

THIS EDITION'S FEATURE ARTICLES:

Moral - Exciting Walk To School Week Fun

Social - Our Fabulous Friends of WV

Spiritual - Caring For Yourself

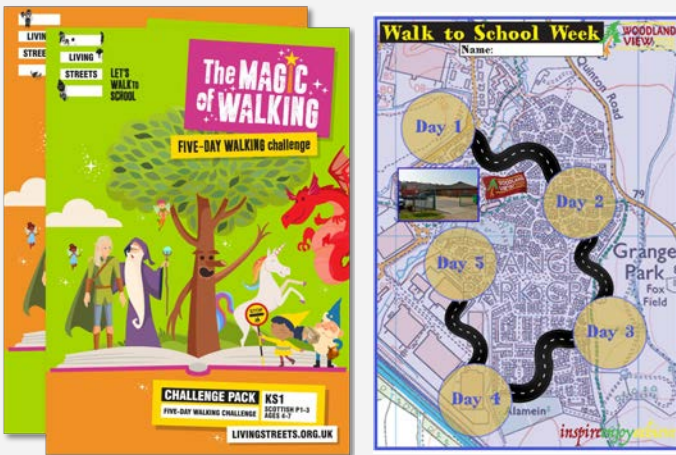
Cultural - Brilliant Black History

Health - Super Sports

Values - Teamwork makes the Dream Work

EXCITING WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK FUN

MORAL article by Lola, Lexi and Haniya



After Mr Horsley organised our recent Walk To School Week, we are delighted that more children and families have been inspired to walk to school instead of travelling by car.

Many families and children made an active effort to take part in the week-long event. However, we do have children who live further from the school and a way was suggested as to how they could participate too. For those children who had to drive to school, for this week, they were encouraged to park a little bit further away from school, then walk the final part of their journey. This meant they could also collect their stickers to demonstrate their efforts each day.

Along three different approaches to school, there were 3 sticker points so that everyone could collect a sticker each day to show they had walked to school. These sticker points were run by a team of different Year 6 volunteers every day. To get everyone even more excited and motivated there was a competition between the classes to see who could get the most children walking to school, with the winning prize a bookmark for each child in the class

Why did we do walk to school week?

If you were wondering why we did Walk to School Week, it's because as a school we wanted to remind all of our families and children of the benefits of walking to school. The key ones of these are:

- It is good for your health to walk
- It reduces the amount of pollution from our cars if we walk
- We reduce the amount of traffic congestion in Grange Park / around the school
- We are considerate of the residents in the properties surrounding school

- We don't block access to the school or Community Centre in case an emergency vehicle needs access
- We greatly reduce the chances of an accident involving a child and motor vehicle

Who was involved?

Everyone who comes to Woodland View was involved. All 420 of us!

When was it?

Walk to school week started on Monday 13th of January and it finished on Friday 18th of January.

We interviewed Mr Horsley to get some further information about Walk To School Week:

What gave you the idea to do walk to school week?

"One of our school values is Conservation and it is important that all of us do our part to improve or look after our planet. Grange Park is a lovely place and we can all help to keep it lovely through reducing our use of cars where possible and reducing the amount of dangerous congestion and traffic around the school. Walking to school also has real health benefits for the children too."

What impact do you think that walk to school week has on the pupils?

"I hope that asking our children and families to walk to school reminds them of the benefits to ourselves and others. So the more we do it the more it will help us to be a school that is respectful to not only one another but the environment too!"

Even though walk to school week has ended, do you think that people will keep walking to school than before?

"The teams of Year 6 children and adults noticed lots more families and children walking to school than before. We hope they will try and keep it up, as it has so many benefits. However, we will have future Walk to School weeks to help remind and encourage us too."

Ben from Year 4 answered the following questions:

Did Walk To School Week make you want to walk to school more?

"Yes. It was nice to get out in the fresh air and it is better for the environment if you don't take a car."

Do you think that we should have another Walk To School Week?

"I think we should have one maybe every month or so. This is because once you are out in the fresh air it really helps your legs and such and you start to feel fitter. Most of my class took part and I think we all enjoyed it."

Overall, Walk to School Week was a great success and we think everyone gained benefit from it. We are hoping to follow it up with future Walk to School Weeks to keep our health, road safety and improving our Grange Park environment at the front of our minds.



