





## A message from Mr Kirby-Bowstead Headteacher

"The more that you read, the more things you will know; The more that you learn, the more places you'll go!"

Yes, it's almost that time of year... World Book Day! On Thursday 6th March we will once again be inviting our children to come into school dressed as a character from one of their favourite books whilst participating in a number of fun-filled reading events within school. We also have a host of events planned out for visiting Darlington Library next half term too!

Reading is an incredibly important skill – not just for successful learning, but for successful living. Think about how many times a day you need to read something: be it a magazine, a recipe, a bus timetable, a contract, a letter from a doctor or this very newsletter! We must ensure it is a skill our children master, so in addition to enjoying World Book Day please make sure your child reads their school book at least three times a week to support their reading journey.

A big 'thank you' goes to all of our families who recently provided feedback to Ofsted during our recent inspection through the Parent View survey; we were overwhelmed with the positivity that came through, and it was lovely to hear how much you appreciate all of the hard work that goes on in and around school to ensure great progress for your children. Although I am unable to share much until the report is published, what I can say is that I am incredibly proud of Heathfield Primary School – it is an absolute privilege to be Headteacher here! Further to this, I am sure you will join me in saying congratulations to Mrs Evans who will take up the role of Deputy Headteacher here at Heathfield from March onwards too.

And finally, a few reminders from me:

- Children must not ride their bikes on the playground; please remind your children of our school rule of being 'safe'. The last thing we want is anybody being knocked over and hurt.
- On PE days, children should come to school wearing a white top and black/grey bottoms (shorts/leggings/joggers); not football kits or other coloured sports tops. This is in our uniform policy.
- Make up, false nails and jewellery are also against our uniform standards: children coming into school with these things will be asked to remove them.

## **Important Dates**

Monday 3rd March: School reopens for the start of Spring 2.

Thursday 6th March: World Book Day - Children are invited to come into school dressed up as a character from their favourite book.

w/c Monday 10th March: British Science Week - Children will be 'thinking like a scientist' with a focus on the theme of 'Change and Adapt'.

Friday 21st March: Red Nose Day - Children are invited to come into school wearing a red top for a 50p donation to this very worthwhile charity.

w/c Monday 24th March: Our theme for the week will focus on the upcoming celebration of Eid al Fitr, and why this is a special time for many of the families in the Heathfield community.

Wednesday 26th March & Wednesday 2nd April: Parent/Carer Consultations – Watch this space for an invite to our online booking form!

Wednesday 2nd April: Autism Awareness Day: Our theme for the week will be celebrating how everyone's brain works differently, linking this to our school virtue of 'fairness'.

Wednesday 9th April: Spring Disco