

# City Academy Whitehawk

An aerial photograph of City Academy Whitehawk, a large brick school building with a red-tiled roof and a central tower. The school is surrounded by a dense residential area with many houses and green spaces. The text 'City Academy Whitehawk' is overlaid at the top in a large, bold, red font with a black outline.

Headteacher's Newsletter 13  
March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023

Thomas McMorrin	Headteacher
Russell Wood	Deputy Headteacher
Sally Singh	Welfare Manager
Angela Dolan	Business Manager
Tina Reynolds	SENDCo
James McAdam	Assistant Headteacher
Florella Scozzafava	Assistant Headteacher

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Dear City Academy Whitehawk Families,

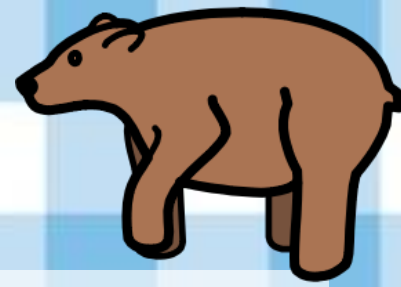
I hope this finds you well.

We have had a successful opening fortnight to Spring 2. Thank you for your contributions last Friday during our Rare Disease Day fundraising day, wearing Jeans for Genes. I'm proud to announce that we raised over £200! We will be donating this to Action Medical Research. We celebrated World Book Day in style on Wednesday and had an excellent day, sharing 'The Word Collector' across the school, with many children bringing in loved stories and wearing exceptionally cool outfits. We are so pleased to have created such a love for books and for reading.

As ever, please read this newsletter carefully paying careful attention to dates in particular. I have included some information about our upcoming Family Engagement Events and a special Early Years experience!



# Early Years – Bear Breakfast



The Hatchlings and Robins have been reading the story, Goldilocks and the Three Bears as part of their 'In the Forest' topic. The three bears eat porridge for breakfast everyday and we have been thinking about why it is important to eat a healthy breakfast ourselves.



**We will be having an Early Years Bear Breakfast at 9:00am on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 9:00am-9:45 for both Nursery and Reception.**

If you would like to, please feel free to pop in! We'd love to have you there.

If this is the day your child does not usually attend Nursery, please feel free to bring to accompany them for the breakfast session. Our next whole phase Early Years event will run on a different day.



# Strike Action in Spring 2

The National Education Union (NEU) has declared strike action. These strikes due to take place on:

- Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March 2023.

These strikes are happening because of a national dispute between the Unions and the Government over how schools are funded and teachers' pay and conditions.

**Due to the likely disruption to be caused around staffing arrangements, it is possible that City Academy Whitehawk will be closed to all pupils on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March. I will communicate this decision as soon as possible, hopefully no later than Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March. I am communicating this possibility now to allow families as much time as possible to make childcare arrangements.**

We are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils. For this to be achieved, we require a minimum number of trained colleagues to be on site and I do not yet know if this can be guaranteed on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March.

I fully understand that this situation may be frustrating for you as families. I recognise the impact that this is likely to have on our families and I regret the disruption that will be caused. We are planning the term meticulously to ensure that we can make the most of every moment at school.

As ever, I thank you for your continued support.



Thomas McMorris

# Children's Parade - Construction Sessions

Our plans for an incredible Children's Parade float are bubbling along amazingly well...all thanks to the wonderful family volunteers!

The theme for our parade is going to be **the invention of shampoo**.

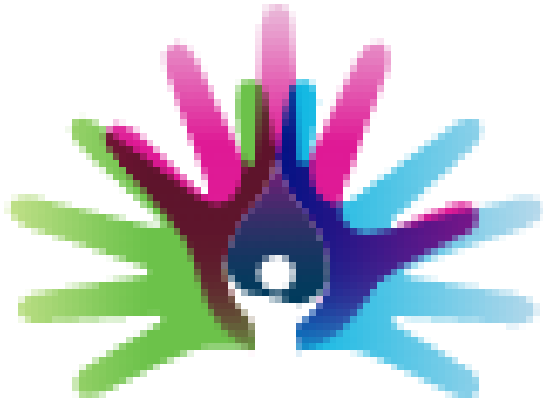


If you would like to help with constructing the float, you would be very welcome. We have approximately 40 places for children to join us on the Parade on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May**, and to keep things fair, we will be giving preference to families who have made a significant contribution to these sessions. Please contact the school office at [cawadmin@auroraacademies.org](mailto:cawadmin@auroraacademies.org) or speak to Mr. Wood on the playground to register your interest! See below for the dates...

