



11th March 2022

Dear parents / carers

International Women's Day

This week, we celebrated International Women's Day. Marked annually on March 8th, International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. The campaign theme for International Women's Day 2022 is #BreakTheBias. Whether deliberate or unconscious, bias can still make it difficult for some women to move ahead. As with any bias, knowing that it exists isn't enough, action is always needed. During assemblies this week, we talked about how girls and women haven't always had the same opportunities and how, in some countries, this is still the case. We talked about inspirational young females and children have been encouraged to research women that inspire them and to create power points that we will share in future assemblies.

Inspiring women we celebrated –

Malala Yousafzai - known for human rights advocacy, especially the education of women and children in her native northwest Pakistan, where the Tehrik-i-Taliban had at times banned girls from attending school. In early 2009, when she was 11–12, Malala wrote a blog under a pseudonym detailing her life. The following summer, a journalist made a New York Times documentary about her life as the Pakistani military intervened in the region. She rose in prominence, giving interviews in print and on television, and she was nominated for the International Children's Peace Prize by activist Desmond Tutu. In October 2012, while on a bus in the Swat District, after taking an exam, Yousafzai and two other girls were shot by a Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan gunman in an assassination attempt in retaliation for her activism; the gunman fled the scene. Yousafzai was hit in the head with a bullet and remained unconscious and in critical condition. After her recovery, Yousafzai became a prominent activist for the right to education. Based in Birmingham, she co-founded the Malala Fund, a non-profit organisation. In 2013, she co-authored *I Am Malala*, an international best seller. In 2012, she received Pakistan's first National Youth Peace Prize and the 2013 Sakharov Prize. In 2014, she was the co-recipient of the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize, with Kailash Satyarthi of India. Aged 17 at the time, she was the youngest-ever Nobel Prize laureate.



Amanda Gorman - an American poet and activist whose work focuses on issues of oppression, feminism, race, and marginalisation. Gorman was the first person to be named National Youth Poet Laureate. She published the poetry book *The One for Whom Food Is Not Enough* in 2015. In 2021, she delivered her poem "The Hill We Climb" at the inauguration of U.S. President Joe Biden and was the youngest poet to read at a presidential inauguration in United States history. We discussed her well known quote, *For there is always light, if only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it.*



Greta Thunberg - a Swedish environmental activist known for challenging world leaders to take immediate action for climate



INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S
DAY
#BreakTheBias

change. Thunberg's activism began when she persuaded her parents to adopt lifestyle choices that reduced their own carbon footprint. In August 2018, at age 15, she started spending her school days outside the Swedish Parliament to call for stronger action on climate change by holding up a sign reading Skolstrejk för klimatet (School strike for climate). Thunberg initially gained notice for her youth and her straightforward and blunt speaking manner, both in public and to political leaders and assemblies, in which she criticizes world leaders for their failure to take what she considers sufficient action to address the climate crisis. Greta has received numerous honours and awards, including an honorary Fellowship of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society, inclusion in Time's 100 most influential people, being the youngest Time Person of the Year, inclusion in the Forbes list of The World's 100 Most Powerful Women (2019) and nominations for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2019, 2020, and 2021.



World Book Day - Eco focus

Last week, we celebrated World Book Day - a special day when people all over the world share stories (in addition to all others days ideally). World Book Day reminds us how much fun reading for pleasure can be and how successful it can help us to become. At school, we had a fantastic day looking at the brilliant bestselling author and illustrator Kate Pankhurst. The whole school looked at the book **Fantastically Great Women Who Saved the Earth**. This book is full of stories about some of the inspirational women who have dedicated their lives to studying, conserving and protecting planet Earth and all its living things. Children took part in many different activities. Fiction and non fiction books, with environmental links, were given to each class and shared. For example, Year 1 enjoyed reading Ingeborg Beling and discovering the important role that bees play in helping planet earth. Year 5 had great fun learning about Florence Augusta Merriam Bailey who changed people's attitude towards using birds feathers in their hats and helped stop the trade in bird feathers. All children enjoyed Buddy Time where many more books were shared.



Thank you Lucy – Hope and Aid Direct

A big thank you Lucy, a Cottesmore parent, who kindly asked us to organise collections for a range of items that will be transported to the Ukraine via a charity called Hope and Aid Direct. As ever, we were blown away with the donations brought into school. Thank you also to FCOP who organised a blue and yellow non-school uniform day so that money could be raised for charities supporting those in, or fleeing, the Ukraine. Thank you to children who have continued to write prayers for our Prayers of Peace book. These really help to remind us of those who are less fortunate than us. As ever, if your family is affected by what is currently happening in Ukraine, or bordering countries, please do get in touch so we can help and support in the best way possible.