OUR FABULOUS FRIENDS OF WOODLAND VIEW

SOCIAL article by Abi, Harper and Madalena

The Friends Of Woodland View (FOWV) are a dedicated group of volunteers who work with the school to raise money to give the children lots of different opportunities and resources throughout the year. The group is made up of parents or sometimes even members of staff.

Some of the fun and exciting events that the FOWV organise are: the Summer Fair, School Discos, Cake Sales, Cinema Club, Winter Wonderland, Mother and Father's day gifts and so much more. Everyone looks forward to all the events they hold for us here at Woodland View Primary School. This dedicated and passionate team of volunteers and parents and relatives of children within our school, fundraise and organise events throughout the year to provide fabulous facilities and experiences for the children of our school. Previous fundraising has provided our children with such things as: Our Immersive Room Facility, Our Woodland Workshop and fully funded theatre trips for all year groups.

We asked some children about their favourite event that the FOWV organise? Isla from Year 1 said, "I like when we have ice cream on Fridays in summer because it's fun and we get to play outside after school with music."

Elliot from Year 2 said: "I really like Winter Wonderland because I look forward to it all year round and there's so many different things to do."

Sophie from Year 5 stated, "I really like Winter Wonderland because it's fun and the 5/6 choir gets to sing there."

We also asked one of our members of FOWV about her experiences.

What is your favourite event that you and the FOWV organise?

"Although it's a lot of organisation, I love the Winter Wonderland. It is such a great event for the whole family and a great build up to Christmas."

How easy is it to organise one of the many events you do throughout the year?

"All of the events are a massive team effort and none of them would be able to go ahead without the volunteers so we are so grateful for each and every one of them."

As you heard from most of our children and some adults their favourite event was Winter Wonderland. This is a fun event for everyone - much like a winter fair but much better (and bigger!) - and we all enjoy it. This year was so much fun and we are really really grateful for our amazing Friends of Woodland View for their support and organisation in putting the event together. We don't know how we would hold such amazing events without them. Events such as these help our school raise money to give us a better time learning. We are truly so grateful that they help us by doing this and staying committed.

If you have any more questions about our FOWV group make sure to ask our School Office (01604 765037) or a member of FOWV.

Additionally, lots more information can be found on their webpage (the link and a video explaining more of what they do can be found under the Parent pages on our website). They are always happy to welcome new members.



CARING FOR YOURSELF

SPIRITUAL article written by Chloe and Sarah



On the 3rd of February, we had an assembly led by Mrs Matsongou all about Mental Health Week, which commenced that day. The reason why we have Mental Health Week is so that the children in our school gain a better understanding of the importance of good mental health for both themselves and others. As well as finding out ways to help or manage ourselves in tricky times. Every day of that week, different activities were put on for the children during lunchtimes so that the children could learn how to calm or relax themselves or even have a bit of fun in the hard times.

The reason it is crucial to learn about children's mental health week is so we can learn to appreciate other people and ourselves more. For example, if someone struggles with managing their anger and gets mad easily you can better understand why they make the choices they do and maybe even help them more! Every day of last week we had an opportunity to do something fun, mindful and relaxing to help us be calm and connect to our inner selves! How can parents help with mental health? They can learn some of the techniques we have looked at in school to help relax their child when they get: anxious, nervous, sad, stressed or frustrated just to name a few tricky emotions!

We asked Joshua, in Year 2: **Why do you think it's important for children to understand and reflect on Mental Health?** "If children have worrying or sad times then they know what to do. And if it happens to their friends they also know what to do to help them!"

We asked Ameya, in Year 3: **Why is mental health important?** She replied, "It is important for your brain so you can learn to help yourself if ever you feel worried."

We asked Mrs Matsangou: **Why do you think it's important for children to learn about Mental Health?** She answered, "Learning how to look after our mental health is a really important skill. The world is a very busy and demanding place and it is very easy to become overwhelmed. Learning strategies and activities that can help you if you start to become anxious, stressed or worried can help you keep going when times might be tough. Remember, if you are one of those people who has very high expectations of yourself or constantly strives for perfection - it is important to give yourself a break from time to time and to be kind to yourself too!"