Term	Date	Times
Spring 2	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	9:00-11:00am
	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	
	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	
	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	
	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	
	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> March	
Summer 1	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	
	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	
	Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	
	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	
	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	
	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	

## Did you know...?

Shampoo is believed to have been first created on the Indian subcontinent by the Indus Valley civilisation



# RARE DISEASE DAY®

**A huge THANK YOU to all of our Whitehawk families for your incredible generosity on Rare Disease Day.**

As a school, we raised a whopping **£208.35**, which will go to supporting research into a range of diseases.

We can feel so proud that our community has been so giving.

**Thank you!**

Please click [here](#) for an update about what your children are up to this term!



# coffee on the gate

Early Years



## Hatchlings and Robins Parents and Carers

Weather permitting, we hope you will join us for a coffee and a chat on the gate after the morning drop off.

We hope this will provide an opportunity to talk with your child's teacher about how your child is getting on at school and at home.

Promoting relationships between home and school is an essential part of the Early Years curriculum and is something which is very important to us.

Thank you to everyone who joined us last month!

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 8:30 – 9:00am**

*Running on a Monthly Basis*





# Updated Family Events

We look forward to seeing you at our family events at the end of this term where you'll learn more about some of the subjects children learn about!

	<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>
<b>9:00</b>	Hatchlings 1 (8:45)	Reception	Year 2	Year 1	Hatchlings 2 (8:45)
<b>14:15</b>	Year 6	Year 4	Year 5		Year 3

# World Book Day 2023

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

2 MARCH 2023

We had a great time celebrating World Book Day on Wednesday.  
See the next few slides for some of the things we got up to!



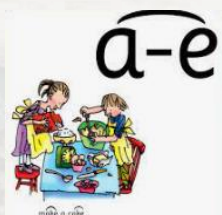


# World Book Day 2023

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

2 MARCH 2023

Our Year 1 and 2 team dressed  
as the 'special friends' in  
Reading.



# The Whitehawk Word!



Our whole school text this year was **The Word Collector**. [Click here](#) to hear it be read by Michelle and Barack Obama! Throughout the day children voted in their classes for their winning word, and then against the other classes. We ended up with **'bumfuzzle'** as our Whitehawk Word, which means to be confused, perplexed and flustered! Well done to Eagles for wining this competition. The staff competition was won by the word **'discombobulated'** which means confused or disconcerted! Here are some of the other brilliant entries!





# World Book Day 2023

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

2 MARCH 2023

During the **Share A Story** slot children got to choose an adult and book for a special mixed-age story time. These were just some of the stories that were read!

In the afternoon, children worked on some **art projects** and created yellow word tickets and some bright book covers for our library corridor makeover. Some of these will also be going in Whitehawk Library. Watch this space and we'll let you know when they're ready to be seen!



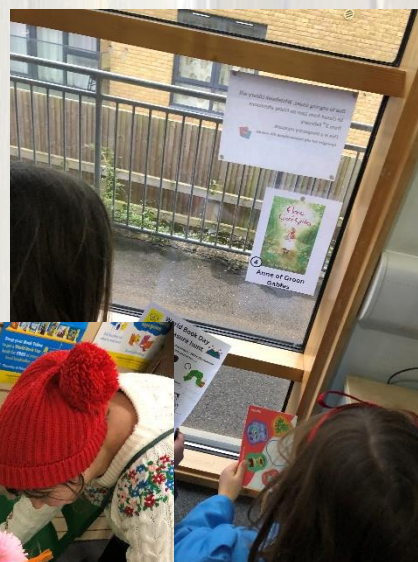


# World Book Day 2023

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

2 MARCH 2023

We ended the day with a treasure hunt, biscuits and books at Whitehawk Library. Don't forget you can sign up for a child's library card by [clicking this link](#) or visiting the team in the library!







A massive thanks to John Kahn and his team (Tom) for spending time with some of our Year 6s to get them thinking about moving to secondary school (and also earning an arts award)!

This is a really important for us to get right and John's expertise is second to none! The outcomes from the sessions are here:

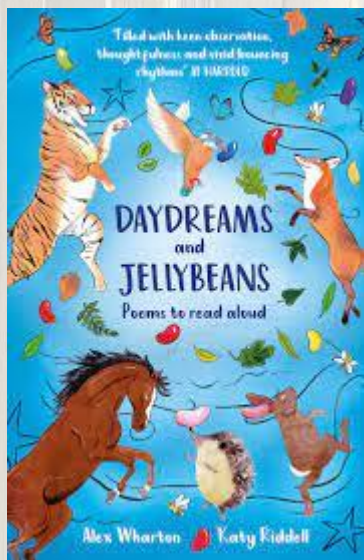
### **How can we make moving to secondary school better?**

