

February Newsletter



Queens' Federation

Queen Emma
Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers

We have made a quick transition back into learning, following the Christmas break and already the start of the Spring term has been filled with inspiring opportunities across the curriculum for our children. Macaw, Polar Bear and Dolphin classes have all celebrated their learning through class assemblies. Macaw Class helped us to learn about The Stone Age and how this period of time has shaped life today, whilst Polar Bear focused on their learning about the history of flight and how pivotal the discoveries and work of Otto Lilienthal and the Wright brothers were. They also shared their amazing depictions of Leonardo Da Vinci and some fabulous winter poems. Dolphin Class took us to an underwater world and shared with us their learning about oceans and seas. They taught us a song to help us remember the names of all of the oceans of the world and shared with us their amazing underwater art scenes created using collage materials.



Our Reception children have been learning how to become good citizens and how to care for others. As part of this work, they learned how to care for a pet by receiving a visit from Miss Coston's dog, Otis! This friendly and relaxed dog visited the classrooms and the children found out about how dogs need regular feeding, grooming and walking in order to be well loved pets. They also found out about the type of training they need and how important their toys and cuddles are to them. The next exciting chapter in their learning will involve nurturing frogspawn and we look forward to sharing this new learning with you in forthcoming newsletters.



February

13-17 HALF TERM

- 20 Return to school
- 27 Book Week
- 27 Parent Consultations

March

- 2 Parent Consultations
- 7 KS2 Author Visit
- 13 PSFA Meeting
- 17 Red Nose Day
- 27 Middle Years Dress Rehearsal – Cast A
- 28 Middle Years Dress Rehearsal – Cast B
- 29 Middle Production – Cast A
- 30 Middle Production – Cast B
- 31 Term Ends

My assemblies this half term have focused upon setting personal goals for 2023, where children have been encouraged to think about the foundations they will need in order to be successful. From our '7 habits', we know that 'sharpening the saw' can mean looking after our physical well-being and that by doing this, we increase our chances of achieving our goals. In particular, we have looked at healthy eating habits, the importance of getting a good night of sleep and looking after our mental health. We learned how things such as brainteasers, Sudoku puzzles, word searches and crosswords could all help us to exercise our brains away from screens. Can you solve these brainteasers? I hope that your children can share the answers with you!

What is on the floor but never gets dirty?

During which month do we get the least sleep?

Our online safety day for children and parents enabled us to help our community to learn and understand more about how to adapt and support children and families to engage in safe online activities. We were fortunate enough to have secured the '2 John's', ex-police officers and experts in this field, to come and work with our classes and to hold an online meeting for parents and staff alike. The theme for this day was '**Want to talk about it?**' which was designed to encourage time and space for conversations about life online. It certainly is a fact that the digital and online world is here to stay and we use it productively to learn tips around keeping personal details secure, managing difficult situations online, setting up safe controls and demonstrating good online conduct.

If you were unable to attend this event as a parent, then we would highly recommend using materials available on this link - <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> - to find out more about how you are able to help your child stay safe online. There is a parent/carer page with some easy to follow and helpful advice. You may also wish to try <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> or <https://www.internetmatters.org/safer-internet-day/>.

On a health and safety note, your children may have told you about a very successful 'invacuation drill' that we carried out at Queen Emma at the start of the term. This was to ensure that the children knew what to do in the event that they needed to move into classrooms and away from a threat outside of the school grounds. The example we used was a rogue dog on the loose. The children were extremely successful at this and proved themselves to be just as good at invacuation as evacuation.

Anthony Browne (MP) visited Queen Emma again this term, this time to meet with our House Captains who interviewed him about his role and his priorities for the future. The House Captains prepared questions for him such as 'What is your proudest achievement?', 'Who are you inspired by?' and 'How do you feel when you go into the House of Commons?' amongst others. The children found their discussion with him very insightful and they even obtained a personal copy of his signature to keep! Myself and our Chair of Governors also took this opportunity to discuss important community issues with him such as parking outside of school grounds, the consultation on the congestion charge and its impact, as well as support for Ukrainian families. We are grateful for the time that Mr Browne was able to spend with us.

With regard to the recent industrial action by teaching staff, I would like to say 'thank you' for supporting us. Please be advised that the next round of strikes are due to take place on **1st March** and we will notify you in due course of the school's position. Once again, we may not be able to provide you with much notice about which classes will be open or not, but we will endeavor to notify you when we can. Your patience is appreciated.

