

We learn and succeed together



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Newsletter 25th February 2022

Dear Parents,

We hope you had a happy and healthy half term break. We are getting very excited about World Book Day - Please see page 2 of the newsletter for further information. Please remember to keep checking your child's class twitter for tweets about the wonderful learning going on in their classroom. - At Friars we are starting to introduce this. Please see page 4 of the newsletter for updated Covid information. Have a fun and relaxing weekend.

Robert Browning, Snowfields and Tower
Bridge
SCHOLARPACK APP
6 WEEKS TO GO

Do you have access to the scholarpack App? If not, please contact your school office for an access code. From 1st April 2022 we will only be using the App to communicate with parents, we will no longer be sending texts. If you need help to download and access the app, please come and speak to a member of the office team who will be happy to assist.

Nursery Places

We have Nursery places available. If you have a Nursery age child or know of friends or family who do please let them know! Children are eligible if they were born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019. Please ask a member of staff on the gate for a Nursery application form or telephone the school office.

Term Dates 2021 - 2022

Spring term

5th January – Friday 11th February 2022

Half Term: 14th February -18th February 2022

Monday 21st February – Friday 1st April 2022

Summer term

Wednesday 20th April 2022 – Friday 27th May 2022

Half Term: 30th May 2022 – 3rd June 2022

Monday 6th June – Wednesday 20th July 2022

Book bags

Please make sure that your child brings a book bag (or other bag) to school every day so that they can take home a reading book and their reading journal each night. Book bags can be purchased from the school office, please ask a member of the staff on the gate.

Water Bottles

Please remember that children's water bottles should be made of plastic and not be made of glass. Thank you

World Book Day Information

Thursday 3rd March is World Book Day!

This year we would like the children to put together costumes of their favourite book characters, made at home with you. Please see the World Book Day website for ideas.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up-ideas/>

There will be a prize for the best homemade costume!

Snowsfields, Tower Bridge and Robert Browning Early Years (Nursery and Reception)

World Book Day celebration

Caterpillar and Butterfly classes will be celebrating together on

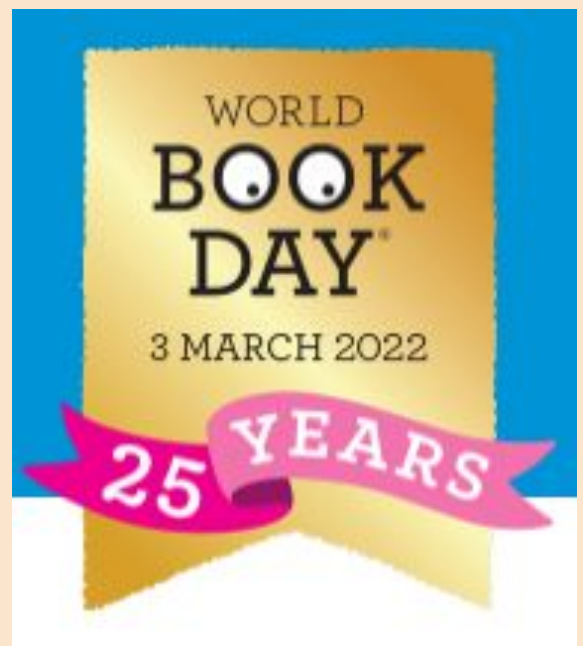
Wednesday 2nd March.

Children will bring home their £1 World Book Day Vouchers next week.

Follow @WorldBookDayUK on twitter

Friars Year 6 World Book Day

The Year 6 children at Friars will be at IntoUniversity throughout the week of World Book Day. They will be celebrating the day in school on **Monday 7th March** instead, once they are back in school.



Certificate Winners at Snowsfields



We want to give
a big shout out
for showing the
Friars Values to:

Max,Jaime,
Nathalia,
Mohamed,
Scarlett and
Hawra

Reading
Raffle
Winners at
Snowsfields!



Our Super Stars of the week at Friars!

Certificate Winners at Tower Bridge



Certificate winners at Robert Browning



We won the
Reading Raffle
at Tower
Bridge this
week!

