

*"if you have faith as small as a mustard seed...nothing will be impossible."*  
(Matthew: 17 v20)

HEADTEACHER: MR M. REYNOLDS

SENCO: MRS K. MORRISON

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: MRS C. WINSLADE

JOINT VICE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: MR B. SEMPLE & MR C. THOMPSON

Friday February 9<sup>th</sup> 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

### **LENT: A time for thinking, for forgiveness and serving**

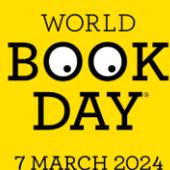


We are fast approaching the Christian season of Lent. Lent is a time when we pray, do kind things for other people, give up things and give to others, as we prepare to celebrate Easter.

It will be Ash Wednesday during half term. At school this week we have talked to the children about Ash Wednesday as the first day of Lent. The children have spent time in Collective Worship thinking about how to not only give up something for themselves, but also how to give "out" and make a difference to others.

I wish everyone a restful and relaxing Half Term break. I hope you all have the time to pause, reflect and give "out" over the season of Lent.

### **World Book Day – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**



WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**  
7 MARCH 2024

I am pleased to inform you that as part of our love of reading in school, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. To celebrate this day all children and staff are **invited to dress up**.

The children can be as creative as they wish, they could choose to **dress as a book character, a famous author, or anything else that links in with books** that they can think of.

We appreciate that whilst some pupils and parents love an opportunity to get creative and dress up, others might not be so enthusiastic. Please do not overly worry or spend unnecessary amounts of money on costumes. We are happy with whatever effort the children can make on the day. We encourage our children and parents to use their creative skills to make their own costumes using outfits or pieces of clothing they already own.



As well as dressing up, we will also be celebrating our favourite books, sharing story time and handing out the £1 World Book Day vouchers for the pupils to spend in book shops. We look forward to celebrating World Book Day together on 7<sup>th</sup> March.

## **Mid-Year Reports and Parents Evenings**

After Half Term we begin Term 4 at Northbourne. During this term you will receive your child's mid-year school report. These reports are written by the class teachers and give you a summary of the curriculum learning that has taken place so far this year. They also provide you with a short personal comment about your child's progress, as well as clear targets for the core learning areas of Reading/Phonics, Writing and Maths.

Our next Parents Evening appointments will follow the mid-year reports, on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March. You will be able to book an appointment to meet with your child's class teacher via our school website. We will let you know next term when the booking link is live. Please do not try to book yet.

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## **Upcoming visit from Little Urchin Hedgehog Rescue**

We will be having a visit on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March from Little Urchin Hedgehog Rescue, who are a charity based in Dover.

They will be spending some time with the children, showing them the things they do and why it is important to have a hedgehog rescue service in our area. There will also be some hoglets to show the children, including a pygmy hedgehog!



There will be a collection box on the day, should anyone like to donate to the rescue charity, alternatively they will be accepting any donations of wet or dry cat food... apparently they really like poultry versions!

We are all looking forward to learning from the rescue charity and finding out how we can help care for any hedgehogs at home and at school.

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## **Parent Governor – Parent ballot**

Please do take the time to complete the ballot paper that was sent home to all parents this week. There is a secure ballot box at the school office for all returned ballot papers. You must return your ballot paper by the end of the school day on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February for your vote to be counted.

Thank you to everybody who has already returned their ballot papers. Your support is very much appreciated.

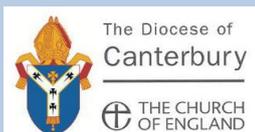


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## **INSET DAYS**

The remaining INSET days for Northbourne this academic year take place at the very end of July, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. These are after the pupils have finished for the summer.

There are no further school closure days planned for the rest of this academic year, beyond any unforeseen emergency closures.



