

# The Gorse Weekly

## WORLD BOOK DAY

We had an utterly joyous day yesterday as we joined schools across the country in celebrating World Book Day. The children looked absolutely amazing so massive thank you to you all for supporting them with their costumes.

As you will know we've had a focus over the last couple of weeks on empathy and yesterday specifically looked at how books and stories can help us understand the lives of other. The children produced some amazing Empathy Bookshelves as part of last week's Home Learning and did an amazing job of presenting them to their peers.

Thank you also to everyone who joined us for our Family Book Evening which was a real pleasure to host and hopefully both enjoyable and informative for all you and your children.

During our assemblies, the Department for Education introduced our Round the World Reading Challenge. The idea of this challenge is that over the course of the next few months the children commit to reading a range of stories set in different continents. The children will be coming home with a bookmark to help them track this and there will of course be a little treat for those who complete the challenge.



## PARENT COUNCIL MEETING

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback for our Parent Council meeting this week which focused on pupil behaviour and safety. We had some really productive discussion in the meeting and I would like to give particular thanks to those parents who joined us in person for this.

Topics explored in the meeting included Digital Wellbeing, behaviour and support at playtimes and lunchtimes and ways in which school can communicate information around aspects such as site security. These will be explored further in future communications including upcoming issues of the Gorse Weekly.

## VISION DIGITAL WELLBEING PARENT SESSION

The rescheduled workshop on Digital Wellbeing, led by experts at the charity Visyon, will be taking place next Tuesday 12th March at 6pm. The session will cover issues such as helping children deal with the pressures of the online world, self esteem and how avoid FOMO (fear of missing out).

Thank you to everyone who has registered for a place at this session. We do still have capacity for a few more attendees so if you would like to join us please let us know by filling out [this brief form](#).



## WHY DOES MY CHILD FORGET STUFF??

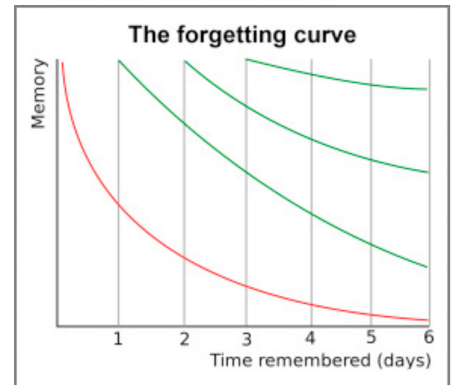
Amongst the many common experiences we have as parents and teachers, one of the more perplexing is those that end in the phrase (or thought) *'but you knew this yesterday!!'*

**The key point for this piece is that when we 'learn' something for the first time, it is natural for us to forget it and to then need to relearn it again (and sometimes several times) before it goes into what is known as 'long term memory' and is truly learned (rather than just temporarily remembered).**

My intent in sharing this is to hopefully mitigate the frustrations we naturally all feel when supporting children with things like the learning of spellings and times tables. As counter intuitive as it sounds, forgetting is actually a necessary part of the learning process and every time we forget something, the work that goes into trying to recall it, while sometimes deflating, is actively helping the process of truly learning it.

A useful visual for this was developed by German psychologist, Herman Ebbinghaus whose work on memory theory included the development of the 'forgetting curve' (see below). This tracked the average time it took someone to forget a piece of information but also the fact that each subsequent time it is 'relearned', it sticks that little bit more.

While knowing this won't prevent the forgetting of facts, hopefully it will make those frustrating moments (for you and your child) a little less frustrating. It may even bring a little explanation for those facts you struggle to remember yourselves!



### Article 31

Every child has the right play and relax by doing things like sports, music and drama

**WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL**

Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school.



### DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 12th Mar - Visyon Parent Session
- 18th Mar - Neurodiversity Celebration Week
- 24th Mar - Wilmslow Running Festival
- 26th-28th Mar - Spring Sing (Rec-Y2)
- 28th Mar - Random Acts of Kindness Day
- 28th Mar - end of term
- 15th Apr - INSET Day
- 16th Apr - start of term
- 19th Apr - School Eid celebrations
- 26th Apr - Year 1 Assembly (2.30pm)
- 10th May - Reception Assembly (2.30pm)
- 13th May - Year 6 SATS Week

### SCHOOL EID CELEBRATIONS

The Muslim festival of Eid Al-Fitr will take place over the Easter Holiday and we will be celebrating it in school during the first week back with some assemblies, crafts and a celebration lunch. We will also be having a charity dress down day on the Friday to reflect the charitable aspect of the festival.

More details will be shared nearer the time but if any of our parents who celebrate the festival would be willing to come in and speak to the children about it we would love to hear from you. If you are interested in doing this, please contact the school office either on 01625 468040 or via email at [admin@gorseybank.org.uk](mailto:admin@gorseybank.org.uk) FAO Miss Ratcliffe.