



# HAZEL LEYS ACADEMY

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Dear All,

At the beginning of another new term we have been looking at the many activities and events that have been planned to help children develop in all areas. Careers and employability, Reading Wizard visit, Bikeability, First Aid, Community Arts, Forest School and Kid Lit are just some of the events planned for Spring Term 2. We also squeezed in a visit Hamerton Zoo too. Phew! This enriched curriculum offer will provide our children with a wealth of experiences, all of which will help improve speaking and listening skills, reading and writing skills and social skills. Our current Year 1s (Koala Class) have just written some great stories using *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* as a stimulus. The writing produced was brilliant and we believe that this is a direct result of those children seeing the performance of this book at The Cube theatre whilst they were in Reception. They all had such a good re-collection of the story, characters and plot and their enthusiasm for writing resulted in high quality stories. We will continue to build on experiences to develop skills and knowledge. Thank you to all those parents who support these fabulous opportunities.

World Book Day themes had been shared with parents and as always we are always impressed with the costumes children wear. A wise reading wizard visited and had chosen some great texts for each class. Children were enthralled with his reading and also his wise words.

I am sure each class will enjoy reading the book that he gave to each class.

Greenwood Academy Trust have been supporting the academy in making sure that all that we do is at a high standard. We had a visit from a Senior Education Advisor, Ruth Ellis, and she assessed standards as good throughout with highly effective practice in our early years and in Year 1. We were all very pleased to hear that. We will continue to work hard for all of our children.

Finally please do keep reading with your children at home. If you have any suggestions or comments on how we can improve reading even further please do share these. I have included some ways to help at home on page 2 for our older children.

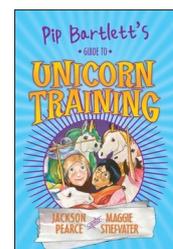
Thank you Mrs Inga Bain (Principal)

**Integrity Manners Pride Respect Encourage Succeed Spirit**

**IMPRESS**

Recommended Read - Unicorns are very popular so this should appeal to lots of our children.

From bestselling authors Maggie Stiefvater and Jackson Pearce comes the second installment in a series bursting with magical creatures, whimsical adventures, and quirky illustrations. Now that the mystery of the exploding Fuzzles has been solved, it's up to Pip and Tomas to save their town from another magical trouble-maker . . . the Unicorn.



## Dates for the Diary

We will be sharing dates in the diary on our website in 'calendar' and also on What's On? We share lots of events and information on our Twitter page. Please follow us.

### Assembly Dates

Assemblies start at 9.00 a.m. as soon as all the children are seated. Parents of the class whose special assembly it is are invited to the assembly. Parents of children receiving awards are invited into the assembly. Year 3 assembly will be in the afternoon.

### Dates and Class Performance

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March    | Y5 This date had to be cancelled due to the snow day.                                  |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> March    | Y3 <b>This assembly will be at 2.30pm.</b> Please check your child's class newsletter. |
| Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> March   | Y5 New date for cancelled assembly.  |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March   | Y4   |
| Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March | End of Term Assembly Easter/Spring/Award   |

**Groupcall—In light of the recent weather events, it is important we have up to date mobile numbers and email addresses. If you did not receive notifications, please inform the Academy office so they can check and update your child's records with the correct information.**

## Supporting Reading Skills for Year 4, 5 and 6.

Ways to help at home, please visit Oxford Reading Owl for top tips and other resources.



The following is taken from Oxford Reading Owl [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk)

1. It's still good to share It might get increasingly difficult to make time for the 'bedtime reading experience' now but it's still really useful and enjoyable; reading to your child, listening to your child read, leaving them to read alone and listening to audio books are all valuable. Try to chat informally about reading and swap ideas about good reads – no pressure!
2. Keep opening up the world of reading . Share the variety of your reading with your child: books, magazines, websites, and apps, to show how reading can help you to follow your interests and to get involved. Help them to join blogs, online communities and clubs that link to their hobbies whether it's swimming, football, dance or music.

Developing fluency and understanding

1. Read between the lines. Talking about stories, poems and information books can help your child to understand a book in different ways. It's not just about what's happened or who did what, so talk about the issues, what a book means to your child and whether they think there are any less obvious meanings that the author wants us to spot.

**2. Research for homework.** If your child is asked to research a topic, talk to them about how they will tackle the task. Remind them to look in books and use the library as well as the internet. Talk to them about how you decide what to use and what to reject – as well as how you know how to trust sources.

### **Building independence**

1. Valuing choice but nudging forward. It continues to be really important to value your child's choices even when it wouldn't be your first choice. Children enjoy reading series of books, such as Beast Quest, or Rainbow Fairies, or books by one author, e.g. Jacqueline Wilson, and these really help with their reading pace and stamina. However, over time it's a good idea to try to gently move them on to keep their reading experience fresh and broad.

Use booklists, websites (see below), and/or talk to experts such as librarians, teachers and booksellers.

**2. Reading clubs and groups.** Show your child that there are opportunities to share reading ideas and recommendations – and the excitement of reading – through a variety of clubs, groups, festivals, etc. Many of these are online, such as Chatterbooks, but you can also visit your library and bookshop for information.