



**Dear Parents and Carers,**

It has been fantastic to welcome the children back this week, and great to catch up with so many parents on the car park! I know that some children felt a little anxious when they first arrived, which is entirely understandable, but they all very quickly settled back in as if they'd never been away. The children have been busy continuing with their reading, writing and maths work, but they have also spent a great deal of time enjoying activities to support them in re-connecting with their peers and settling back into routines. They have spent the afternoon doing some PSHE work, looking at managing emotions and adapting to change, but they have also enjoyed a series of science activities as part of British Science Week! Look out for the photographs on Facebook!

Please do check the reminders below about competitions which are currently running (we have a poetry competition and an opportunity to name our school pets!), and for a reminder about our fancy-dress day for Comic Relief next Friday. Clubs and homework will also resume next week, and please look out for letters which have been sent home in book bags this week, regarding permission for children to take part in the filming of our Easter Service and performances. All classes will be involved in performing something for the service, which will be filmed and shared with parents via a private YouTube link, subject to children having consent to take part.

*Mrs Deborah Sadler*  
**Headteacher**



**REMINDERS & NOTICES**

**Name our school pets!**

As most of you will be aware, we recently had two guinea pigs join us at school, and Kingfisher Class are currently helping them to settle in. They will soon be visiting all of our children!

We would love the children to choose their names. If children would like to suggest names for them, they should go to their class teacher next week to tell them their suggestion. Both of our guinea pigs are girls, and so the top two names from the suggestions will be chosen for our new pets!

**We are asking for a donation of £1 for all children who enter.** The funds raised from this naming competition will go towards food, bedding and upkeep for the animals.

**Competition time!**

At the end of this bulletin, you will see a poster advertising Poetry By Heart, a competition where children learn to recite a poem off by heart! **The deadline to submit your video entry is Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March.**

More details about the competition can be found on the website, detailed below, as can details of how to submit your video entries.

**Clubs and Homework**

All clubs will resume next week, and all parents should have received the clubs options form to complete and return, to book your child's sessions.

As homework club will start again next Friday, homework will start to be set again next week.

**Happy birthday!!!**

Happy birthday to Connor, Lily, Mia S and Mr Davies (senior), who all celebrate their birthdays this week!



**WORSHIP**



This half term, in worship, we will be starting to focus on the events of the Easter story. Next week, we will be looking at **'Jesus is betrayed' (Mark 14.32-46)** and **'Jesus is crucified' (Mark 15.22-37)**. If children have any prayers, linked to this theme, that they would like to share during worship, they would be very welcome to do so.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March: Poetry By Heart entry deadline**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March: Comic Relief – Fancy dress competition!**



**AWARD WINNERS**

Congratulations to this week's **Headteacher Award winners**, who are:

**Hummingbirds:** Niall, Reggie, Hugo and Archie

**Robin Class:** Sofia, Amelia, Ralph and Oliver M

**Skylark Class:** Lukas, Franky, Alys and Poppy P

**Kingfisher Class:** Philippa, Ava T-B and Nathan

**Owl Class:** Danielle, Evan, Emilia and Olivia B

**News:**

[Click here](#) to view what our children have been up to recently.



[Click here](#) to view our upcoming events.



**World Book Day Winners!**

Congratulations to the winners, from each class of the World Book Day bookmark competition! The winners were Astrid, Enid, Olly S, Niaz, Alys, Madeline, Harley, Beau, Olivia F and Billy. They all win World Book Day badges, Our overall winners were Jack and Oliver C-H. They have both won Amazon vouchers! Well done everyone!



# POETRY BY HEART

## Competition 2021

### Types of Entry:

There are three main types of national entry available this year, all possible by video performances made by young people at home.

- The **Classic Competition** - reciting two poems which have been chosen from the Poetry By Heart website, one poem published before 1914 and one published in or after 1914.
- The **Celebration Competition** - an individual, a small group (2-5 young people) or a large group (6+ young people) perform any one poem chosen from the website.
- The new **Freestyle Showcase** option - an individual, a small group or a large group perform any poem at all, including those written by the contestant/s.

Further information is provided through this link:

[www.poetrybyheart.org.uk/poetry-by-heart-2021/poetry-by-heart-2021-joining-the-competition/](http://www.poetrybyheart.org.uk/poetry-by-heart-2021/poetry-by-heart-2021-joining-the-competition/)

### Video Uploads and Rules:

- Due to the circumstances this year, video recordings will happen at home.
- Children can rehearse as much as they like and they can do as many takes as you allow until they're happy with their entry.
- All we want is a simple point-and-shoot video - no cuts, edits, music, subtitles or special effects.
- We would like pupils to recite their poem, not to just read it aloud.
- At the start of the recording, it would be helpful if the child could say: "I am reciting by heart <Poem Title> by <Poet Name>".
- It helps if children get someone else to record their performance so they can stand up and away from a screen.
- Please film against a plain background.
- Devices such as phones and tablets need to be held horizontally when filming, not vertically.
- Once you are happy with the video, send it in to Miss Williams (through Class Dojo -portfolio or messaging- or via email on [williams.c@low.mmat.co.uk](mailto:williams.c@low.mmat.co.uk)) **by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021.**

**Please note: by participating in this competition and submitting a video entry, you are allowing us to share the content on social media/our school website and submit this to Poetry By Heart.**

### Judgements and Responses:

- The Poetry By Heart team will watch and respond to all entries received by 31st March 2021.
- The expert panel of poet judges and educators will then judge the best performances in the Classic and Celebration Competition categories.
- They will invite those competitors and their chaperones to attend the national event at Shakespeare's Globe on the SouthBank in London (date tbc), at which the national winners will be announced. They will also invite some of the very best Freestyle Showcase performers.
- It is all free to invited participants, including travel costs.
- With appropriate parental permissions in place, they will also add a selection of video performances to Poetry By Heart's website.

**Good luck! We can't wait to see your entries 😊**

## Comic Relief 2021

**FRIDAY 19TH  
MARCH IS  
DRESS UP FOR...**

**COMIC  
RELIEF**

To support Comic Relief, we are dressing up across our primaries.

Prizes will be awarded for the best dressed in each school. These will be put forward for a chance of being our overall Trust Winner!

**Who will you be?**

Marches Academy Trust

