



PENSHURST C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 26th February 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope you had an enjoyable half term – that somehow seems a long time ago now! You will be receiving some important letters over the next few days that will contain information about the return to school for all our pupils. Please do take time to read these carefully and if you do have any questions then please direct them, initially to the School Office – if they cannot answer a question then I will happily provide some clarity.

The end is in sight and hopefully after the Easter break we will be able to ease measures and come together once again as a community. For the time being though we must continue to be cautious and careful – I like to think I put the safety of the school community first in all I do at school. It is important to me that I do all in my power to keep every single person as safe as possible. As the saying goes 'better to be safe than sorry'.

Today has been a beautiful Spring day and gives us all hope for the better times ahead.

Return to School

It was lovely to see so many faces at our Celebration Assembly today – everyone was happy to share their thoughts on the return to school – it was lovely to hear that most children gave a very high score out of 10 to how they felt about the forthcoming return. School provides a great deal of social opportunities, as well as academic ones for children – in the coming weeks we will be working hard to ensure that our pupils settle back into school life; providing familiar daily routines and time to reconnect with their peers.

Well done to all the children who shared their work – they were very clear and their delight in sharing their work was very evident. We had some great story telling from children in Year 1 to Year 5 – thank you for sharing your work.

World Book Day

World Book Day falls on 4th March this year. I know that the teachers are going to really miss the dressing up as a character from a story – it is one of their favourite times of year!



This year I have asked them to share with the school community their favourite children's books. There is a wonderful range.

Mrs Poole

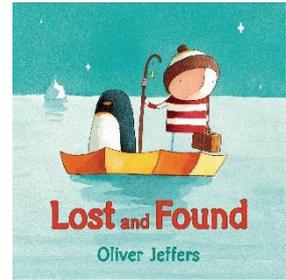


One of my favourite children's books is called 'Tell Me a Dragon', by Jackie Morris. I think it is beautiful, poetic and filled with magic and wonder. There are

many different dragons and it always gets me thinking about what others there might be hiding out there. Jackie Morris paints the most beautiful pictures, her illustrations are gorgeous and if you look carefully, there is always something new to see.

Mrs Foy

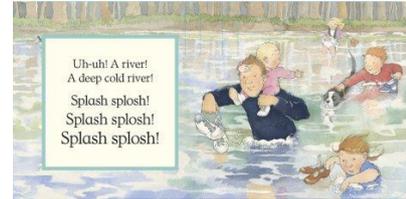
One of my favourite books is 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. I love his wonderful illustrations and how they make you feel really connected to the characters. I also love the story and how, through the boy's efforts to help the lost penguin, they become best friends.



Mr Harris

One of my favourite books is "We're going on a Bear Hunt" (Michael Rosen / Helen Oxenbury). I like the use of repetition in the book which always encourages children to join in ("we can't go over it, we can't go under it") and my favourite part is the "race" backwards from the bear's cave through all of the different scenes that

have just been encountered, which when you're reading it, you can read very dramatically and then end by chanting the final line together - "We're never going on a bear hunt again!"



My Choices



"Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You." - Dr. Seuss

It is hard to pick just one book because, as teachers, we experience so many great books – sometimes they remind you of a particular class because the children engaged so well with the text - there is something about sharing a book that is so special.

I cannot narrow my favourites to one book – as a child I loved the Cat in the Hat books as it was when I realised that I could actually read myself and now as an adult I can see how much they promoted self-belief.



Another favourite when I taught younger children was 'The Naughty Bus' the children had such great fun recreating the scenes from the book.

Finally, a book that is for Year 5 & 6 that explores some challenging issues but teaches a great deal about walking in the shoes of others.

You will receive a link next week to your online World Book Day token.

Have a wonderful weekend and I hope you will get some time to get lost in a book! Take care and stay safe.

Best wishes, **Sue Elliott, Headteacher**

