



## *Newsletter*

This term has already got off to a busy start as we approach the end of this half term and a very cold January! The children have enjoyed lots of fantastic learning opportunities both in the classroom and through our wider curriculum and there is still much more to come!

### **OFSTED VISIT**

I would like to take this opportunity to say how incredibly proud I was of our children during the inspection last week. They were an absolute credit to you all and to our school. I would also like to thank our staff and governors for their hard work and commitment, and to parents for your ongoing support. As soon as the report is available it will be shared with you all.

### **ATTENDANCE**

**Lateness:** If your child arrives at school after 8.55am you must bring your child into school via the main entrance.

**Illness:** It's that time of year when coughs, colds and bugs are common. When your child is unwell, it can be hard deciding whether to keep them off school. A few simple guidelines can help. Not every illness needs to keep your child from school.

**Cough and cold:** A child with a minor cough or cold may attend school. If the cold is accompanied by a raised temperature, shivers or drowsiness, the child should stay off school, visit the GP and return to school 24 hours after they start to feel better. If your child has a more severe and long-lasting cough, consult your GP. They can give guidance on whether the child should stay off school.

**Sore throat:** A sore throat alone doesn't have to keep a child from school. If it's accompanied by a raised temperature, the child should stay at home.

**Headache:** A child with a minor headache doesn't usually need to be kept off school. If the headache is more severe or is accompanied by other symptoms, such as raised temperature or drowsiness, then keep the child off school and consult your GP.

(Please see our attendance policy, which gives guidance on other illnesses).





At St Gilbert's, we aim to ensure that parents/carers are kept up to date and supported on a range of issues. Therefore, we will be introducing coffee mornings with our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator, (SENDCo). Coffee mornings provide an opportunity to gain more information, support and to share experiences with other parents/ carers. If you would like us to cover a topic that you think would be useful to many parents/carers, please let us know. Our first coffee morning will take place on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 9am.

## WELLBEING

### Children's Mental Health Week 5 - 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024

This year's theme is My Voice Matters, and the focus is on giving a voice to every child in the UK. In school we will be having an assembly to raise the importance of children and young people feeling that their voices are heard and that they are listened to. Additionally, we will be having a non-uniform day on the **9<sup>th</sup> February**, the theme will be to '**express yourself!**' Celebrate what makes you unique with a dress up day, wear your favourite colours, your favourite team's kit, or come as you are in your comfiest clothes.

We look forward to seeing the children '**Express themselves**'.

### Taking time to Stop, Understand and Move On - Top tips and tools to help children develop greater resilience, understand themselves and embrace wellbeing.

This is a 4 week course that will be held at Donington Primary School on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March from 1.30 - 3.00pm.

It is a course for parents and carers to help better understand themselves and their children. It aims to provide you with some simple tools to help support the journey of parenting. (*For more information see the attached leaflet*). Places are limited so please contact Mrs Millard if you would like to attend.

## World Book Day

This year on World Book Day we will be celebrating nighttime reading. We invite all children to come into school wearing their comfiest pyjamas, onesies, and dressing gowns to enjoy a day full of activities. Children are more than welcome to bring in their favourite book to share with their classes. This year's theme will be based around the book '**The Tower**' and each class will be taking part in some exciting activities which celebrate our love for reading.



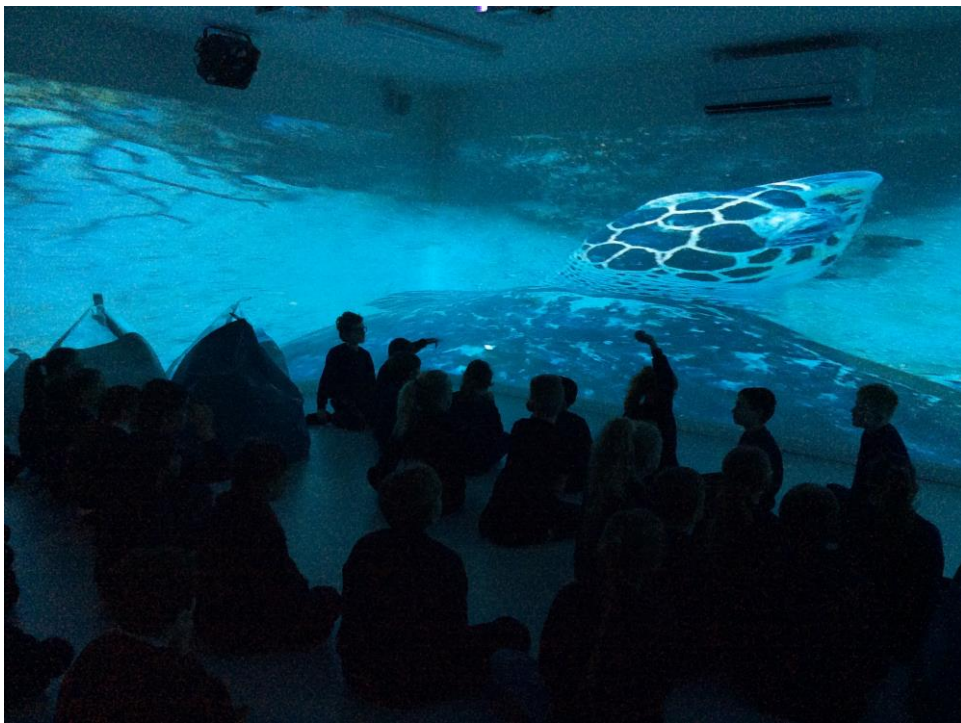
## **Reading Spine**

As mentioned in our December Newsletter, we have now implemented our whole school Reading Spine. The Reading Spine contains a selection of books that have been chosen specifically for each year group and will support children's reading development and reading for pleasure. Please visit our website where you will find further information, as well as a list of recommended reading books that you can share at home.