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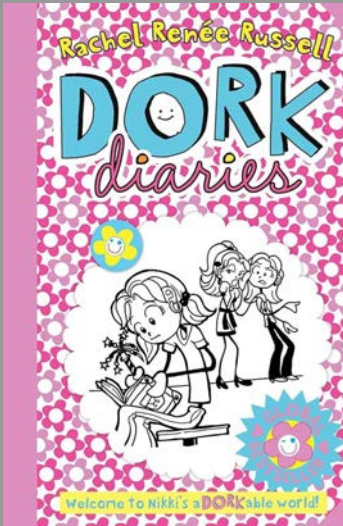


Reading Recommendations

Year 6

Dork Diaries - Tales from a Not-So-Fabulous-Life

- Rachel Renée Russell



New school.
New mean girl.
New crush.
New diary so I can spill about all of it...
I put a lot of really personal stuff in this diary along with my sketches and doodles.
But, mostly it's about how TRAUMATIC it was transferring to my new private middle school, Westchester Country Day.
And, how a lot of the CCP (Cool, Cute & Popular) kids were really SNOBBY and made my life TOTALLY miserable. People like, oh, I don't know, maybe...
MACKENZIE HOLLISTER!!
And, it just so happened that I got stuck with a locker right next to hers. I could NOT believe I had such BAD luck. I knew right then and there it was going to be a VERY, VERY long school year. 😞
dorkdiaries.com

Please enjoy three more recommendations of books from children in our school.

You should read this book because it is really funny. It is about a girl who is moving schools. She doesn't have any friends at first and then she signs up for an art show. She then finds out the most popular girl in school has also signed up. It is a good story that shows how someone can make friends by getting involved with different things in school.



Year 4

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire - J.K Rowling



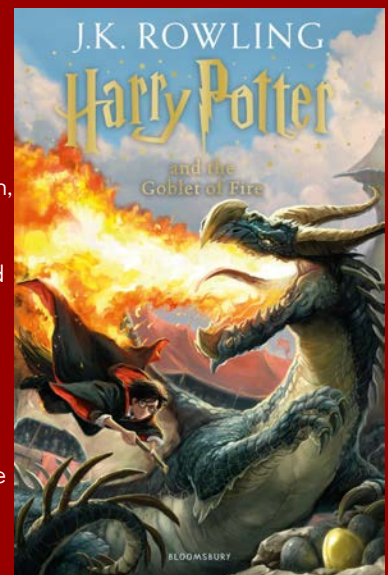
It is an exciting book and lots of stuff happens. You should read it if you are a fan of exciting books where there are dragons and magic involved. My favourite character is Voldemort as it is cool how the author brings him back to life. He also knows some rather unusual spells.

CURSES - COURAGE - COMPETITION

The Triwizard Tournament is to be held at Hogwarts. Only wizards who are over seventeen are allowed to enter - but that doesn't stop Harry dreaming that he will win the competition. Then at Hallowe'en, when the Goblet of Fire makes its selection, Harry is amazed to find his name is one of those that the magical cup picks out. He will face death-defying tasks, dragons and Dark wizards, but with the help of his best friends, Ron and Hermione, he might just make it through - alive!

J.K. Rowling's enduringly popular Harry Potter books continue to captivate new generations of readers. Harry's fourth adventure invites you to explore even more of the wizarding world; from the foggy, frozen depths of the Great Lake to the silvery secrets of the Pensieve.

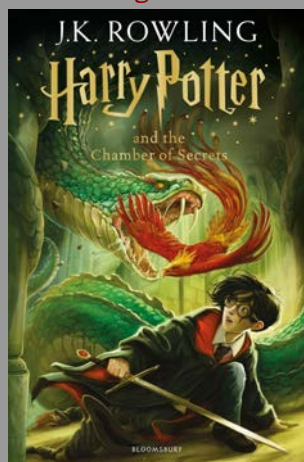
AMAZON



Year 2

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets

J.K. Rowling



Ever since Harry Potter had come home for the summer, the Dursleys had been so mean that all Harry wanted was to get back to the Hogwarts School for Witchcraft and Wizardry. But Harry receives a warning from a strange impish creature who says that if Harry returns to Hogwarts, disaster will strike. And strike it does. For in Harry's second year at Hogwarts, fresh torments and horrors arise, including an stuck-up new professor and a spirit who haunts the girls' bathroom. But then the real trouble begins - someone is turning Hogwarts students to stone. Could it be Draco Malfoy? Could it be Hagrid? Or could it be the one everyone at Hogwarts most suspects... Harry Potter himself!
goodreads.com

You should read this book because it has sooooo many chapters in it. It is a really juicy story because Harry Potter gets blamed for different things that aren't his fault!





