



The Hayfield Herald



THE AWESOME AUTHORS AGENCY

Today we are very proud to launch our latest Hayfield Cross innovation the 'Awesome Authors Agency'. As with many schools, writing is one of our main priorities this year and in class we have been seeing great results with Talk 4 Writing, Sentence Stacking and Book Talk which are all focused on supporting the children to become skilled and confident writers. With the success of our outside quiet reading area being used at playtimes we wanted to create something for the children to have an opportunity to show and practice their writing skills as well. The AAA will have challenges set in assembly every three weeks which the children will be encouraged to have a go at. The first challenge will be set on Monday and the children will be able to use the special AAA area in the Hub, the Explorer Room and the outside reading area (now known as the AAA offices) to work on their writing. They can also work on it at home as well if they wish. Each different challenge will be set by characters (from Cluedo) who are also on display in the hub and each time will have a different writing focus. The AAA will be managed by the 'Big Wigs' from Y3 who we announced today in celebration assembly. The Big Wigs will be responsible for ensuring the equipment and resources are ready and that the AAA offices are used appropriately. They will also collect in all of the finished work and use their Big Wig checklists to make sure they are complete before submitting them to the managers (that's us!). We will then check all of the submissions and the best one will be awarded with a certificate in assembly and published on our blog. They will also all be presented in the Hub so others can read their brilliant ideas.

We have now finished the Hub which as you all know is based around Great Britain with the countryside, seaside, city and market making up the four zones. Each zone has its own unique area and provide lovely spaces for the children to enjoy reading and learning in. After celebration assembly and after school next Friday (27th) we will give parents the opportunity to have a look at the finished Hub as many of you may not have seen it for a while. We will also be posting pictures on our blog, Facebook and Twitter pages next week for you all to see.

Today you will receive your child's Mid-Year report. This is a summary of how they are getting on at the mid-point in the year and forms part of our parent liaison feedback through the year which includes the two parents evenings in October and March and the Mid-Year and Annual Report (in July). As you all know you can speak to the teachers about any concerns at any point in the year and if we have any concerns we will also speak to you straight away. The teachers are always available before and after school if you have a quick message but please remember they don't have time for a long conversation as they have to teach the children and usually have meetings after school. If you do have something you want to discuss with them please book an appointment via the office. For Reception your Mid-Year Report is briefer as you will receive more information on their EYFS profiles through the year as well.

Following on from the reports we will be sending out Parent Questionnaires in a couple of weeks which we use to gather evidence of things we are doing well and things we could improve. Now that everyone is settled in we will use the questionnaires as a basis to run parent forums in the summer term so we can work together to make our school even better.

Thank you to Mrs King who started as a new volunteer this week doing some work with Hedgehog and Owl classes

Craig Charteris Head Teacher

Notices

Dressing up – We are working on improving the things available for children to play with at lunchtimes and we would love to have a dressing up box. If you have any good condition dressing up clothes that don't fit or your children don't use anymore we would love to have them please.

Maths Information session – The information and slides from Miss Priestley's Maths information session for parents is now available on our website for your information: <http://hayfieldcross.org.uk/index.php/parents/curriculum-information/mathematics-at-hayfield-cross>

Holidays in term time – Please remember that we cannot authorise holidays taken during term time and if you choose to take them you may be fined by the County Council. Details and our term dates for this year and next year are all available on our website.

Parking in disabled bays – Please do not park in the disabled bays in the compound unless you have a blue badge. We have put these spaces in to support our parents who have mobility issues so they can access the school easily.