- More trips to secondary school
- Can we have people from the high school come in and do workshops with us
- We need more time talking about moving to secondary school
- Get students from secondary school to come in and work with us
- I would like to visit my secondary school more
- More trips to secondary school
- More talking about secondary school

For more information about I-54 and our upcoming transition to secondary school work, please [click here](#) – **John will be back with ALL of the Eagles and Falcons in June.**

# Alex Wharton Author Visit

Year 5 and 6 were lucky enough to have a visit from **poet** (and pianist!) **Alex Wharton** last week. This visit was organised and fully funded by **Book Trust Represents**, which, in their own words, aims to “promote and improve the representation of people of colour in children’s books so that all children read a range of books that reflect them and their wider communities”. We learnt lots about Alex’ journey to becoming a poet (a rugby player and builder first!) and had a lot of fun joining in with his poems. **Every child got a personally signed copy of his poetry book which was such an amazing gift!** Throughout the next 10 months, KS2 children will continue engaging with the Book Trust Represents programme through virtual author events and resources. Thanks Book Trust for an amazing experience!





# Reading Raffle 4 is here!

Click the link to hear more about each book!

I really really need a wee Book Trailer

<https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=8S5gn2TT0fM>

Space Blasters: Suzie Saves The Universe

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book/s/space-blasters-suzie-saves-the-universe/>

The Lost Whale

<https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=TZ3oNlvpChk>

Like a Charm

<https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=Nkwww8ApaOc>

Dinosaur Department Store

<https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=sNnvMYtTI38>

Kensuke's Kingdom

<https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=pAqIVRiCVvw>

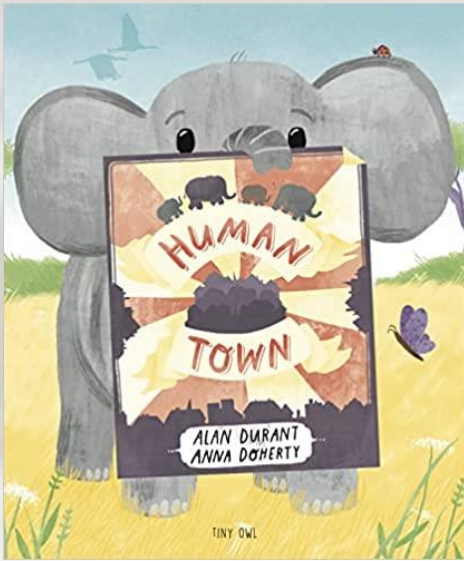
Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls

[https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=jt\\_QrASqYLo](https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=jt_QrASqYLo)



# Y1-4 Author Visit

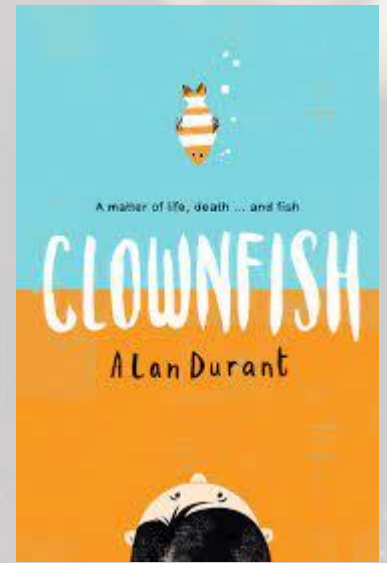
A reminder that Alan Durant is coming to visit Year 1 & 2 and then Year 3 & 4 on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March! We can't wait to meet him!



Year 1 & 2



Alan Durant



Year 3 & 4



# We're using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Arbor App

## We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our school.

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Arbor App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Arbor App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

## How to get started

1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
4. Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
5. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
6. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday

The Sunnyville School of Magic  
W10 5BN, London, GBR

Enter your password

Log in

Forgotten password?

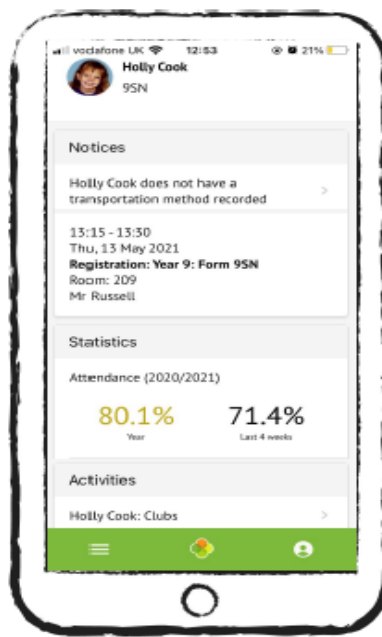
## Need help using Arbor?

**Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal.** Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

### Some tips to try:

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to **check the email address** linked to your account.
2. **Reset your password** from the login page, or ask us to do this.
3. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the **password link will have expired**. Ask us to send it again.
4. Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
5. **Enter the birthday** of one of your children to log in.
6. Only relatives who are **Primary Guardians** of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.



So far 83% of our parents/carers have signed up to use the App.

You should have received the activation email, if you are having any problems activating the App please contact the school office.

We are aiming to use this Portal as our main Communication channel, this will help reduce the amount of paper used in school.



Hi Everyone,

I just wanted to remind you all about our amazing Oxford Owl eBook library. There are so many books to choose from and take quizzes on. This can be recorded in your child's Reading record.

Login information is accessible on the school's website. Click Pupils / Reading / Oxford Owl




After half term, you might notice some additions to your child's Reading folder. A slip like this will tell you how frequently to expect a new story book.

Your child is in Purple group.

They will receive a new book to take home **every 3 days**. Please read this story at home and keep it safe in their Reading folder. Please record this in your child's reading record. If you read a story to your child, this can be recorded too.

Please send your child's Reading folder into school with them every day. This will allow your child's Reading teacher to check their Reading record, and swap their book every 3 days.

Thank you,  
Miss Varco




A slip like this will remind you to return your child's folder, or request a new one to be made if it is lost. It will also tell you what book your child is currently reading, so you can access it online.

Thank you for supporting your child to read!

Miss Varco



 Your child's folder wasn't in school today, so please access \_\_\_\_\_ online using their group's Oxford Owl log in. Please see the school's website to find out how-

Visit [www.caw.brighton-hove.sch.uk](http://www.caw.brighton-hove.sch.uk) Then click- Pupils- Reading- Oxford Owl. Please bring their home Reading folder in on the next day of school.

If your child's folder is lost, please complete this slip and return it, so that we can make them a new one.

I \_\_\_\_\_ (name) in \_\_\_\_\_ (class) need a new folder and Reading record please.

If you have any questions, please ask your child's class teacher. Thank you.





City Academy  
Whitehawk



# Attendance at City Academy

To celebrate the amazing attendance of most of our children we  
love our

## FULL CLASS STARS

which classes collect to display on their doors  
to show that everyone is at school that day!

**WEEKLY CLASS WINNERS ARE PUFFINS AND BARN OWLS THIS WEEK  
AND WINNERS FOR THE WHOLE HALF TERM WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN  
ASSEMBLY ON MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY...**

**MAY THE BEST CLASS WIN!**



# Attendance at City Academy

## UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES

Our registers show that there are unfortunately an increasing number of “unexplained” absences; where children are absent but we have had no contact from home to provide a reason.

If your child is unable to come into school please call the office **before 9.00am** to let us know.

If we do not receive a reason for an absence, it is recorded as **unauthorised** and these are the absences that can lead to fines from the council.

Mrs Storey will be contacting families individually where this is an issue, but please help us by letting us know every time your child is going to be absent.

*Thank you!*

# Inclusive Access to the School Car Park

Please can I politely request that families **do not** park in the school section of the car park in the morning (**shown in the red box on the photo below**). This is to ensure that families with blue badges are able to get to the disabled parking space.

We are looking at lots of ways to improve access to the school for everyone...watch this space!


















Did you know that in our recent Parent Survey, 90% of families reported that they agreed / strongly agreed that their child had 'lots of opportunities to take part in school clubs and activities'? We were very pleased with this feedback and we're pleased to publish our club offer for the Spring Term. Our 'first come, first served' ParentPay sign up process opened at 18:00 on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> of January and we are thrilled with the uptake. With the exception of karate, we are very proud of our commitment to funding all after school clubs for children.



## CAW Spring Term Clubs 2023

If your child would like to join one of these clubs, please register on Parent Pay

