Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you had a very relaxing break last week. This term is a very short and an action-packed one!

We were delighted by the fantastic turn out to International Mother Language Day. It is always fantastic to celebrate our multi-cultural community. Remember to keep talking in your home languages at home! This will help children to learn English better, improve their thinking skills and be a valuable skill for later life.

**Thursday 19th March and Tuesday 24th March 2020**

Please remember to sign up for pupil progress meetings with your child’s class teacher. Between these meetings, you can always ask Mrs Clark for an appointment with teachers if needed. As a staff team, we are always keen to help in any way we can.

**Parent Progress Meetings:**
- Years EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 – Class Teacher
- Year 3 Maths - Miss Sheridan
- Year 4 English - Miss Nash and Miss Martin
- Year 5 Maths - Miss Bains
- Year 6 Science & Geography - Mr Martin

**Friday 27th March 2020**

This is a reminder to all parents that we have a cross-Trust INSET day on Friday 27th March. Pimlico Primary will be closed all day on this date.

Best wishes,

Mrs A. Gamon

Headteacher
**Reading Journals**

**Why is reading at home so important?**

By working with the school to help with your child’s reading, you will make sure you continue to be part of that journey. Research shows that children make better progress when reading is valued at home, and especially when parents show an interest in helping their children to read. By showing an interest in how, when and what they are reading, you will give your child the best possible chance of success. Above all, show your child that reading can be fun: children who enjoy reading and think it’s fun are children who succeed.

**Reading to your child and listening to your child read**

Reading at home means sharing books in different ways. It’s important that your child hears you read (and sees you reading), as much as possible. Reading to your child will help with their reading development and comprehension, and promotes the act of reading as something that can be shared and enjoyed. This is important at all ages, right up to Year 6 and beyond.

**KS2 Reading Journals**

To encourage children to read more at home, we have purchased new reading journals for all KS2 children. Every week, children should write the title of their book and then write a paragraph about what they have read. Parents will need to sign their child’s reading journal once a week. Form tutors will also sign pupils’ reading journals once a week.

Please remember that reading daily together is one of the most important contributions you can make towards your child’s attainment at school:

- It opens your child’s mind! The effect reading has on an individual’s imagination is unparalleled. Books, magazines, atlases and journals allow your child to explore both our world and fictional ones.
- Reading expands a child’s emotional understanding. Bedtime reading with your child can help them to approach difficult topics in a safe environment, where they can explore powerful emotions and milestones through fiction.
- Reading supports their learning. Reading is one of the most important communication tools that we have available to us and is fundamental in establishing essential pathways in the brain in early learners.
**Coronavirus**

**Coronavirus Update**

As you may already be aware, advice for travellers from affected areas has recently changed. I would like to reassure you that we will protect our school community as best we can, in line with Public Health England guidelines. Our current school policy is as follows: students, staff or visitors who have returned from the following areas since February 19 **should not** come into school regardless of whether they are showing symptoms:

- Specific lockdown areas in Northern Italy* as designated by the Government of Italy. The Government of Italy has introduced extraordinary measures that allow regions to implement civil protection measures in response to Coronavirus. This includes the isolation of ten small towns in Lombardy and one in Veneto. [https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/italy](https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/italy)
- Iran
- Special care zones in South Korea as designated by the Government of the Republic of South Korea
- Hubei province, China

Students who have returned from all other affected areas in the last fourteen days are free to come to school unless they are experiencing symptoms. If they experience even mild symptoms, they are advised to stay indoors and call NHS 111. These affected areas include the following:

- Vietnam
- Cambodia
- Laos
- Myanmar
- Japan
- Thailand
- Republic of Korea (unless coming from the special care zones as stated above)
- Hong Kong
- Taiwan
- Macau
- Singapore
- Malaysia

If you are affected and have been advised by NHS 111 to self-isolate, please ensure you contact the school **immediately**.

Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

How serious is the coronavirus?
- It can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing.
- The infection is not serious for most people, including children.
- There is currently no vaccine.
- Most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain.

How likely are you to catch the virus?
- You can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus.
- The chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK.
- If you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas.

How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?

If you need to cough or sneeze
- Catch it with a tissue
- Bin it
- Kill it by washing your hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser

You should wash hands with soap & water or hand sanitiser
- After breaks & sport activities
- Before cooking & eating
- On arrival at any childcare or educational setting
- After using the toilet
- Before leaving home

- Try not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Do not share items that come into contact with your mouth such as cups & bottles
- If unwell do not share items such as bedding, dishes, pencils & towels

Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools

What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call NHS 111 for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19. Parents can visit NHS.UK to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Iran, specific lockdown areas in northern Italy, special care zones in South Korea or Hubei province China (returned in the past 14 days) should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days. See NHS.UK for advice on coronavirus.

If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately
Book Week

When is Book Week?

This week, Monday 2nd to Friday 6th March, is Book Week. This is a time for our school community to indulge even more heavily in reading for pleasure, and to immerse ourselves in a range of books.

