



Friday 11th February 2022

Dear parents/ carers,

It seems hard to believe that I am writing the last letter of term 3, however I am glad of a week's break - it has been another busy term. I am writing today with news and information for half term and the term ahead.

A Royal reading

[Duchess of Cambridge to read bedtime story!](#)

The duchess's reading will air at 6.50pm on Sunday 13 February. She will be the first royal to read a CBeebies story.

Kate Middleton will be reading a bedtime story on Sunday in recognition of children's mental health week. She has chosen to read 'The owl who was afraid of the dark'



World Book Day

Miss Brignall, our Aspire English leader, has been busy this week planning what we will be doing to celebrate World Book Day. We have decided to celebrate on Friday 4th March, instead of the Thursday as two classes will be on a trip on the Thursday. Please see the poster below for details.



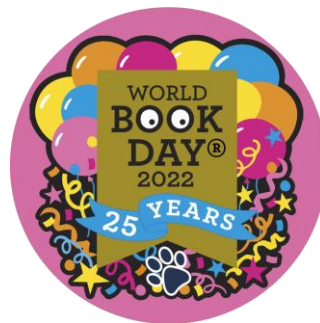
On **Friday 4th March 2022** the children are invited

to come to school dressed as their favourite book character to celebrate

World Book Day.

This year World Book Day is celebrating 25 years of bringing a love of reading to children and young people.

The aim of the day is to promote reading for pleasure and relaxation, and help create readers for life.



#WorldBookDay

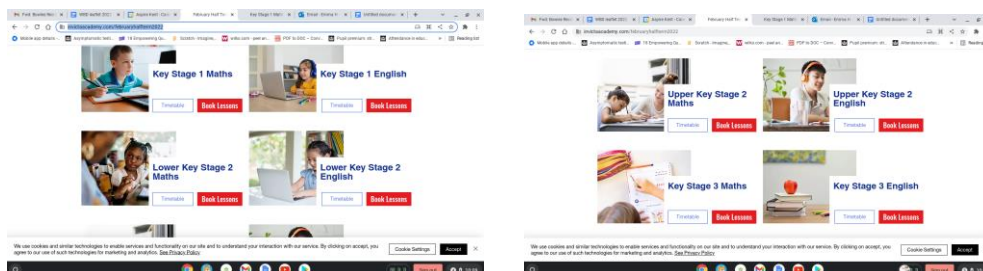


Invicta Academy

As you will know from my previous letters, year 5 and 6 have been able to take part in some home study support sessions with Invicta Academy as part of a pilot project that Aspire were asked to take part in. These sessions are now finished, I know they have been positively received- I will let you know if any more take place.

There is some half term sessions on offer though and these are for all age groups - from years 1-6. There are also sessions for secondary school children if you are interested. The website to sign up for the half term classes is: <https://www.invictaacademy.com/februaryhalfterm2022>

If you scroll down the page, you will see the following links-



Key stage 1 - years 1 and 2
Lower key stage 2 - Years 3 and 4
Upper Key stage 2 - Years 5 and 6

If you click on the right link for your child - you can sign them up for classes .

Here is an example of key stage 1 maths:

The screenshot shows the 'Key Stage 1 Maths' page with a table of lessons. The table has two columns: 'Date' and 'Lesson'.

Date	Lesson
14th February 2022	Recognise 2D and 3D Shapes
15th February 2022	Count Sides on 2D Shapes
16th February 2022	Count Vertices on 2D Shapes
17th February 2022	Lines of Symmetry
18th February 2022	Sort 2D Shapes

There seems to be a lesson each day on different topics.

Half term Activities

Last week I shared the free ice skating in Ashford, this week I am pleased to share with you an activity afternoon at Shepway youth centre, in Maidstone.

The details are as follows:

Half term fun - Wednesday 16th February

12-3pm

Shepway Youth Centre

Free entry - arts and crafts, indoor picnic, competitions, games. Pool or table tennis, dodgeball.

Aspire Governing body vacancy

There is a vacancy for a parent to become part of the Aspire Federation governing body, please see the advert below for more details. Please contact Mrs Branchett at Platts Heath if you are interested.



Kingswood, Leeds and Broomfield CE Primary, Platts Heath
and Ulcombe CE Primary Schools.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PARENTS TO VOLUNTEER to become School Governors for The ASPIRE Federation

Governors come from a wide range of different backgrounds, and we are currently looking for a dedicated parent to become one of two Parent Governors on our Governing Body.

Governors need a variety of transferable skills and experience, whilst all sharing one common interest, ensuring the best possible education for the children in our Federation Schools.

We value energy, enthusiasm and commitment to the role and would be delighted to hear from anyone who is interested in all the Federation children's education and the performance of our schools.

The ideal Governor has time, an enquiring mind, the confidence to ask questions and debate issues affecting the schools in the Federation and the ability to consider matters objectively and make informed judgements.

Governors need a variety of transferable skills and experience, as well as an everyday knowledge of internet skills and modern technology as much of our work is currently done virtually in these unprecedented times. We also use a bespoke online Governance system. Governors need to commit to visiting the school regularly for monitoring, although this is currently being done virtually, attend 6 Full Governing Body Meetings per year again currently virtually plus initial New Governor training and at least three further training sessions every year.

If you would like a chance to make a difference to not just your own child/children but all the children in our Federation by ensuring they all reach their full potential.

Please contact Sam Branchett, Office Manager, for further information and an application form and the Chair of Governors will be happy to call you for an initial informal chat

Email: office@plattsheathkentsch.co.uk or **call:** 01622 850316
no later than Friday 11th March 2022

And Finally

You will have seen on the news this week that it is looking likely that there will be an end to all covid restrictions soon. This will mean no isolation period for those with covid. I am unsure how I feel about this, but I guess we have got to live with it now like so many other illnesses. When I receive an update from the DFE with their guidelines I will update you. On a positive note, it does seem like schools finally will be able to return to normal.

Thank you for all your support this term, both in bringing your children to school but also in helping them to engage in events, homework and other activities.

Thank you also to the pupils, staff and governors for all their hard work. Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term.

Kind regards,

Emma Hickling
Executive Headteacher
Aspire Federation