We hope that you have an enjoyable half term and look forward to seeing the children back in school on **Monday 20th February 2023**.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Jarman
Executive Headteacher

Attendance really does matter

I am sure you will have seen many messages over the years, from teachers and headteachers and even from ministers, all stressing the importance of regular school attendance. You may also have seen recent news reports suggesting that school attendance has still not fully recovered from the effects of lockdown. Attendance is so important – much more than many people might realise – that it is worth stressing it in a special message here.

There has been a lot of research work into the impact of absence from school on children's progress and the results are striking. Firstly, the sheer number of lessons affected by a few days off school is surprisingly high. If there are five lessons in each day, which is quite a lot for your child to catch up on even after a single day off: a few days here and there can soon add up to twenty days, the equivalent of two weeks off school - or *fifty* lessons lost. That is a lot of catching-up work on top of the work your child is already doing in class.

We know from educational research from some years now, poor attendance can have a drastic effect on children's academic achievement. Not only do children find the work harder, because they have missed the teacher's explanations or the foundation work, but, precisely because they find it harder, they can easily lose motivation with school as a whole.

So please do take attendance seriously. School isn't an option for our children: we need to do all we can to help them get to school and make the most of their time here.

Punctuality matters too

Getting to school late might seem rather different from being absent: after all, your child is in school and you might think that surely a few minutes right at the start of the day, when the day has hardly got going, won't really matter? But it does.

This is partly because those five, ten or even fifteen or thirty minutes missed each day can also mount up to a substantial time lost. Ten minutes late per day, for example, adds up to a week of schooling lost. The start of the school day, with its set routines and procedures, is really important for children: they settle into learning mode, it helps each class develop its group identity and it sets up the day for learning and activity. Just as the start of the school day matters, so, therefore, does lateness. Anyone can find it difficult sometimes to get everyone ready in the morning, and sometimes lateness can be because of factors beyond our control - but not always. So please, do help us all to instil good habits in our children, to come to school regularly, on time, and ready to learn.

Dr Sean Lang

Chair of the Governing Body

Attendance Matters!

The importance of punctuality	
Minutes late	Impact on your attendance in 1 year
5 minutes late per day	3.4 days missed 98.4% attendance
10 minutes late per day	6.9 days missed 97.6% attendance
15 minutes late per day	10.3 days missed 94.6% attendance
20 minutes late per day	13.8 days missed 92.9% attendance
30 minutes late per day	20.7 days missed 89.2% attendance

Congratulations to Kestrel Class for achieving the highest level of attendance so far this year.

Class	Attendance %	Class	Attendance %
Hedgehog Class	92.7%	Toucan Class	96.2%
Owl Class	90.2%	Falcon Class	95.4%
Dolphin Class	94.6%	Kestrel Class	96.5%
Seahorse Class	92.2%	Giraffe Class	94.3%
Penguin Class	93.1%	Zebra Class	94.9%
Polar Bear Class	93%	Jaguar Class	95.6%
Macaw Class	95.5%	Panther Class	90.5%

You may be aware that we have started to send letters to parents / carers when a child's attendance drops below 96% (the government expected level of attendance). There may be valid reasons for your child's absence, which we understand and accept, however, it is our statutory duty to keep you informed of your child's overall attendance level. Receipt of this letter is for information only and does not mean that you or your child will be penalised in any way.

Nursery and Reception



Cubs

This term Cubs children have been reading the story of 'The Three Little Pigs.' The children have made pig and wolf masks and built houses from wooden blocks, sticks and straw. The children have really enjoyed this story and are amazing at retelling the story using actions and phrases such as, "I'll huff and I'll puff" and "Not by the hair on my chinny chin chin." The children have been using different voices to represent the wolf and the pigs – a deep voice for the wolf and a squeaky voice for the pigs.

Foxes

This half term in Foxes we have learned about changes in our environment during winter time, enjoying walks in the school grounds looking for bare trees, evergreens, frost and berries. We focused on hibernating animals, and in PE have acted out collecting nuts and settling down for a deep sleep. We read 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', joining in with repeated phrases with actions and thinking about our senses of smell, sight, hearing and touch to describe the differing environments. We have also had fun celebrating Lunar New Year and creating decorations for the classroom, as well as making a fabulous lion head to use in our lion dances!