<b>MONDAY</b>		<b>Girls Football Club</b> Y4, Y5 & Y6 3:10-4:10 Mrs Al-Hattabi South Playground/Gym 	<b>Art Club</b> Rec-Y2 3:10-4:10 Miss Varco Y1 classroom 	<b>Glitter Art Club</b> Y3-Y4 3:10-4:10 Miss Woodward Room 7 	
<b>TUESDAY</b>		<b>Cricket Club</b> Y3-Y6 3:10-4:10 Liam - Sussex Cricket North Playground/Gym 	<b>Lego Club</b> Y1-Y6 3:10-4:10 Mrs Linehan & Mr Marshall Hall 		
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		<b>Football Club (RMA)</b> Y1-Y6 3:10-4:10 Josh & Jacob - RMA South Playground/Hall 	<b>Basketball Club</b> Y5-Y6 3:10-4:10 Mr McAdam Gym 	<b>Music Club</b> Y3-Y6 3:10-4:10 Mrs Elliott Music Room 	<b>Board Games</b> Y3-Y6 3:10-4:10 Miss Reynolds Y4 Classroom 
<b>THURSDAY</b>		<b>Italian Club</b> Y4, Y5 & Y6 3:10-4:10 Miss Scozzafava Y5 Classroom 	<b>Chess Club</b> Y3-Y6 3:10-4:10 Mr Wood Y2 Classroom 	<b>Multi-Skills Club</b> Y1-Y2 3:10-4:10 Mr McQuillan Gym 	
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>Running Club</b> Y3-Y6 8:00-8:35 Mrs Al-Hattabi South Playground 	<b>Netball Club</b> Y4-Y6 3:10-4:10 Miss Briggs & Mr Issacs North Playground/Gym 	<b>Karate Club (SAMA)</b> R-Y6 3:10-4:10 Charlie - SAMA Hall 		



Hi Everyone,

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children will be sent home with a sound booklet this week. This contains sound practice sheets which match the sounds they are learning in their Phonics lessons.

These booklets can stay in your child's Reading folder, or stay at home. When your child practises a sound with you, you can record it as a read in their Reading record.

Thank you,  
Miss Varco



# Children's Parade:

## artistic volunteers needed!

We are looking for an army of creative volunteers to help us make the City Academy Whitehawk Children's Parade float! It's going to be made from a structure of withy sticks.

We need as much help as possible. Please don't worry if you don't have any experience of this...there will be experts who can show us how it's done!



Please contact the school office at  
[cawadmin@auroraacademies.org](mailto:cawadmin@auroraacademies.org)  
or speak to Mr. Wood on the playground to register your interest!



The Children's Parade will take place as part of **Brighton Festival** on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023**



# House Points

Our brand new Spring 2 House Point Learning Competition has got off to a brilliant start, and it's wonderful to see Air House storming into the lead.

As we always remind the children, every single Learning Ticket makes a difference and contributes to the success of the House!



**Air**  
**933 points**

**Earth**  
**754 points**

**Fire**  
**754 points**

**Water**  
**845 points**

Each week there are two classes who win a Class Reward. Congratulations to these previous winners:

	Year 1 to 3	Years 4 to 6
Week 1	Woodpeckers	Magpies



# EXCELLENCE

## AWARDED TO

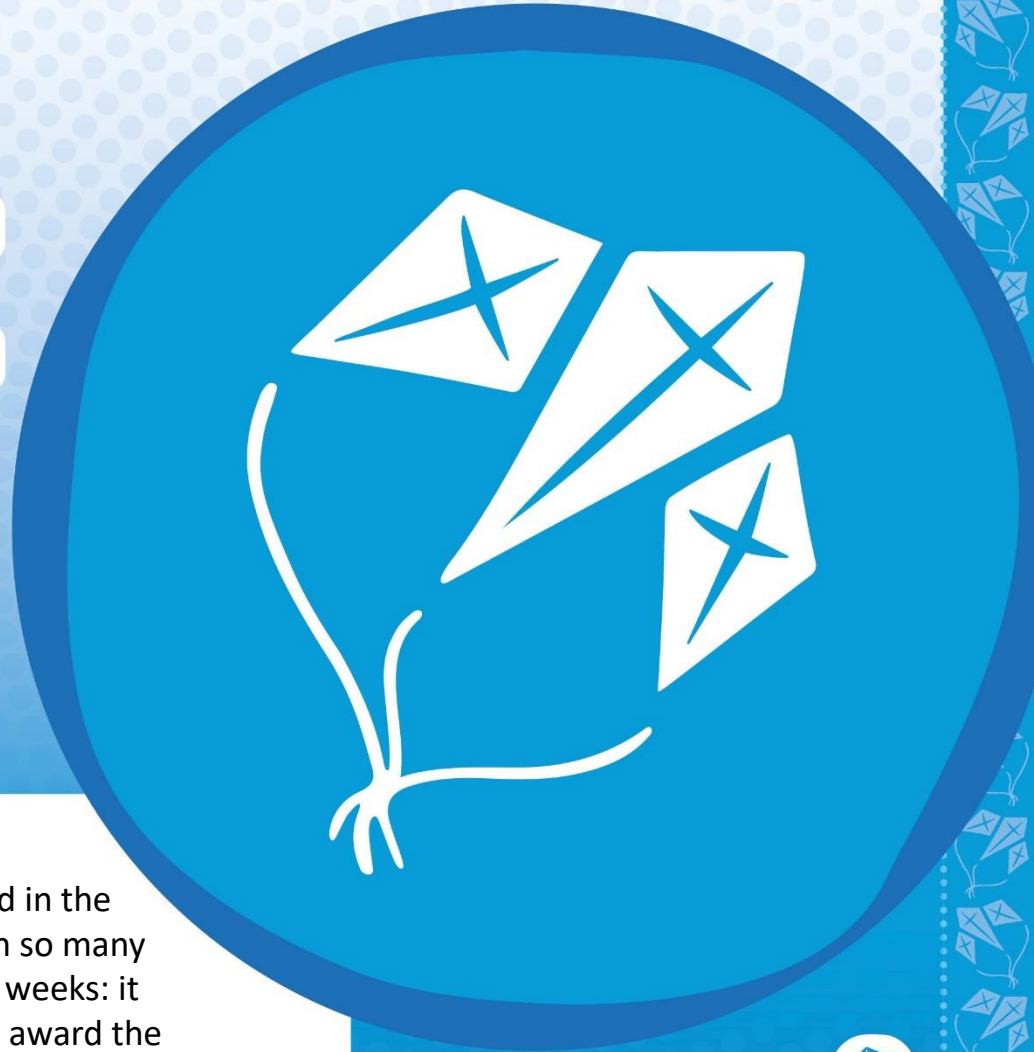
Name:

Class:

- **Keep reviewing your work**
- **Identify your best bits**
- **Improve one thing at a time**
- **Listen to feedback**
- **Take small steps**
- **Be proud of your achievements**

Teacher's Comments

Our EXCELLENCE certificates will be awarded in the assembly on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March. We have seen so many wonderful examples of EXCELLENCE in recent weeks: it will be very hard for teachers to choose who to award the certificates to!



CITY ACADEMY WHITEHAWK





C

Collaboration



A

Aspiration



R

Resilience



E

Effort



E

Excellence



R

Respect



Spring 2 Week 2 CAW Quality of the Week: EXCELLENCE



[Jacqueline Wilson interview \(Newsround\)](#)



[Q&A \(CBBC\)](#)

CAW Significant Figure of the Week

**Dame Jacqueline Wilson**

*English author of over 100 books!*

Tracey Beaker, Cliffhanger, Hetty Feather, The Dumping Ground...Jacqueline Wilson is responsible for these beloved books, and many, many more! Her stories have brought joy to children (and adults!) for decades, and we're delighted to celebrate her as our Significant Figure in the week that we also enjoy **World Book Day!**

unicef  
UNITED KINGDOM



RIGHTS  
RESPECTING  
SCHOOLS

8



IDENTITY

**Article 8**

**You have a  
right to an  
identity.**



# RESPECT

## AWARDED TO

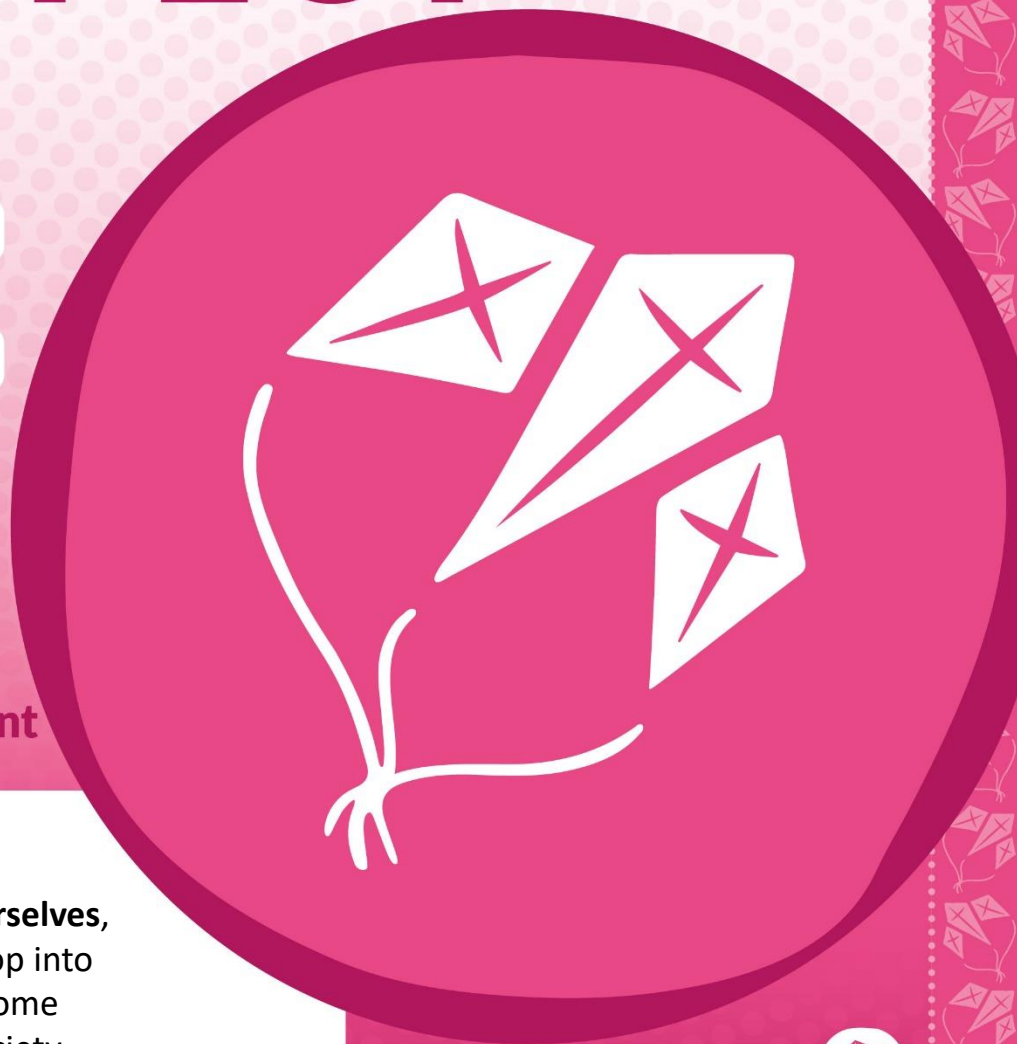
Name:

Class:

- Listen to others
- Be kind when you disagree
- Explain things to help others
- Be tolerant
- Take care of the school environment

Teacher's Comments

Showing RESPECT for each other, as well as **ourselves**, is so important for the children as they develop into adults and we help them to prepare to become independent and successful members of society.





C

Collaboration



A

Aspiration



R

Resilience



E

Effort



E

Excellence



R

Respect



## Spring 2 Week 3 CAW Quality of the Week: RESPECT



Where did  
modern  
nursing  
begin?  
(Newsround)

Horrible  
Histories:  
Formidable  
Florence  
Nightingale

unicef  
UNITED KINGDOM



RIGHTS  
RESPECTING  
SCHOOLS



2

NO DISCRIMINATION

Article 2

**ALL  
children  
have rights!**

### CAW Significant Figure of the Week

**Florence Nightingale (1820-1910)**

*The Mother of Modern Nursing*

Florence Nightingale worked tirelessly as nurse during the Crimean War, bringing indefatigable compassion to countless wounded soldiers. Her hard work led to huge changes being made in health care across the world, but she also campaigned for social reform (to make laws fairer), as well as pioneering the use of graphs and statistics.



SCAN ME

## Instrumental Lessons at City Academy Whitehawk with SMS



- Pay by monthly Standing Order.
- Lessons in School time
- Experienced, friendly, fully safeguarded and DBS checked teachers
- 20 or 30 minute lessons
- Instrument hire and advice

One to one lessons for  
guitar, flute,  
saxophone, keyboard,  
violin and other  
instruments on request

[www.sussexmusicschool.com/city-academy-whitehawk](http://www.sussexmusicschool.com/city-academy-whitehawk)



# Opportunity for Music Lessons

We are in a position to host  
1-to-1 music lessons at  
CAW in September, so if you  
want to pay for music  
tuition for your child,  
you can organise this with  
Sussex Music School.  
Please click [here](#) to access  
the online form.

**We are now also able to  
offer drum lessons!**



# Fluency Badges



**Massive congratulations to those who have earned their fluency badges! It is so great to see so many children wearing these with such great pride!**





# Safer Sleep in Winter



*Keeping your baby safe when the weather gets cold*

**The Lullaby Trust has issued information around safe sleep for babies during the winter in response to rising energy costs. Please see below:**

The recommended room temperature is 16-20 degrees, this may be difficult to maintain in the colder months. It can be tempting to wrap your baby up to keep them warm, however we know that overheating a baby increases the chances of SIDS (also known as cot death). Research shows babies are better to be cooler than too hot.

Follow the link below to find out more information on:

- Bedding
- Bed sharing
- Things to avoid
- How to check if a baby is too hot
- How to check if a baby is unwell
- Finding support for energy bills



<https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/safer-sleep-advice/safer-sleep-winter/>

# PE Kits

For Spring 1, we will continue to ask that children come to school in their PE kits on their PE days. Please remember, as ever, that it is fine to wear trackies and school jumpers in colder weather.

