

Friday 12th March 2021

Dear parents/carers,

I hope that you and your families are safe and well.

We have been delighted to welcome back our whole school community this week and it has been lovely to hear the much increased buzz from all of the bubbles as the children met up again with their friends and teachers. It has also been wonderful to see all of our parents/carers again and to see and hear such positivity about the children returning to school. Thank you for your support in adhering to the staggered drop off and collection times and for wearing your face coverings, we really appreciate this.



Eva in year 4 has written a lovely, poignant Haiku poem about friendship during lockdown, entitled, 'How to get a friend'

How to get a friend

Be caring, be kind,
Spread happiness and nice words.
Play games, heal and hope.



Author Day

Today the children across the academy have taken part in author day. Please see next week's newsletter for pictures and more details.



Staffing Update

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Bartaby will be returning to Connor Downs Academy after Easter to teach in year 3 in the afternoons. I am sure you will join with us all in welcoming Mrs Bartaby back to the Connor Downs community.

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Birthday cakes

We are delighted to be able to offer the children opportunity to bring in cakes for their classmates, if they choose, to celebrate their birthdays. However, could we kindly ask that these are individually wrapped, buns or cupcakes rather than a whole cake. These buns will be given to the children at the end of the day for them to eat outside of school.



DfE Devices

A reminder that all devices allocated to assist with remote learning during the lockdown period should be returned to school. Thank you to all those parents/carers who have already returned their devices. We still have a number of devices outstanding, so please could we ask for these to be brought back to the school office on Monday. Please can we also ask that only one parent/carer is in the school reception at any time to adhere to social distancing measures. Thank you.

World Book Day Competition Winners

The World Book Day Competition Winners were announced today in our Shine Assembly. Well done to everyone who entered. One winner was chosen from each class, although there were many excellent entries and the competition was fierce. Congratulations to

Year R; Jack

Year 1: Daniel

Year 2: Kerra

Year 3: Charley

Year 4: Orla

Year 5: Phoebe

Year 6: Chloe.

You can see their winning entries below!

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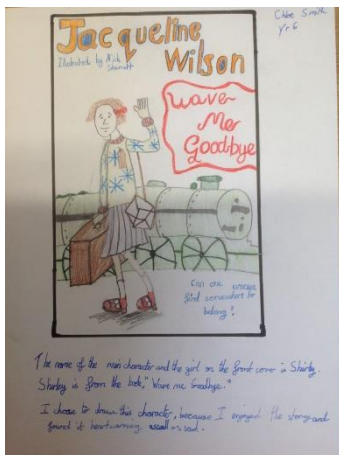
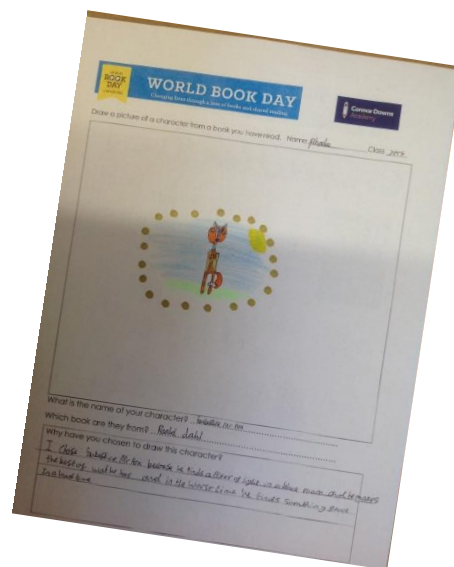
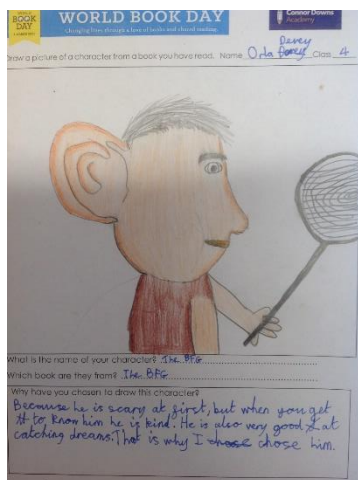
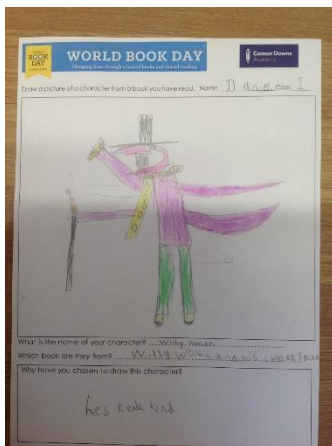
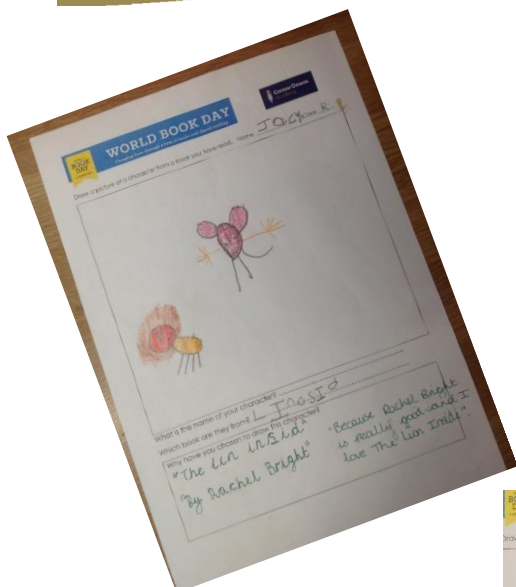
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**Connor Downs
Academy**