Hedgehog

Hedgehog Class have been looking at celebrations. We celebrated Chinese New Year through a range of different activities. We started by having a carousel day of activities, making rabbit headbands, Chinese lanterns and practicing our Chinese writing. We also had a parent come in to talk to the children about how they celebrate Chinese New Year within their own home. At the end of our day we shared our Chinese New Year creations with our parents in a parade. The children showed their artwork, performed a Chinese dance and were then surprised with a special Chinese dance from our school Chinese Dragon.

Owl

This half term Owl Class have been learning about the Snow Queen story. We have been thinking about melting and freezing. We have explored frozen ice and talked about how it is frozen and what we could use to melt it. During this, we made apple sorbet and rice crispy cakes looking how different recipes use freezing and melting. We also explored different animals in the Antarctic and Arctic, thinking about their body adaptations for the cold. We learnt a new word which was 'equator' and talked about how countries far away from the equator are cold. At the end of our sessions, we innovated our Snow Queen story. Instead of using her friend the sun to melt the ice, we used a hairdryer! The children loved rewriting and illustrating their new story.



Key Stage 1

Dolphin



We have had such a busy half term diving under the sea! In English, we written an alternative middle for 'The Secret of Black Rock'. We loved pretending to dive into the ocean and describing the amazing creatures that we could see under the sea. In art, we created collages inspired by the artists Henri Matisse and Benode Behari Mukherjee. Thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to another fun filled half term.

Seahorse

We have learnt so much this half-term about 'Under the Sea'! In Art we spent a whole day making collages using different materials to create under the sea pictures. We took lots of care to add lots of detail and they look fantastic up in our classroom. In Science, we have found out about the different animal groups: we are now experts on fish and mammals. Exploring new stories in English fired our imaginations. We loved 'The Secret of Black Rock' and had fun acting it out and writing descriptions using amazing adjectives. We are looking forward to our 'Castles' topic next half-term!



Penguin



Penguin Class have had a very busy half term learning about multiplication in Mathematics and writing an alternative fairy tale in English. They have been reading a new version of Hansel and Gretal in guided reading and used their inference skills to answer questions. Penguin Class have been studying human and physical features in Geography and drawing map symbols. The children have enjoyed Design and Technology, investigating structures such as bridges and then designing and making a strong bridge for the Three Billy Goats Gruff to use.

Polar Bear

Polar Bear Class have enjoyed our 'Once Upon a Time' topic. In English, we created alternative versions of 'Little Red Reading Hood'. We also wrote winter poems based on our senses and published a class book to share. In Mathematics, we focused on multiplication and solved a range of problems. We had fun in Geography using map skills and learning how to interpret the symbols in the key. In Design and Technology we helped the Three Billy Goats to reach the lush grass by designing and making bridges out of a variety of materials. We have been very busy!



Middle Years

Macaw



Macaw Class have had a busy term using their geography skills when learning all about Crete and comparing it to Cambridgeshire. They used their science learning on rocks and soils from last term to help them write fantastic explanation texts about the world that goes on beneath our feet! They also worked incredibly hard in learning their lines for their fabulous class assembly.

Toucan

Toucan Class have enjoyed writing their explanation text on soil layers and rock types. In Mathematics, we have enjoyed learning about mass and capacity. We have measured, poured, estimated, added together and taken away amounts. In Art, we have loved designing and making our own printing blocks to create a printing pattern. It has been a busy half term!



Falcon



This half term Falcon Class have been working hard on their English with our new narrative unit based on the book 'Farther' by Grahame Baker-Smith. We have learnt lots of new vocabulary to use and explored metaphors and similes in our work. We have used complex sentences with subordinating conjunctions and found words connected to the character's feelings in the book. In Art we have been using watercolours and have been fortunate enough to have our own expert, Mr Hart come in to school to share his knowledge of watercolour painting. We have learnt to use different techniques such as wet on wet and graduated washes in our seascape pictures.

Kestrel

Kestrel Class have enjoyed learning about the distributive law in Mathematics. They have used this to solve problems quickly such as $4 \times 7 + 2 \times 7$. We have been working hard to learn our times tables so we are ready for our end of year national test. In Geography we became cartographers and made our own maps of the local area around school. We identified the different types of land use such as recreational, housing, retail, transport etc and labelled these uses on our maps. We have also looked at photographs from around Cambridge and compared what the land is used for now from what it was used for many years ago. In PE we have been learning about balance and different ways of travelling in gymnastics.



