our explanations.



Further to the overwhelmingly positive response from parents/carers to the Voluntary Fund consultation, we are asking for your help. Please support our children and the school community by making a termly donation to our Voluntary Fund.

Please note that contributions are entirely voluntary and confidential.

We would like to suggest a termly donation of £30 per family, but you can choose to pay as little or as much as you are able

You can make your voluntary donation via the school shop:

<https://payments.atomwide.com/handsworthprimary/>

Please help the children in our school community and donate to Handsworth's Voluntary Fund!

Thank you all so much!

Branching out, standing tall, hand in hand, one and all.

"If you are in a bad mood and you don't want to tell anyone, you can hold your hand up on the number that you feel and our teacher helps us to feel calm."

We believe our staff can only provide their best if we help them to look after themselves and their own well-being. All staff have been invited to well-being sessions.

We have developed a 'Behaviour Working Party' who are meeting regularly to discuss our whole school approach to behaviour. We aim to build a more holistic approach to behaviour which continues to take into account the needs of our children.

After half term we are delivering our 'What Happens At The Point Of Not Understanding' programme. This will develop healthy responses and resilience when they are struggling. It will help children to know that not understanding something is normal and it is ok to ask for help to support you to understand. Children will become more aware of what their brains need to feel safe. They will also develop a basic understanding of the functions of different parts of the brain such as the frontal cortex.

The introduction of our online system for recording behaviour and safeguarding allows us to analyse data to identify trends and training needs. We are also able to consistently track the behaviour across the school.

"We do meditation and breathing exercises everyday, just a few minutes makes us feel ready to learn."

BEHAVIOUR & ATTITUDES

Develop a whole school approach to mental health and emotional wellbeing which places a focus on ensuring all members of our community are thriving.

Ensure our pupils demonstrate exceptional behaviour and the relationships among pupils and staff reflect our positive and respectful culture; pupils are safe and feel safe.



Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. *Leo Buscaglia*

You never really know the true impact you have on those around you. You never know how much someone needed that smile you gave them. You never know how much your kindness turned someone's entire life around. You never know how much someone needed that long hug or deep talk. So don't wait to be kind. Don't wait for someone else to be kind first. Don't wait for better circumstances or for someone to change. Just be kind, because you never know how much someone needs it.

Kindness Matters.

Random Acts of Kindness Week takes place next week. It is a week dedicated to kindness and taking that extra, conscious step to brighten somebody's day.

It was originated by the Random Acts of Kindness Foundation, with the intention of encouraging more harmony and kindness between people by offering thoughtful gestures of kindness, no matter how big or small.

Please join us by the stage area in the KS2 playground on Tuesday morning at 8.30am for our first Act of Kindness.



"We had an amazing time at the Young Voices concert, we saw people dancing and performing and also sang lots of really good songs."

"Kusimama!"

