

HIGHFIELD UPDATE Friday January 21st 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

CURRICULUM NEWS

This week I want to thank you all for supporting your children's homework so well. Homework shouldn't be a burden for young children and in my opinion the best thing we can do with our children at home is read to/with them and promote a love of language and books. I still have very vivid memories of my mum reading The Magic Faraway Tree stories to me when I was a very little girl. I remember once when I was off school and in bed with chicken pox my mum actually recorded the story on a tape recorder for me to listen to. I asked my 20 year old son if he could remember any books we had read together when he was little and I was delighted when he reeled off some of his favourite stories as a little boy. He loved the Horrid Henry books and said he could even remember a pre school picture book from when he was about three called That's Not My Dinosaur. So there you go – they might not remember the spelling homework you helped them with in 40 years time, but they will remember the joy of a shared favourite story.



Year 3 have been enjoying their new History topic this half term learning about Ancient Egypt. Abigail Wheatley made this amazing Sarcophagus at home during last year's lockdown and she has very kindly donated it to school. Year 3 will be performing the musical "Joseph" in March and I am sure we will be seeing the sarcophagus on the stage!



COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

One positive effect of the pandemic has been improvements in how we can conduct meetings and communications. Next half term we will be using a new online system for our March parent consultations <https://parents-booking.com/> . It is used in lots of schools and is much easier than Microsoft Teams. You need to have checked all your contact details are up to date on our school SIMs systems. In November the office sent out an activation email for “SIMS parent” if you have not already signed up and checked the information we hold for your child please do so as a matter of urgency. This contact information will also be used when we send home the annual school reports electronically at the end of the school year, so please ensure your details are up to date.

COVID UPDATE

This week we have 22

Best wishes

Julie Colley