Later Years

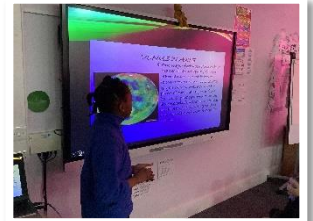
Giraffe



We have reached the end of our first spring half term in Year 5 with great focus and success. In Science we have focussed on 'Living Things and their Habitats'. The children have learnt about how plants reproduce, through both science experiments and plant dissection. In PSHCE we have discussed citizenship and diversity, it has been fantastic learning more about members of the class through the presentation of their 'About Me Box'. Giraffe Class truly have creative imaginations!

Zebra

Zebra Class have had a fun and busy half term! In our English lessons we have been working on a project called 'The Write Stuff', which supports and challenges us to use complex sentences and powerful vocabulary to create exciting imagery. We have really enjoyed writing stories about a child creating adventures with a magic crayon! In Mathematics we have been focusing on scaling, including multiplying by a fraction to scale amounts down. We definitely needed our times table facts to help us to do this efficiently. The children have enjoyed using IT to complete some 3D modelling challenges, and our final 'Design Packaging' project enabled us to apply these skills alongside unleashing our creativity.



Jaguar



While we have completed many activities in this incredibly short half term, one of the more memorable activities was an opportunity away from the classroom environment. The Year 6's were invited to the Cambridge Corn Exchange to take part in a workshop run by Michael Rosen. He began the activity by performing some of his more memorable poems (No Breathing in Class!) followed by storytelling about his family during WWII; a topic familiar to our classes. Finally, we were able to write and share some ideas for poems we created on the spot. Very exciting!

Panther

With our topic of South America this half term, we have had many opportunities to hone our online research skills. We have used safe online sites to look for information about regions and ecosystems of South America, as well as understanding human and physical geography within. By comparing these ideas to our own local area, we have been able to appreciate how different our environments really are! Well done to all; we have worked incredibly hard this term, and have truly earned our break.



School Lunch Menu Queen Emma - Spring Term

WEEK ONE					
W/C 20 th February, 6 th , 20 th March					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
MAIN CHOICE	Breaded Fish Fingers (G) Garden Peas Oven Baked Wedges (G) Mixed Salad	Chicken Curry (G) Rice (G) Green Beans Mixed Salad	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise/Beans/Cheese (G/D/E) Mixed Salad & Sweetcorn	Roast Chicken Roast Potatoes Broccoli, Carrots & Sweetcorn	Cheese & Tomato Pizza (G/D) Oven Baked Chips Baked Beans/Sweetcorn Mixed Salad
VEGETARIAN CHOICE	Homemade Cheese & Tomato Swirls (G/D) Oven Baked Wedges(G) Mixed Salad	Vegetable Curry (G) Rice (G) Green Beans Mixed Salad	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans/Cheese (D) Mixed Salad & Sweetcorn	Macaroni Cheese (G/D) Roast Potatoes Broccoli, Carrots & Sweetcorn	Cheese & Tomato Pizza (G/D) Oven Baked Chips Baked Beans/Sweetcorn Mixed Salad
DESSERT	Fruit Crumble & Custard (G/D) Selection of Fresh Fruit Yoghurt (D)	Fruity Flapjack (G) Selection of Fresh Fruit Yoghurt (D)	Lemon Muffin (G/D/E) Selection of Fresh Fruit Yoghurt (D)	Fruit Jam Sponge & Custard (G/D/E) Selection of Fresh Fruit Yoghurt (D)	Raisin Cookie (G/D) Selection of Fresh Fruit Yoghurt (D)

