



Our value for the month of February is  
"Perseverance".

'Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.'

### Reasoning



We have been continuing to consider our value of the month Perseverance, by looking at Reasoning. I have been recently observing Maths in many of our classes and I have been very impressed at the reasoning skills that the children employ whilst solving problems. Of course they also have to persevere, because it is all too easy to give up when the answer is not as obvious.

On the last day of the half term I was lucky enough to be in Year 2 and the lesson was about Time; a tricky concept for a lot of children. At the end of their independent work the children were given two clocks with only hour hands on and asked if they were able to tell the time with no minute hands? The discussion and reasoning that this simple question sparked was lovely to see and I shared this with the school when we were together on Monday morning.

How many handshakes  
would there be for 2  
people.....3 people...4  
people.....5 people.....100?

I set the children a challenge about handshakes; please ask them if they haven't shared this with you yet. I asked those that wanted to bring their findings into school next week, to share with their peers. The children are being encouraged to earn gold stickers for the next two weeks on demonstrating perseverance through reasoning.



### Year 6 SATs Meeting Reminder

On Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 2:45pm there will be a meeting for parents to look at the expectations of the Year 6 Statutory Assessment Tests. This will take place in Year 6. We will feedback to parents who are unable to attend, please let us know.

### Year 5 Peer Mediators

For the last two Friday afternoons I have had the pleasure of working in Beech Class and training the children in the role of Peer Mediators. They are all

keen to get involved with this project and we hope to launch this in our Monday Collective Worship in a couple of weeks' time. The aim is that we will have a small number of our Year 5 children on duty at lunchtimes to sort out minor arguments and encourage positive play. They will also look out for any child who is alone and try to help them join a friendship group. We will let you know when we are ready to begin this new project.

### Parent Council

Thank you to the parents that have contacted the school and expressed an interest in being part of a parent council. We aim to have our first meeting on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 2:45pm. If there is anyone else who would like to join us please let the Office know.

### Supervision Before and After School

Please ensure your children are properly supervised before and after school (especially the pre-school children). There should be no running around, particularly in the benched area outside the old building and certainly no playing on apparatus or with equipment. The playground area is a busy place, with lots of adults and children and we want everyone to feel and be safe. On that note, if you see a child in the playground who has seemingly not been met by a parent/carer (KS2 children) please remind them that they should return to the classroom or the school office, where we can ensure their safety and can contact their parents.

### Other News:

#### Reasoning

Again this week I have had the privilege of spending time in our classes looking at Maths. The Year 6 children were investigating items on a menu at a fish and chip shop, 'Sum Thing Fishy'. It was great to see them working together and carrying out some tricky calculations. They were able to talk through their reasoning and record their work in a systematic way.

Year 3 were practising multiples and looking at different ways of solving division questions. Again the quality of the discussion was very impressive and they were able to give reasons for deciding whether a large number was a multiple of a number by looking at the digits and working out patterns. I was especially impressed with a group of children who were working independently and making up problem questions for particular division sums.



### Maths Masterminds

On Wednesday three talented mathematicians from Year 4 attended a Maths Mastermind Workshop at St. Josephs in the Park School. Sally, Josh and Gracie were given a range of challenges over the day which required teamwork, clear communication and, of course, careful and accurate calculations! Many high level concepts were discussed and it was great to see how quickly our team were able to learn from these examples and to apply them independently (particularly when staff were banned from offering them any help!) As always, we were proud of our pupils and pleased to see how much enjoyment they got from a whole day of Maths!



### World Book Day - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Just to remind you that we are encouraging the children to dress up as a character from one of the year group chosen authors. If you would like to remain in the playground after drop-off we will bring the children out a class at a time, so that you can see them. (Weather permitting).

### Year 6 Young Ambassadors and Health Champions

Tom, Leah, Matthew and Erine spent the day yesterday at Sir Frederic Osborn School, learning about; what makes a good leader, a good role model, how to encourage both children and adults to become more active and about balanced diets. The children spent time apart, learning about their different roles and then time together planning games and activities. All of our children commented on how much fun they had and have come back with lots of ideas to share. They were presented with their certificates today: Matthew and Erine for completing their training as 'Health Champions' and Tom and Leah for completing their training to become a 'Bronze Ambassador.' Well done to all the children for representing the school so well and gaining these awards!

### Red Nose Day - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Some of our Year 5 children are keen to support this charity and came to me with some ideas. We have talked it over as a staff and we would obviously like to support the children with this. On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March the children will be able to wear their own clothes to school and there will be some very persuasive Year 5 children on the gate with buckets, collecting donations. Please give as much or

as little as you would like, we are not fixing a price. After school the Year 5 children will be selling cakes to raise some extra money for this worthy cause. They will hopefully set up on the playground (weather permitting).

### What's On:

**28.2.'17-Year 6 SATs meeting at 2:45pm**

**2.3.'17-World Book Day - Teachers have chosen the following Authors for this day**

Reception:	Allan Ahlberg
Year 1:	Alien stories
Year 2:	Julia Donaldson
Year 3:	Beatrix Potter
Year 4:	CS Lewis
Year 5:	Lewis Carroll
Year 6:	Shakespeare

**9-16.3.'17-Book Fair from 3:15pm in the library**

**16.3.'17-Elm Class Assembly at 2:45pm**

**20.3.'17-KNex Challenge Year 5 Beech Class**

**21.3.'17-Viking Day Beech Class**

**22.3.'17-Parent Consultations 4:30-7:30pm**

**23.3.'17-Parent Consultations 3:30-5:30pm**

**24.3.'17-Red Nose Day (non-uniform day)**

**30.3.'17-Easter Service at the church 9:15am**

**31.3.'17-Easter Egg Hunt and Competition**

**End of term, school finishes at 2:15pm**

### Good Work Assembly

Congratulations to the following children, who shared their work in Thursday's assembly. Do come in and see their work on display at the front entrance. The work will remain up for a week.

**Year 5 Beech:** Olivia, Abbi

**Year 4 Elm:** Jonathan

**Year 3 Redwood:** Daniel

**Year 2 Cherry:** Megan

**Reception Sycamore:** Isla