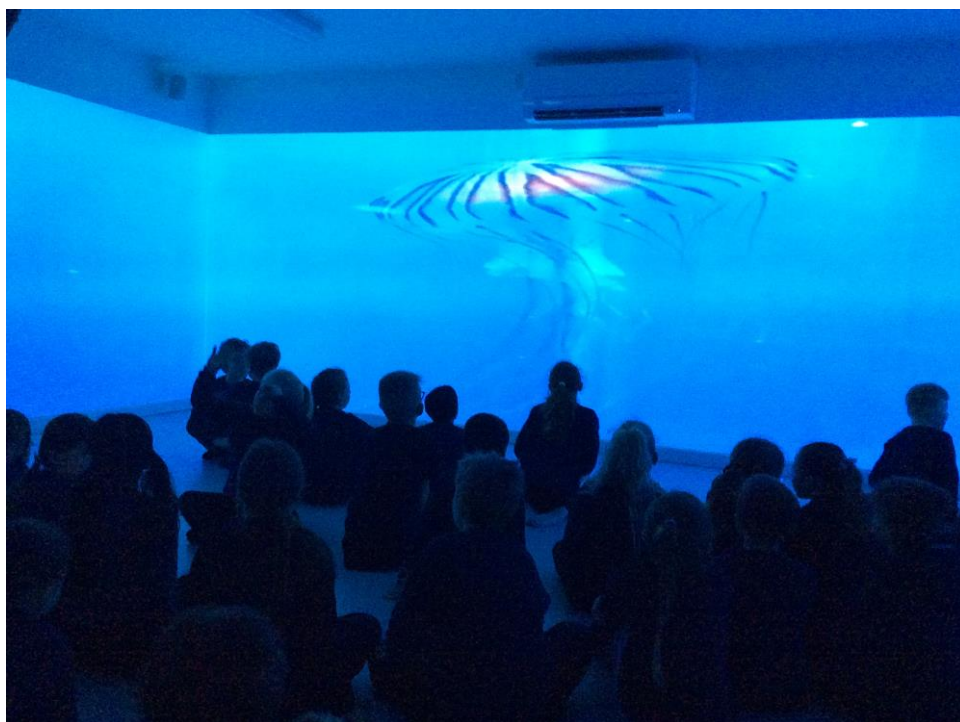
## **Number Day**

## **Visit to Donington Cowley**

It was lovely to join our friends at Donington Cowley in Year 3/4 and Reception on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January. Linking with their topics this term they engaged in varied activities including visits to the immersive suite, practical learning and team building. It was lovely to see the children interact so brilliantly. We hope to build in more opportunities for collaboration between children as the term progresses, including the Y6 visit to the Houses of Parliament and sporting events.







### Comic Relief - 15<sup>th</sup> March

This year we will be supporting Comic Relief. Children will be invited to **Wear it Red** for our non-uniform day- any contributions are welcome.



## **Autism Awareness Day- 28<sup>th</sup> March**

We will once again be raising awareness of Autism on this day and invite children to attend in **colourful** clothing to celebrate everyone's uniqueness.

## **Parent Volunteers**

Thank you to all parents and staff who worked together to organise our Christmas Fayre and to our wonderful children and families who supported on the night. We were overwhelmed by the incredible total raised **£1,223.77**.



Reviewing the success of our Christmas event and having met with several parents at the start of term, we have decided to continue to work with parents as fundraising volunteers going forward. We will be meeting regularly for those who would like to attend. Our next meeting will be held at 3.45pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Everyone is welcome!

## **BOOK SWAP**

I would like to say a huge thank you to our parent governor, Laura Powell, who has kindly set up a book swap in our reception area. Please donate any unwanted books and please do collect a new one to take home.

## **DATES FOR THE CALENDAR**

### **FEBRUARY**

2<sup>nd</sup> - Number Day

9<sup>th</sup> - Children's Mental Health **(Non-Uniform day)**

9<sup>th</sup> - End of Spring Term 1



## ***HALF TERM***

19<sup>th</sup> - Start of Spring Term 2

21<sup>st</sup> - Year 6 London Houses of Parliament Visit

## **MARCH**

5<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> March from 1.30 - 3.00pm. 'Taking time to Stop, Understand and Move On' course, at Donington Primary School.

5<sup>th</sup> - Parent Volunteer meeting at 3.45pm

7<sup>th</sup> - World Book Day - **Dress in your comfiest PJs, onesies and dressing gowns!**

12<sup>th</sup> - Parent Meetings

15<sup>th</sup> - Comic Relief 'Non-uniform day' - **Wear it Red!**

28<sup>th</sup> - Autism Day – **Dress in colourful clothing**

End of Spring Term 2

## ***EASTER HOLIDAYS***