WEEK TWO					
W/C 27 th February, 13 th , 27 th March					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
MAIN CHOICE	Beef Bolognese Fusilli Pasta (G) Green Beans Mixed Salad	Homemade Chicken Pie (G/D) Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Mixed Salad	Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayonnaise/Beans/Cheese (G/D/E) Mixed Salad & Sweetcorn	Roast Turkey Roast Potatoes Carrots & Sweetcorn	Chicken Sausages (G/D) Oven Baked Wedges (G/D) Broccoli & Cauliflower
VEGETARIAN CHOICE	Tomato & Vegetable Sauce Fusilli Pasta (G) Green Beans Mixed Salad	Homemade Vegetable Pie (G/D) Mashed Potatoes Broccoli Mixed Salad	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans/Cheese (D) Mixed Salad & Sweetcorn	Macaroni Cheese (G/D) Roast Potatoes Carrots & Sweetcorn	Vegetarian Sausages (G) Oven Baked Wedges (G/D) Broccoli & Cauliflower
DESSERT	Blueberry Muffin (G/E) Selection of Fresh Fruit Yoghurt (D)	Cherry Tiffin Tray Bake (G/D) Selection of Fresh Fruit Yoghurt (D)	Fruit Crumble (G) Selection of Fresh Fruit Yoghurt (D)	Vanilla Sprinkle Cake (G/D/E) Selection of Fresh Fruit Yoghurt (D)	Frozen Yoghurt (D) Selection of Fresh Fruit Yoghurt (D)

This menu is subject to change due to supplier availability.

(D) contains Dairy, (G) contains Gluten, (E) contains egg. Children with D, E or G allergies will be offered suitable alternatives. If your child has special dietary needs please inform the school office.

Items cooked on the premises are cooked with reduced sugar wherever possible (e.g. the flapjack is sweetened with apple puree) and the portion sizes are child age appropriate.

There will also be a selection of yoghurts and a fresh fruit platter served daily.

New Websites

Behind the scenes, we have been working incredibly hard on a new Federation and school website that is now fully up and running. The website has a new look aims to be more user friendly for those who access it and it is also more compatible with mobile devices. We hope that you can take some time to look around it and to familiarise yourself with the new content and layout. We would love to hear your feedback! You can follow the links here:

<https://www.queensfederation.org.uk/>

<https://www.queenemmaschool.org.uk/queen-emma>



Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs Hyde who has given birth to a beautiful baby girl. Both Mrs Hyde and her new arrival are doing well.

School Uniform

Grey skirt, pinafore, trousers or shorts
Blue and white checked summer dress
Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan
Pale blue polo shirt
Black shoes or black trainers (children in Years 5 and 6 require a pair of black indoor shoes (often plimsolls)
White, black or grey socks / tights
Leggings may be worn instead of tights, but not instead of trousers
No jeans please.

PE Kit

Children need plain black shorts, a white t-shirt and plimsolls/trainers. Depending on the weather, children will also need a tracksuit and trainers for outdoor games lessons. Children will continue to arrive in their PE kits, when it is their PE day.

Jewellery

Jewellery may not be worn in school. The only exceptions are watches, studs for pierced ears, and cultural or religious adornments, which must be removed during lessons involving physical exercise. If such items cannot be removed the individual is not prepared in an acceptably safe way and cannot continue as is, so must take part in modified activity. The school will not accept responsibility for removing or storing studs. Long hair should be tied back for PE and DT activities.



Red Nose Day is coming. On **Friday 17th March**, everyone is invited to come to school wearing something red. You could choose to wear red socks, a red hair band, a red wig or even dress in red from top to toe! You can wear Comic Relief merchandise too if you wish. We are inviting everyone to make a donation of £1 to help raise money for Comic Relief. We hope that everyone will be able to join us and support this important cause.

Parking Outside of School

Once again, we have become concerned about the lack of considerate parking around our school. This is causing a significant risk to our children and we have even witnessed some parents parking directly outside of the school gates! We have requested Parking Control to step up their work around the school in order to keep our children safe. Please put the safety of our children and respect for our neighbours ahead of convenience for yourselves. Thank you to those people who have been parking in a considerate manner and to those who park away from the school and take a short walk to the school.

Winning House Revealed

Congratulations to members of **Newton House** who earnt the most house points this half term. House points are awarded to pupils who are demonstrating the use of the 7 habits in and around school.

We hope members of Newton House enjoyed your non-school uniform day on Friday 10th February. Congratulations to everyone who earnt house points this half term. Keep up the amazing work.

Newton House = 761

Hawking House = 726

Darwin House = 699

Franklin House = 656



Queen Emma Primary School Parents, Staff and Friends Association (PSFA)



The PSFA are a group of parents, staff and friends of Queen Emma Primary School, focussed on developing a sense of community, organising events and raising funds to enrich the school environment.

Funds to benefit the school community...

Outdoor Equipment: The school management has plans underway to invest in some new outdoor equipment for the school, and we look forward to being able to use the funds we have raised to benefit the children and their classes.

Getting involved...

