

News from across the school...

I would like to say how pleased we are with how well our new Reception and Nursery children have settled in. We say a big thank you to our parent community for their support in these early weeks.

Don't forget, photo consents for school photographer on Friday 16th October (and other consents). If you have not done so already, please do not forget to login to Arbor and consent for your child to have their photo taken by the school photographer. Although we have paper consents for children from YR1 to YR6, we would like all parents to consent online via Arbor, along with any others still outstanding.

Please note that without this consent you child will not have their photo taken.

October is Black History Month. This week the children will have watched an assembly showing a few short videos about what Black History Month is and why we mark it. I also took the opportunity to launch our Black History Month 500 word writing competition as outlined below. In addition to this, the curriculum is planned so that all children will be learning about a key person/event or story that links to Black History including the Windrush, Rosa Parks, black sporting heroes, Mary Seacole, Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King. We still know that there is more work to do to achieve equality and I will be continuing to work with a group of parents on exploring and identifying any policies and practices in our school that are barriers to equality.

500 Words is the world's largest story-writing competition for kids. The initiative was created by Chris Evans and first launched in 2011, celebrating its 10th anniversary in June this year and boasting an extraordinary legacy with over one million entries submitted to date.

To mark Black History Month, we would like to invite children to write an original story, up to 500 words, relating to Black history.

To enter, you need to write an original story that is no more than 500 words long. Your story must be all your own original work - you must not copy someone else's story. Your story must be an original piece of fiction and not an account of real events – either historical or current. However, your stories can feature well-known public figures from today or from history (e.g. Wayne Rooney or Rosa Parks), take place in historical eras (e.g. the Stone Age) and use real-life experiences as a creative springboard, as long as the story is fictional.

Stories can be 500 Words or under. There is no lower limit. You can only enter one story - If you enter more than one story then we will only consider the first submission as part of the competition.

There will be one winner per year group who will receive a copy of 'Young, Gifted and Black' by Jamia Wilson and they will become the first John Ball Writing Ambassadors for the half term!

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- Originality
- Plot
- Characterisation
- Language
- Enjoyment

Once you have written your story, you can enter it into the competition by submitting it to:- 500words@johnball.lewisham.sch.uk

The deadline is Saturday 31st October. We will announce the winners on Tuesday 10th November.

Wear Red Day:

The 6th annual Wear Red Day is on Friday 23rd October 2020. Wear Red Day is a national day of action, which encourages schools, businesses and individuals to wear red and donate £1 to help fund anti-racism education for young people and adults across the UK.

There are links to Black History Month activities in Lewisham here: <https://lewisham.gov.uk/inmyarea/events/black-history-month>

Have a good weekend.

Regards

Jacqui Noakes

headteacher@johnballlewisham.sch.uk



Year One suspected a bear was loose in the classrooms last week, it turned out it had escaped from the zoo. They built dens for it in Forest school and created posters to warn others.

They had to help the zookeeper with lots of maths so that the Bear had the correct food. This week they have been writing their own newspaper articles about what happened. The zookeeper has now collected the bear and it is safely back in the Zoo.



October

Friday 16th School individual photos – (no siblings)

Monday 26th to Friday 30th October: Half Term

Letters



A click and collect book borrowing service is operating from Manor House Library Tuesdays 10am -2pm and Thursdays. You can also pop in during these opening hours to request a 'lucky dip' of books for a child's age range or adult genre, there is no need to reserve lucky dip selections.

If you would like more specific titles, these can be reserved via the online catalogue.

https://tlc.ent.sirsiidynix.net.uk/client/en_GB/lewisham

Simply log in using your library card number and pin, the pin will usually be set to the year of birth of the user.

Once you have logged in you will be able to search and reserve books from across the consortium, so even if the book you want is in another library we will be able to have it sent to us for you to collect. When your reservations arrive with us they will be quarantined for a 72-hour period at which point we will contact you to let you know they are ready for collection.

If you need any further help, please email us on contact@mhlibrary.co.uk

Parking

Can we politely ask parents not to park on yellow lines when dropping off or collecting children and please do be careful of small children when parking and performing manoeuvres in Hurren close.

Please look on our website for adverts if you wish to view these. They will be alongside the newsletter.

This week:-

Superkids flyer – working at home

Next Steps flyer for child care in Blackheath

Sports Holiday Activity Camp in Lewisham

If you would like to advertise in JBuzz, we ask for a small donation of £10.00 for our school fund. We tend to advertise for individuals and charities/local events so please check first that it can be accepted. The ad will run for 1 week and we only run one ad half-termly.

Advert disclaimer: Please note we take advert requests from outside sources in good faith. We hold no responsibility for these and they are not necessarily recommended by John Ball School.

Primary School Applications for 2021

Our virtual open morning videos are now on the John Ball website. Please follow this link to view these

<https://www.johnball.lewisham.sch.uk/our-school/virtual-open-morning/>

- Applications open (apply online): Tuesday 1st September 2020 <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>
- Closing date for applications: 15th January 2021

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/school-admission/applying-to-start-primary-school>

Secondary School Applications for 2020

- Applications open (apply online): Tuesday 1st September 2020 <https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>
- Closing date for applications: Saturday 31st October 2020 (we recommend that you submit your online application by Friday 23rd October 2020)
- Closing date for supplementary forms (if required) to be returned to the school directly: Saturday 31st October 2020

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/education/schools/school-admission/applying-to-start-secondary-school>

Don't forget you can also look at the John Ball website for links and some schools virtual tour information. This will be updated as and when we receive information.

<https://www.johnball.lewisham.sch.uk/nursery-and-reception/secondary-transfer/>