We want to give
a big shout out
for showing the
Robert Browning
Values to:

Sophie, Ire, Adar, Yusuf, AJ,
Jordean, Serene, Rona,
Ashley, Lily, Le'Rico, Long,
Izrael, Munira

Changes to self-isolation and daily testing of close contacts

From Thursday 24 February, the Government removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days. In addition, the Government will:

- No longer ask fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days, and remove the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self-isolate.
- End self-isolation support payments, national funding for practical support and the medicine delivery service will no longer be available.
- End routine contact tracing. Contacts will no longer be required to self-isolate or advised to take daily tests. Staff, children and young people should attend their education settings as usual. This includes staff who have been in close contact within their household, unless they are able to work from home.

More detail can be found in the [Living with COVID-19](#) plan published today.

What does this mean for you?

- All children are expected to be in school on time every day.
- If your child is unwell please let the school know by 9am if they will not be attending and give the reason why.
- If your child has any Covid symptoms and is feeling unwell please keep them at home and notify the school by 9am.
- We would strongly advise you to check using a Lateral Flow test (if possible) and if it is positive please stay at home for at least 5 days.
- Your child can return to school when they feel better.
- If a parent or sibling is unwell we will still expect all other children to attend school.

School will:

- Continue to hold assemblies on line until after Easter
- Maintain current cleaning and hand hygiene procedures as good practice
- Ensure rooms are well ventilated



Attendance and Punctuality

Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 07/02/2022 : **93.08%**

1st Place Attendance: Y1 1st Place Punctuality: Y4

Classes	Absences	Lates	Points
Year 1	1	23	0
Year 2	4	8	150
Year 3	12	24	0
Year 4	2	5	250
Year 5	4	13	250
Year 6	2	8	175



Attendance and Punctuality

Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 07/02/2022 : **92.78%**

1st Place Attendance: Year 5 1st Place Punctuality: Year 4

Classes	Absences	Lates	Total Attendance
Year 1—Red Class	21	9	81.88%
Year 2—Orange Class	8	4	96.00%
Year 3—Yellow Class	13	7	93.85%
Year 4 - Green Class	32	0	84.76%
Year 5—Blue Class	1	2	98.08%
Year 6—Purple Class	13	4	95.36%



Attendance and Punctuality

Overall whole school attendance for week beginning: 07/02/2022: **91.35%**

1st Place Attendance: Y2, Y4 and Y5 1st Place Punctuality: Y6

Classes	Absences	Lates	Points
Year 1—Red Class	32	12	150
Year 2—Orange Class	17	15	250
Year 3—Yellow Class	30	17	175
Year 4 - Green Class	17	10	400
Year 5—Blue Class	17	9	600
Year 6—Purple Class	29	4	725



Attendance and Punctuality

Overall whole school attendance for week beginning 07/02/2022: **94.84%**

1st Place Attendance: Year 3 1st Place Punctuality: Year 4

Classes	Absences	Lates	Points
Year 1—Red Class	9	33	125
Year 2—Orange Class	3 1/2	23	225
Year 3—Yellow Class	1	19	775
Year 4 - Green Class	7	5	475
Year 5—Blue Class	5 1/2	20	300
Year 6—Purple Class	10	11	400

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about NFTs (NON-FUNGIBLE TOKENS)

A non-fungible token, or NFT, is a unique digital record of a particular file – such as an image, audio track or video (non-fungible meaning it can't be replaced by an identical item). NFTs let digital content producers like artists and designers control how their work is distributed and monetised. The offline equivalent would be owning a limited-edition art print, signed by the artist, with a certificate of authentication. The value of the tokens is incredibly volatile, unregulated and very much based on hype, publicity and marketing. These digital assets – typically collectibles, avatars for social media profiles or character add-ons for online games – are traded in specialised marketplaces using cryptocurrency.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

FAKE COLLECTIONS

When searching for a particular collection of NFTs, it is common for fake versions to display alongside the originals, which can easily fool a less experienced buyer. Larger projects will be verified, but smaller ones will not, so check the volume that has been traded and check the activity to verify authenticity – fake collections will have almost no trading history.