Thank you to those who help so willingly with the PSFA events and who give up their time and energy to do so! We would love to hear from more parents who might now consider getting involved, so please do get in touch if you can: queenemmapsfa@gmail.com

Ongoing Fundraising...

Remember an easy way to raise funds for the school, whilst doing your shopping:

Easyfundraising:

Nearly 3,000 retailers, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline, Sainsbury's, Ebay and many more, will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to Queen Emma PSFA to say thank you for shopping with them. You can simply set up **Easyfundraising** on each device you shop from:

1. Go to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/queenemmaps>
2. Sign up for free and make use of it whenever you shop online!

Second-hand uniform...

Many of you have donated and purchased second-hand uniform this term. Thank you! If you still require some uniform, do please email us (queenemmapsfa@gmail.com) to let us know the item and size that you require, and we will check our stocks for you. We hope to hold an outdoor, in-person uniform sale this coming half-term, so look out for more details to follow.

Please note that at present we are unable to accept second-hand uniform donations via the school office, as we have run out of storage space. When collections resume, please could we remind parents that we take donations of school-branded sweatshirts / cardigans, school-branded polo shirts and blue/white gingham dresses. Non-branded uniform can be donated at the Bags2School charity collection.

Upcoming PSFA events...

Bags2School Charity Collection – 9am, Wednesday, Feb 22nd

PSFA School Discos, for Years 1-6 – Thursday, March 9th (Years 1-3: 5pm – 6pm, Years 4-6: 6.30pm – 7.30pm)

PSFA Committee Meeting – 2pm, Monday, March 13th

We wish you all a very happy half-term break. With many thanks indeed, the PSFA

Y4 Maths Challenge

Many congratulations to our Year 4 teams for proudly representing Queen Emma in an exciting Maths Challenge for Cambridgeshire schools at St Faith's on 26th January. Well done to Alice, Kiaan, Mary and Yanis who all really enjoyed competing, plus travelling by taxi and the squash and biscuits provided for the competitors! They each received a certificate in a recent whole school assembly.



"It was really fun and challenging as well. My favourite was the 'Pairs of Cards' game." Alice

"It was more fun than I expected and very tricky!" Kiaan

"Amazingly fun and quite challenging – the tangrams were my favourite." Mary

"More challenging than I thought and there were some questions that I hadn't practiced. The 'Dominoes' and 'Make 24' rounds were my favourite." Yanis

52 pairs of children from 22 schools around Cambridge battled it out through six rounds of questions. Queen Emma children were delighted to be placed 7th and 13th after all rounds were completed.





Book Week 2023



We'd like to tell you about our plans for Book Week 2023 when Queen Emma Primary School will be

'Raving about Reading.'

During Book Week (WB 27.2.23), we will be taking part in lots of reading activities. A mysterious 'book shaped' package will arrive in each classroom on Monday 27th February. Where will the mysterious package take us? What will we find out? Who will we meet?

Mystery readers will visit each classroom during the week and we will have the opportunity to read with friends in our classes, friends from our phases and friends from across the school. Our teachers will read us their favourite stories too.



Special Events to Celebrate 'Book Week' 2023

On Monday 23rd January, Year 6 travelled to Cambridge Corn Exchange to take part in a special creative writing workshop led by the well-known poet, Michael Rosen.

"It was great to go to the Corn Exchange and listen to Michael Rosen perform his poems. He shared lots of fantastic ideas with us."

"Next time, I'd love to hear him read 'Chocolate Cake.' That is one of my favourite Michael Rosen poems."

On Tuesday 7th March, pupils in KS2 will enjoy an engaging and exciting assembly led by children's author, Ruth Eastham. The assembly will be followed by creative writing workshops for pupils in Year 4 and Year 5. The creative writing workshops will be based on one of Ruth's five novels – The Warrior in the Mist, The Jaguar Trials, The Memory Cage, The Messenger Bird and Arrowhead. We are very much looking forward to this fantastic opportunity in school and hope the children will be inspired by Ruth's work and visit.

On Monday 20th March, pupils in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 will enjoy a performance of 'The Velveteen Rabbit' by Spinning Wheel Theatre Company. The story, adapted from the book by Margery Williams, tells the beautiful tale of the Velveteen Rabbit, who is unwrapped one Christmas morning and quickly, becomes just another thing gathering dust in the toy box. Shunned by the other playthings, who are braver, more glamorous and have expensive motors and flashing lights, he fears he will never be played with. However, a chance encounter makes him the favourite toy and with a little magic and a lot of love, he may even become real!