Keeping those experiencing challenge and worry in our prayers.
Rachel Breen, Headteacher

Car Boot Sale – raising money for Ukraine

Message from Cardinal Newman Secondary School –
Having a spring sort out? Not sure how to help those in crisis? Our local community has asked us to host a car boot sale on Sunday 13th March from 2pm - 5pm, with all pitch fees going to the Choose Love Charity supporting refugees and displaced people. Do come along for or a browse or to reserve a pitch please email: carbootforpeace@gmail.com

Charitable links – some useful information

One link for donations for Ukraine is the DEC appeal, which involves 15 charities such as Cafod, British Red Cross, Save the Children etc all of whom are all doing vital work around the situation in Ukraine:

<https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-humanitarian-appeal>

An article quoting Sussex Aid for Refugees, and the Government advice on it

<https://www.sussexlive.co.uk/news/sussex-news/best-ways-sussex-can-help-6734713>



Free Easter Holiday Club spaces

Free school meal places available

Helen O' Grady Drama Academy, Sussex (HOGDA) have once again been asked to Partner with Holiday and Activities Food Programme (HAF).

They are able to offer free places to participants who receive benefits-related free school meals.

Our 3- day EASTER Drama and Dance Holiday Club will take place as follows:

NB: AGES 4 (attending reception) - 16 can apply

LOCATIONS:

VENUE 1: BRIGHTON GIRLS SCHOOL Montpellier Road BN1

VENUE 2: ST MATTHIAS CHURCH HALL Hollingbury Park Avenue BN1

VENUE 3: WEST WORTHING BAPTIST CHURCH 45 South Street BN14

DATES: 11-13 APRIL 2022

TIME: 09:30 – 16:30

FEES: Fee paying families: £40 per day (3 days @ £105)

HAF scholarships: Fully funded

PICNIC LUNCHES AVAILABLE DAILY

CONTACT: Email Gareth: sussex@helenogrady.co.uk or Call: 07980 607139

Check out our term time classes here:

<http://www.helenogradsussex.co.uk/our-classes/>

Don't delay. 35 places available each week at each venue (HAF participants should apply for all 3 days), and places will go quickly. Each day will involve speech and drama with fun and social exercises and games, acting classes, originally written short plays, themes and dance routines. We will also have prop and art-making sessions.



Vacancy for Admin Assistant / Front of House (NJC Role B) full time role

Cottesmore St Mary wish to appoint an enthusiastic, motivated, flexible and committed member of the Office Team to work in our busy school office three days a week. The successful applicant will be responsible for overseeing the Front of House, in addition to communication with parents - face to face, email, text and phone. The successful applicant will use their own initiative, as well as their experience and knowledge to deal with differing queries and make decisions to carry out tasks effectively. The successful applicant will have good communication skills and a friendly disposition in order to liaise with colleagues, pupils, visitors and others both face to face and over the phone. The successful applicant will support the Catholic vision of our school.

Applicants must have good inter-personal skills in addition to good numerical, literacy and computer skills.

Hours will be: 8am – 3.30pm

Closing Date: 9am 18th Friday March 2022 (only successful candidates will be contacted)

Interview Dates: Week commencing 21st March 2022

The application pack is obtainable from the school website <http://www.cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk/page/job-vacancies/> Please contact Natasha Camilleri natashacamilleri@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk via email or via phone on 01273 555811 for more information.

Book Swap



Share your love of reading and discover exciting new books.

Do you have books at home sitting on the shelf that you've read?

We are excited to announce our Book Swap event. We would like to hold a book swap from Reception -Year 6.

We are kindly asking for donations of children's books that you no longer want to keep. These are to be brought into school by the 24th March. Please hand them in to your class teacher.

Books must be in good condition and be appropriate for children from ages 4-11yrs.

The book swap will be held on the playground after school on Monday 28th March.

Be a reader and LOVE books!

MONDAY 14th	Science Week
TUESDAY 15th	
WEDNESDAY 16th	- Forest School – Yr1 St Theresa (AM) - Forest School – Yr2 St Patrick (PM) - Netball finals
THURSDAY 17th	- St Patrick's Day 5 St Oscar visit to Rampion Wind Farm
Friday 18th	- Comic Relief (red nose day) Children to come to school in red or colourful clothes 5 St Josephine visit to Rampion Wind Farm
MONDAY 21st	Year 4 Music Soundmakers every fortnight
TUESDAY 22nd	World Water Day
WEDNESDAY 23rd	- Forest School – Yr1 St George (AM) - Forest School – Yr2 St Monica (PM)
THURSDAY 24th	
FRIDAY 25th	Annunciation of the Lord
APRIL	
MONDAY 28th	- Reception Trip to Drucillas - After school Book Swap
TUESDAY 29th	
WEDNESDAY 30th	Honey Pot Party (AM & PM)
THURSDAY 31st	
FRIDAY 1st	
SATURDAY 2nd	World Autism Awareness
MONDAY 4th	2.30pm Y6 - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents - School Nurse Reception Hearing and Sights Screening
TUESDAY 5th	9.15am YR - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents 2.30pm Y5 - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents - School Nurse Reception Hearing and Sights Screening - TAG Rugby - YR5 & Yr6 – 10am-12.30pm
WEDNESDAY 6th	9.15am Y1 - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents 2.30pm Y4 - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents - School Nurse Reception Hearing and Sights Screening - Y6 Netball Tournament – Portslade & Hove
THURSDAY 7th	9.15am Y2 - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents 2.30pm Y3 - Outdoor Easter Liturgy outside with Parents
FRIDAY 8th	End of term – Easter Holidays
EASTER HOLIDAYS Monday 11th April – Sunday 24th April Outdoors Project Easter school all holiday	