LACK OF CLARITY

Buying a limited-edition print of a painting isn't the same thing as owning the original. Likewise, when someone buys an NFT, they're not acquiring ownership rights to an original work. Some buyers don't realise that – since many NFTs are publicly on view – purchasing one doesn't stop other people from making their own copies of your NFT (by saving a screenshot of it, for example). Sneak peeks of NFTs can also falsely advertise what the purchaser is investing in, leaving buyers disappointed in what they actually receive, and as they are unregulated, there isn't a procedure for returns and refunds.

IP THEFT & "WASHTRADING"

Many online thieves steal NFTs to sell, while another common scam is "washtrading". Here, an unscrupulous trader creates a series to buy the same NFT multiple times at increasing prices (so A sells to B for 10, who sells to C for 100, who then sells to D for 300 – except A, B, and C are actually all the same person). The goal is to lure in naive speculators with the illusion of a juicy opportunity.

STORAGE ISSUES

An NFT is cryptocurrency which is linked to an additional file containing a digital asset. Due to the cost of storing data on a blockchain, it's typical for a project founder to store only the NFT's transaction record "on chain" to prove ownership – with the accompanying asset stored "off chain". Whether that storage is in the cloud or on a personal server, it must be permanently secure or the asset could be lost. So in a large number of cases, the NFT contains a link that points to the image data: it is not the image data itself.

TRANSACTION COSTS

Issuing an NFT requires "minting" it and any future sales require updating a blockchain ledger to transfer ownership. The cost of this – depending on the blockchain and market conditions – can vary wildly, based on supply and demand of "block space". In 2021, the fees paid for NFT transactions on one blockchain regularly cost more than the value of the asset itself, often by hundreds of US dollars.

PHISHING EMAILS & REPLICA SITES

There have been instances of messages being sent advertising the availability of new NFTs with a link to a fake website with a very similar URL to an authentic site. Users then link their cryptocurrency to the site, are able to 'mint' the fake NFT, and once you press 'confirm', the cryptocurrency leaves your wallet and you are left without the NFT you were promised, and very much out of pocket.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CHECK AUTHORSHIP

Don't buy NFTs from unknown sources, and be wary of trading outside of official marketplaces. Branded NFTs, like those sold by sports franchises, are typically available via a platform that's easy to authenticate. However, NFTs sold by individual artists can be harder to verify. Research their online reputation to ensure they have a consistent track record of authorship and a recognised cryptocurrency wallet before you send a payment.

WALLET SECURITY

Wallet security can be the difference between keeping NFTs secure and having them stolen. There are two primary types: a hot wallet (such as metamask) is used for minting NFTs and general day-to-day interactions with third-party sites. A cold wallet (or 'vault') is for storing high-value assets, as interactions can't take place without physical confirmation on the hardware. Only buy these from official sites and not from third-party sellers (including Amazon).

DON'T GAMBLE

Beginners should avoid investing significant sums of money and gambling on future NFT prices. Anyone can create NFTs: this potentially infinite supply of 'limited-edition' collections means that, eventually, 99% of NFTs will likely be worth nothing. The market is largely based around building hype and making people believe that the next project will be the one that makes them rich. Take time over your decision and ensure you fully understand a project before getting involved.

SPOT THE SCAMS

Learn what type of message a hacker will leave. They'll often try to create the illusion that you're one of a select few who has this incredible, limited-time opportunity. These can appear on official pages via hacking, so be wary of this pressure-buying tactic. Hackers also send links outside official channels, such as on message boards and private messages. Turn off direct messaging from the server when you join, and never click links that aren't on a project's official page.

RESEARCH THE SPACE

If you're interested in NFTs and you've learned the basics of cryptocurrency, talk to people who are already involved in the space (like an NFT alpha group) on authentic marketplaces. Research the projects you're considering investing in to avoid scams: follow the project on Twitter or Discord and review the work they've done before – avoid artists and teams who insist on remaining anonymous.

Meet Our Expert

JP Vergne is Associate Professor at the UCL School of Management and a researcher at the UCL Centre for Blockchain Technologies. His award-winning research on technology and organisation has been published in leading academic journals as well as in two books. JP is also a speaker and startup advisor. He tweets at @PirateOrg.



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