Book Character Costume Dress-up Day

In addition to other activities, we will be holding our annual dressing up day on Thursday 5th March. Children are asked to bring £1 for the charity Book Aid International, dress up as a character from a book and bring the book, featuring their character, to school. As it would be lovely to explore the children’s creative side, there will be certificates for the best home-made costumes. If possible, please try to avoid dressing as characters which were originally created to feature in films. For inspiration, please see the following web pages: https://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up-ideas-2019/ https://www.worldbookday.com/ideas/dressing-up-gallery/ https://bookaid.org/support-us/world-book-day/world-book-day-dress-up/

Reading Aloud Competition

When?
As part of our Book Week activities, we will be holding a ‘Reading Aloud’ Competition. Following in-class heats, a final will be held, to be attended by the children only, during a Friday assembly. This will establish Pimlico Primary’s ‘Expressive Reading Champion’ for this year.

What do you need to do?
In preparation for this, we would like you to:
1. Choose a favourite book which you have read entirely. This book must be challenging, but you must not find yourself struggling over any words. Also, it must contain dialogue (i.e. characters speaking to each other) and should not be a diary-style book or feature speech bubbles.
2. Select and practise reading aloud a section of about 100 words, which includes dialogue.
   In order to interest your listeners, it would be best if the speech is emotive, and can be read appropriately with lots of expression. I.e. changes in volume (loudness or quietness), tone (angry, happy, harsh or soft), pitch (squeaky or deep-voiced) and pace (speed of saying the lines).
   You should try to speak clearly, projecting your voice firmly and...
The Future Writers Prize
2019-2020

Who?
♦ Are you a student in Year 3, 4, 5 or 6?
♦ Do you love writing?
♦ Do you want to be a writer when you grow up?

What?
If the answer to any of the above questions is yes, then the Future Writers Prize is for you! The FWP is a brand new competition designed to put your creative writing skills to the test. Your task is to compose an imaginative piece of writing, which will be judged against students from across Millbank Academy, Churchill Gardens and Pimlico Primary. Your work will be read and judged by a panel of very important and famous people.

There is no set title for the prize, but all entries must be a piece of original creative writing. Therefore, this is an exciting opportunity to get those creative juices flowing! The only condition is that your entry must incorporate your school learning. For example, why not compose an essay about the Egyptians or a story about Spartacus? Or if poetry is more your style, why not write an acrostic about Achilles, a sonnet about the Spanish Armada or a ballad about Becket? The choice is yours!

Why?
Successful entrants will receive:
• A trip to an incredibly exciting play, accompanied by your family and teacher!
• A monetary reward towards a book of your choice.
• A sense of triumph and personal glory for both you and your school!

When?
If you want to take on the challenge, then contact your teacher for more details. All entries to the competition must be sent to your Principal by no later than 4pm on 27th March 2020.
Who?
♦ Are you a student in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2?
♦ Do you love writing?
♦ Do you want to be a writer when you grow up?

What?
The Pimlico Primary Young Writers Competition is a brand new competition open to all EYFS and KS1 students at Pimlico Primary. It is an exciting opportunity for you to get those creative juices flowing! You may write on a subject of your choice, although your writing should incorporate your school learning. For example, why not write a story about ferocious Hannibal and his war elephants, compose a piece of writing on the Ancient Egyptian gods and goddesses or write a story based on a traditional tale.

There will be a winner from each year group. Each winner will receive a book token and all winners will be awarded their prize in front of the school in the final assembly of term.

When?
If you want to take on the challenge, then contact your teacher for more details. All entries to the competition must be given to your teacher or Mrs Gamon by the end of the school day on Friday 27th March 2020.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Audience</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 4th March</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Year 4 trip-Troy exhibition - British Museum</td>
<td>Year 4 Parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 5th March</td>
<td>9.15am-11am</td>
<td>Mind- Parent group</td>
<td>All Parents</td>
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<td>All day</td>
<td>World Book Day</td>
<td>All Parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 6th March</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Year 2 trip- Kew Gardens</td>
<td>Year 2 Parents</td>
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<td>1.30-3.30pm</td>
<td>Music Junction Workshop</td>
<td>Music Junction pupils</td>
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<td>Tuesday 10th March</td>
<td>9.00am</td>
<td>Year 6 trip– Natural History Museum</td>
<td>Year 6 Parents</td>
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<td>Wednesday 11th March</td>
<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>Year 1 Library visit</td>
<td>Year 2 Parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 12th March</td>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Year 3 Library visit</td>
<td>Year 3 Parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 19th March</td>
<td>9.15am-11am</td>
<td>Mind- Parent group</td>
<td>All Parents</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3.40pm</td>
<td>Parents Evening</td>
<td>All Parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20th March</td>
<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>Year 6 Library visit</td>
<td>Year 6 Parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 24th March</td>
<td>3.40pm</td>
<td>Parents Evening</td>
<td>All Parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25th March</td>
<td>9.00am-10.00am</td>
<td>Year 2 End of Key Stage 1 Assessment Information Meeting for Parents</td>
<td>Year2 Parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 27th March</td>
<td>All day</td>
<td>INSET (school closed)</td>
<td>All Parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1st April</td>
<td>2.00pm</td>
<td>Year 5 Library visit</td>
<td>Year 5 Parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 2nd April</td>
<td>3.30pm</td>
<td>Autism Awareness Bake Sale</td>
<td>All Parents</td>
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**Parents evening:** Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 3.40pm – 6.40pm