

Cunningham Hill Junior School

Cell Barnes Lane St. Albans Herts AL1 5QJ
Executive Headteacher: Ms J Elbourne-Cload BSc, PGCE, NPQH
Email: juniors@cunninghamhill.herts.sch.uk Tel: 01727 852911



Tuesday 22nd February

World Book Day - Thursday 3rd March

Did you know?

Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success, more than family circumstances, parents' educational backgrounds or income.

-Organisation for Economic Co-Operation & Development

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are all now really looking forward to 'World Book Day', which takes place next Thursday, 3rd March. We are busy planning some very exciting activities, as this is the 25th anniversary of the event, which is ultimately aimed at promoting reading for pleasure.

Firstly, the children will have the opportunity to **dress up as a favourite book character**. There is no need to buy a costume. There are no prizes for the best-dressed outfits, as we would rather children focus on the characters than on which is the best outfit they can create. There are plenty of simple and cost effective ideas on the World Book Day website, which should offer some inspiration. Whilst this isn't compulsory, we do encourage as many children to take part as possible. Those who choose not to dress up, will be expected to come to school in uniform.

Secondly, the children will be asked to **discuss and promote to the other children, a book that they have really enjoyed**. It would be extremely helpful if they could give this some thought before the day, and bring the book along if possible (this will be returned). They will need to know the title, the author and have some thoughts about how they could persuade others in their class to read it.

As well as this, the children will have the chance to **bring in books that they have outgrown - a maximum of two - and to take part in a 'book swap'**. Each child who brings a book will be given a token to spend on another child's book.

Did you know?

Children who read 20 minutes a day are exposed to 1.8 million words in one school year. They are also more likely to score in the 90th percentile on standardized testing.

Primary school students who read an average of 30 minutes a day score on average 2 levels higher by the time they reach GCSE'S, than those who read for an average of 10 minutes a day.

The Reading Trust

Throughout the day, the children will take part in lots of practical activities, including drama work, art and crafts, quizzes and presentations, as well as having the chance to take part in a national competition to design a book token. Overall, I think the children will have a great day!

The Reading Cloud

I would also like to take this opportunity to share the news that all children in Years 4 – 6 have now been introduced to The Reading Cloud website. This excellent library management system allows the children to view and reserve any book we have in our school library, as well as make and view book recommendations. Mrs Dowden has created a range of reading lists, including a list of 100 book suggestions for Years 3 & 4 and Years 5 & 6. The Reading Cloud is linked to the Accelerated Reading system, which means that, as a parent, you can support your child in finding books that they will enjoy at their level. We hope that you will find this useful. Children in Year 3 will be introduced to this in the Summer term.

Yours Sincerely,

Philippa Dickinson
Reading Subject Leader.

Did you know?

Reading for pleasure is at its lowest level since 2005*

We want to see more children, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, develop a love of reading for

pleasure and the improved life chances this brings them.

National Literacy Trust Reading Practices in Lockdown,