Continued from page 2...

So in our school during Mental Health Week, we have been doing activities like dancing and pebble painting at lunchtime. Every class did an activity around good mental health too. We need to remember that it is to take great care of your mental health. You as a child in our school (or as a parent) can also take care of your health at home: going on a stroll in a nearby forest or path; watching a film; reading a nice book in a calming environment; or even spending time with your friends and family are super ways to boost your mental health! Plus, even though you are doing all these wonderful activities, you need to remember the most important thing is getting enough sleep too. As without good sleep, you often can feel more stressed or a lot more agitated.

So take every opportunity to boost your mental wellbeing and remember the lessons you have learned during this Mental Health Week.

BRILLIANT BLACK HISTORY

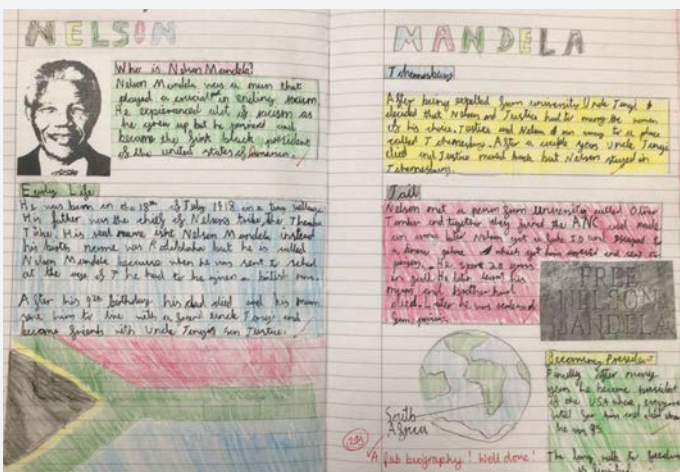
CULTURAL article written by Sarah, Izzy and Finley

Did you know that this month it is black history month, not just for our school but for the whole of the world? Black history month was started in February 1996 by Carter G Woodson and there are a range of influential black people we could tell you about that feature in our curriculum. Everyone around the school looks at a range of key figures in black history throughout each year.

Black history month is all about celebrating different black figures and knowing how they helped to make the world a better place for all of us. You may even remember that back in October, Mrs Matsangou set the children in the school a challenge to create a poster about a key black figure in history. Lots of children got involved in the competition and we had some great entries.

We asked some of Mrs Cox's class about their views of Black History Month, *"It is important to learn about black people from all around the world, not just in the UK, so we know the impact black people have had on society."*

We also asked Mrs Brahimaj what the children in Year 5 do to find out about black history. She stated, *"While studying the moon landings, we also looked at the crucial work of Katherine Johnson - a black, American mathematician whose calculations were critical to achieving the first lunar landing. The children loved it. They thought she was so intelligent and they could not believe how her work was vital in enabling the landing of the first man on the moon (Neil Armstrong)."*



Year 6 research into Nelson Mandela

Meanwhile, in Year 6 our topic, 'I have a dream...' allowed us to find out about the character and achievements of such civil rights activists as Martin Luther King Jr and Nelson Mandela. One of the boys in Year 6 commented, *"It was amazing to find out about these incredible black role-models. It is so important to remember how hard they had to fight to make sure everyone is equal, no matter the colour of your skin or religion."*

This Year 6 writing team was particularly inspired by their learning about Rosa Parks. She was an important part in the story of black people in America. Without her courageous act of nonviolent protest, many black people could still be suffering with inequality and racism - so she is a very important part of the black history.

If you are interested in researching a great, black historical figure, our suggestion would be Martin Luther King. A man who changed the world through his passionate speeches. It was a really enjoyable term learning about him and we think it would be great for others to learn about him too. He had many famous quotes about equal rights for black people, but his main and famous one would be the "I have a dream..." speech, an essential part of black history.

Super Sports

HEALTH article written by Alfie, Cam, Lexie and Felix



The Y6 Sports Hall Athletics Squad

A few weeks ago, Mr Willars, Mrs Walker and Mr Oelrich supported our children at an event called Sports Hall Athletics, which is an event where lots of children from Year 3 and above get the opportunity to represent the school. In these events, the children are able to show off their various sporting talents - such as how far they can jump or throw. Some of the activities included this time were long jump, triple jump, chest push and speed bounce.