## Please wear PE kit into school on these days:

YG	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Day	Mondays	Tuesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Tuesday	Monday
		Thursday	Friday	Thursday	Friday	Friday	Thursday

Children should bring an appropriate change of clothes for after school sport clubs.

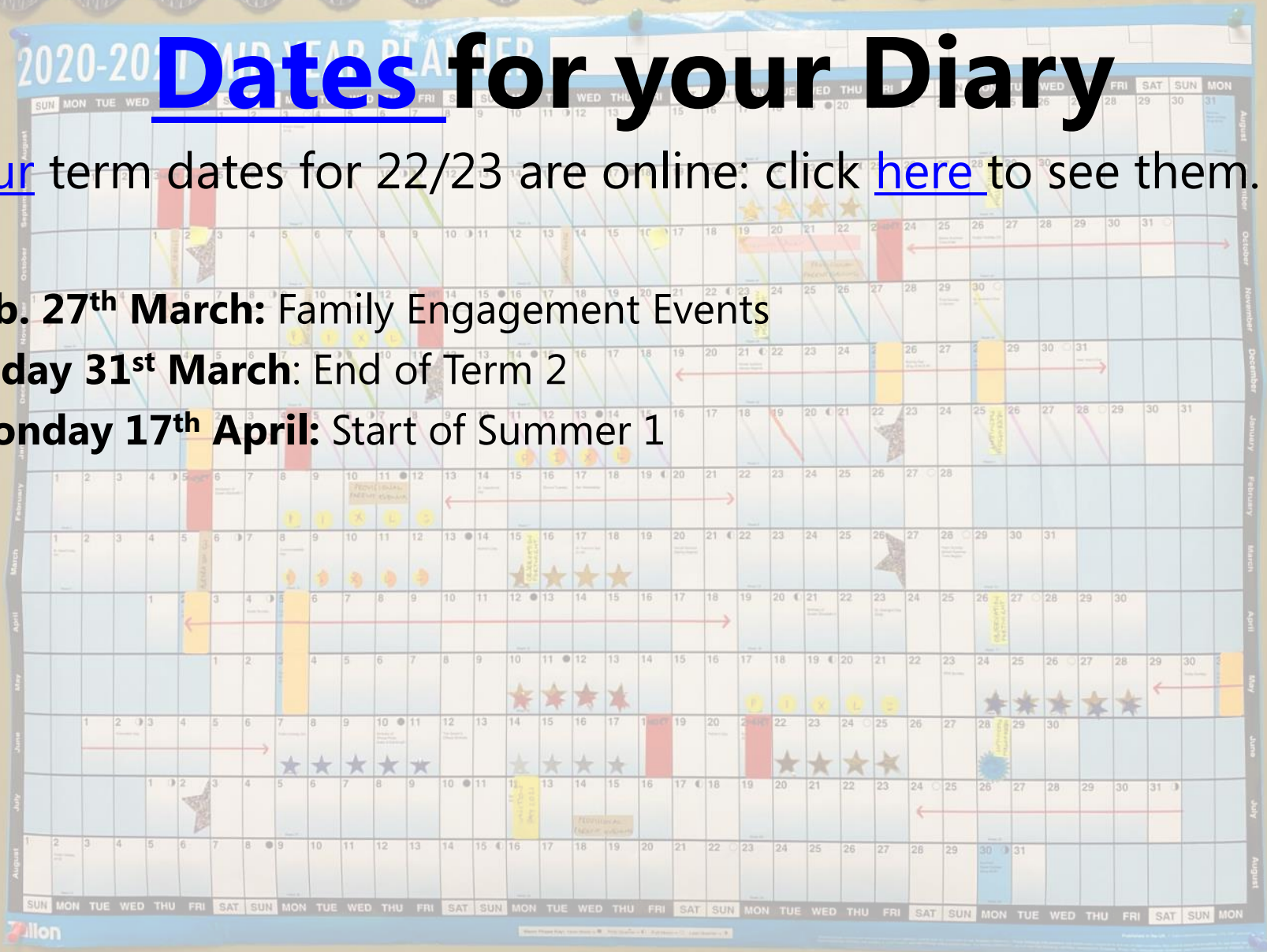
# 2020-2021 Dates for your Diary

Our term dates for 22/23 are online: click [here](#) to see them.

**Wb. 27<sup>th</sup> March:** Family Engagement Events

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March:** End of Term 2

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April:** Start of Summer 1





I hope this letter has provided you with all the information you need but please do not hesitate to get in touch or check through [previous newsletters](#) catalogued on our website.

I look forward to seeing you on the gates on Monday morning!

Yours sincerely,

Thomas McMorris  
Headteacher

