Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy first week back we have had!

**OPAL Success**

On Monday, we introduced OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) to improve playtimes for children. We will be gradually increasing the range of resources available, but to begin with the children have had chalk, drums, music, Lego, dinosaurs, bubbles and construction toys. They have thoroughly enjoyed engaging with all of the activities on offer, which has been wonderful to see. It has also been lovely to see infants and juniors playing together. We can’t wait to introduce more activities next week!

**World Book Day**

The children all looked fantastic in their costumes yesterday, to celebrate World Book Day. Children in Year 4 enjoyed a visit from author Helen Aldcroft, who answered questions about her book ‘The Unluckiest Boy in The World’. Helen also met with some aspiring authors from other year groups to share her new book, ‘The Balaclava Kid’, which is soon to be published. Helen was very impressed with the questions the children asked and the children loved meeting a real-life author!

Today the children will all bring home their World Book Day voucher, which can be exchanged for a book from a choice of new titles, in local libraries from tomorrow, Saturday 4th March. Alternatively, the vouchers can be spent in local shops, such as WHSmith. The choice of books on offer can be found by clicking on the following link

**Class Attendance Competition**

As you know, this week we have re-introduced our class attendance competition. We are aiming for classes to reach 97% and above each week. Congratulations to Year 2, who narrowly beat another class to be this week’s winners. We spun the wheel of fortune in assembly and they have won the hot chocolate treat.

Class attendance for the week is as follows:

Reception - 91%

Year 1 - 94%

Year 2 - 96%

Year 3 – 93%

Year 4 – 94%

Year 5 – 95%

Year 6 – 94%

**Text Messages**

We are no longer using Teachers2Parents to send text messages from school.  From now on we will be using Arbor to do this.  To make sure you receive your messages you need to activate your Arbor account and install the Arbor App and ensure ‘push notifications’ are enabled for the Arbor app on your phone.  You were sent an email on 17th February with details of how to do this.

Please make sure you activate Arbor so we can continue to send you important messages and keep you informed of what is going on at school.

If you need help to do this please contact the school office.

Next week we are looking forward to more OPAL fun and the Year 4 visit to Chester Zoo

Have a great weekend everyone!