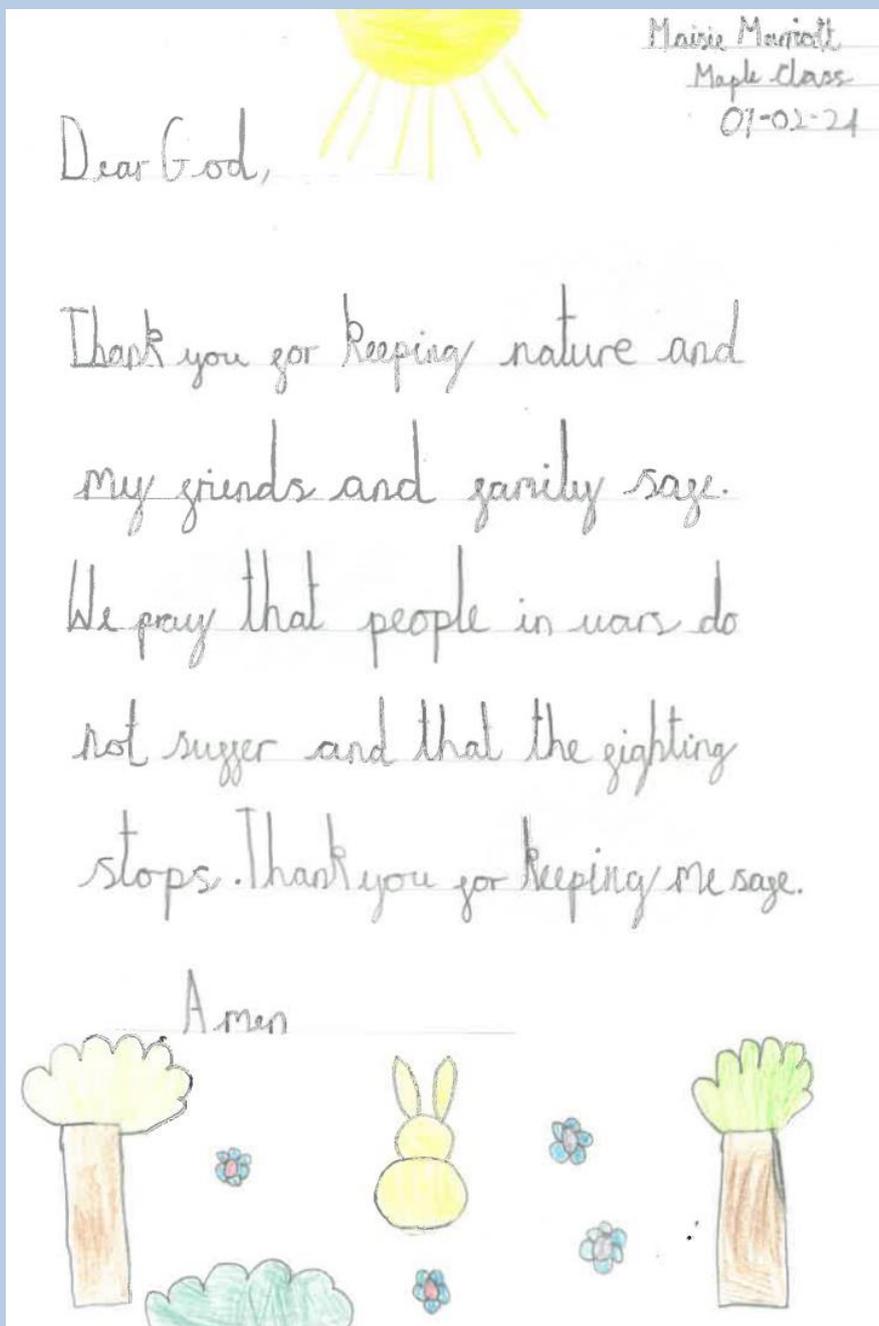
## Times Table Rock Stars - Battle of the Bands results!

We are very pleased to announce the winners of the Battle of the Bands held between our four houses last week on NSPCC Number Day! Thank you to everyone for taking part, it was great to see so many of you gaining house points for your team and practising your times tables in the process! Here are the final results:



- 1<sup>st</sup> - St Patrick's - with Amber as their top player.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - St Andrew's - with Matilda G.K. as their top player.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - St David's - with Murdo as their top player.
- 4<sup>th</sup> - St George's - with Elsie as their top player.

The house points have now been added to the school leaderboard and included in this week's totals, well done to all of you - and to everyone who took part!



**Term 3 - Values  
Trophy Winners**



*KS1 - Arthur  
KS2 - Rose*

**End of Term 3 Values Class Winners**

**Inquisitive**

Willow – Esme  
Beech – Austin  
Maple – Tommy  
Hazel – Sophie W  
Oak – Christian

**Communicative**

Willow – Sienna  
Beech – Henry  
Maple – Theo  
Hazel – Vienna  
Oak – Emily

**Collaborative**

Willow – Reggie  
Beech – Fred B  
Maple – Lily  
Hazel – Ronnie  
Oak – Florence

**Resilient**

Willow – Florence  
Beech – Riley  
Maple – Rex  
Hazel – Faith  
Oak – Elsie

**Independence**

Willow – Felix  
Beech – Amelia  
Maple – Charlotte  
Hazel – Lexi  
Oak – Freddie

**Emotionally Intelligent**

Willow – Scarlett  
Beech – Aston  
Maple – Emilia  
Hazel – Gino  
Oak – Eleanor