On arrival, the children were split up into groups (boys in 1 group; girls in the other) so then the children were not crowded around one single activity. This sports event was an amazing opportunity for the children to show off their talents. All the children really enjoyed it and tried their very best during the event.

We asked various children who competed in sports hall athletics the same question: **What challenged you about the different events?**

Jonny, Year 6, replied, *"What challenged me about the different events was that when I went there I wasn't at my best, but the rest of the team helped to support me."*



Genesis, Year 6, stated, *“What challenged me is that when we had to race we started in the middle and you had to cross the line in the middle of the hall and if you didn't cross the line you got time added on.”*

We also asked children from Year 4: **What did you learn from going to sportshall athletics?**

Zach, Year 4, answered, *“So, I learnt how to work in a team is by supporting each other!”*

Thea, Year 4, replied, *“I learnt that it's not all about winning, but about having fun and supporting each other!”*

All the children that went to the athletics behaved very sensible and cheered each other on throughout the challenges, the children also performed brilliantly and finished the athletics competition with a 1st place trophy! All the staff and children in the school are very proud of the athletics team since they went out and overcame their fears and tried their very hardest.

We also asked Mr Willars - who took the children to Sports Hall Athletics - some questions...

What was the best thing from each event for you?

“The best thing about each of the sporting events is seeing our pupils demonstrating our school values and enjoying participating and engaging with different sports. It always makes me smile when I see our pupils enjoying sport and representing ‘The View’; it is one of the main reasons that I love taking children to competitions and tournaments.”

What was your favourite activity that the children competed in?

“I love all of the sporting events that our children participate in! I have a soft spot for Sports Hall Athletics as it allows for a larger number of children to represent the school and it is always wonderful to see our pupils demonstrating sporting values: determination, cooperation and sportsmanship. I am very lucky to be able to witness large numbers of children enjoying and finding success in sport.”

The next sporting event will be the county finals for the Year 6 Sports Hall Athletics squad. Another event will be the NFL Flag Competition in April for Year 6 - we hope to return to the National Championships again! There is another Sports Hall event - as the Year 6 team have qualified for the county finals at the end of February and will be representing the school, and district at an event in Kettering.

At school we would always encourage children to get involved in clubs and sports that feed their interests. We are also always on the lookout for children who embody our school values and show a love and passion for sports!

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAMWORK

VALUES article written by Madalena, Amaze, Riley and Barney

This term's value is...**COOPERATION**. Cooperation is something we all need in our daily lives and there are multiple ways of showing it - both in and out of school. An example might be: building something like a project together (maybe for a science fair) or playing together in a sports team - like football and netball. As one of our values, everyone should show teamwork in cooperation, not just this term, but every term!

We use cooperation every day and you sometimes might not even notice! With performances, school trips and even Year 6 going on their residential, everyone has to use it to overcome the barriers of teamwork and friendship. Just imagine If we didn't have cooperation in our school. We wouldn't be able to do the soiree, Winter wonderland or any of the even more exciting things that happen in our school. With a little bit more cooperation, who knows what we can achieve in the future of our school. Let us find out what people in our school have to say about cooperation. Lola - Year 1- told us: *“In PE we played games where we had hoops and we had to get from one end to the other by passing the hoops. To do this we were working together and showing cooperation!”*

We asked Aveah in Year 5 why is it important to work together with someone - even if they are not our friend? Aveah responded with, *“It is important because we're all doing the same thing. And if we work together and show cooperation, it becomes easier!”*

We asked Mrs Smart, Mrs Birch and Mrs Wilson (our wonderful office staff) how they cooperate with each other. They responded with, *“In the school office we do our best to cooperate with everyone who we come into contact with. Each day we have lots of conversations and do many things for parents, pupils, teaching staff as well as visitors to our school. We always try our best to help!”*

To conclude, we know that cooperation is a massive skill in the world. If we didn't have it there would be no such a thing as sport, because people would only be out for what they could get for themselves. Therefore, let's all try and be that little more cooperative with one another as we look forward to the magnificent Values Award Assembly for COOPERATION.

Our friendly office staff cooperate with everyone in the school from parents to teachers.



The school value for next half-term is **HONESTY**

Why is it important to be HONEST?

What difference does HONESTY make to our school?