Spinning Wheel Theatre say it will be a joyful and uplifting tale of magic, friendship and hope, a show that we are sure the children will love.

Book Week 2023

On Friday 10th February, all children in school will receive a £1 World Book Day token. The tokens can be exchanged for one of this year's special World Book Day books at a local bookseller or supermarket. The tokens are valid from Thursday 16th February to Sunday 26th March.

This year, book choices include...



At the start of this year, on our training day in January, we shared the following information with our teachers. They were amazed at the difference reading makes to the number of words a child will have heard by the time they are five years old.

Here's how many words kids would have heard by the time they were 5 years old: Never read to, 4,662 words; 1–2 times per week, 63,570 words; 3–5 times per week, 169,520 words; daily, 296,660 words; and five books a day, 1,483,300 words.¹⁶

Name: _____ House: _____

Queen's Education
Queen Emma
Primary School

Book Week 2023: Reading Challenge

How many books and how many times can you read between Monday 27th February and Monday 27th March 2023? Record the information on your book challenge sheet.

The more you read, the more you learn in new places!						
Monday 27 th February	Tuesday 28 th February	Wednesday 1 st March	Thursday 2 nd March	Friday 3 rd March	Saturday 4 th March	Sunday 5 th March
Monday 6 th March	Tuesday 7 th March	Wednesday 8 th March	Thursday 9 th March	Friday 10 th March	Saturday 11 th March	Sunday 12 th March
Monday 13 th March	Tuesday 14 th March	Wednesday 15 th March	Thursday 16 th March	Friday 17 th March	Saturday 18 th March	Sunday 19 th March
Monday 20 th March	Tuesday 21 st March	Wednesday 22 nd March	Thursday 23 rd March	Friday 24 th March	Saturday 25 th March	Sunday 26 th March

When you have read at home, ask your grown-up to sign your 'Reading Challenge' sheet.
Return your sheet to Miss Stubbs on Monday 27th March to earn housepoints for your team.

So, how many books and how many times can pupils and teachers at Queen Emma read between Monday 27th February and Monday 27th March 2023. Complete your reading challenge sheet and earn housepoints for your team. Children will be bringing home their reading challenge sheets on Monday 27th February. Please sign the sheet every time your child reads at home. Teachers will be reading and signing their sheets too!



CTSN SCITT

*Suffolk
Cambridgeshire
Essex*

£300/week bursary for the three-week programme, totalling £900

12th - 30th June

Paid Teaching Internships

CTSN SCITT will be running a three-week teaching internship programme during June 2023. The Department for Education's 'Get into Teaching' funded scheme offers undergraduates, who are studying a related subject, the opportunity to gain teaching experience in one of our local partnership secondary schools.

Apply here

In addition to the generous bursary, as an intern you will:

- * Discover the power of teaching to improve life chances of students
- * Obtain practical experience in the classroom
- * Be involved in the whole school experience
- * Gain an insight into teacher training
- * Develop skills for your CV
- * Earn a guaranteed interview with CTSN SCITT

Chemistry

Computing

Mathematics

Modern Foreign Languages

Physics

For more details go to: <https://ctsnscitt.info/stem-internships/> or email: scitt@catrust.co.uk

Interested in teacher training? Want more information?
Come along to one of our Train to Teach information events
<https://ctsnscitt.info/events/>

AppeTypes - Parental survey into the appetites of Primary School-aged children

Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council are supporting the University of Cambridge with a study into the appetites of Primary School-aged children. To support this work we are kindly asking Primary Schools to forward this invitation to all parents to take part in a short (10- 15 minute) online survey led by the University of Cambridge. The findings will help health professionals to identify and support children with unusually high or low appetites and to create new guidance on healthy patterns of eating and weight gain. For more information and to take part, please see:

[AppeTypes: Survey of Appetite Types in Primary School Children - MRC Epidemiology Unit \(cam.ac.uk\)](https://www.cam.ac.uk/research/appetypes)

HOLIDAY LUNCH CLUB

FREE lunch and activities for children



Monday 13 February
St James' Church
11 am - 1 pm

All children to be accompanied by an adult

<http://stjamescambridge.org.uk/>

St James' Church, Wulfstan Way, Cambridge CB1 8QJ