Connor Downs Academy

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy



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COVID-19 Asymptomatic Staff Testing Programme Across Aspire Academies

Every primary school in England now has access to rapid coronavirus testing for staff only. This testing, known as lateral flow testing, for our staff, is now taking place twice a week.

Please be aware that in a positive test scenario, you may receive communication of a bubble closure (if your child is in school) at extremely short notice, before school, on the morning of the closure. **You will be informed by text so please check your text messages from 8am onwards on a Monday and a Thursday morning.**

Reporting Positive COVID-19 Test (out of hours)

If you receive a positive COVID-19 test, in the first instance please contact the school office by phone. If the office is closed, please complete the form at the link below to report a positive test.

<http://www.aspireacademytrust.org/coronavirus>

<u>Attendance</u> Our school target for attendance is 96%		
1 st Place	Year 1	100.0%
2 nd Place	Year 5	99.7%
Joint 3 rd Place	Year R and Year 4	99.6 %

Shine Celebrations

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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Connor Downs Academy Shining Stars Friday 12th March 2021

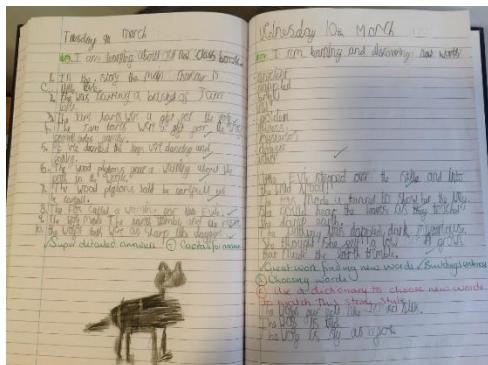
Year R – Miriam

For returning to school with an outstanding enthusiasm for learning. This week, Miriam independently wrote a letter to her family, using her impressive phonic knowledge.



Year 1 – Jacob M

For always putting 100% effort into all his subjects. Jacob is a wonderful help in the classroom too and is always on hand to be a lovely friend.

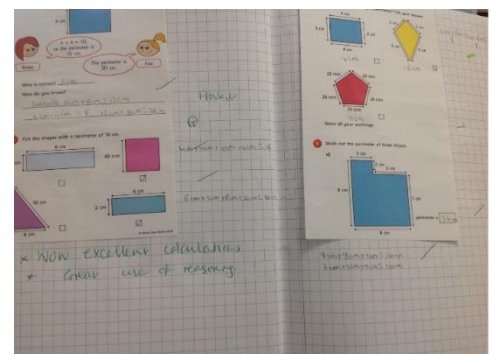


Year 2 – William

For collecting new words and phrases and using them to write descriptively about the setting in our new class book.

Year 3 – Charley

For his excellent attitude to learning. Charley is always looking to challenge himself in maths even asking to work on extra reasoning on length and perimeter in his free time. Well done Charley!



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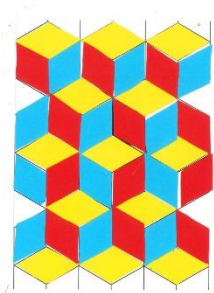
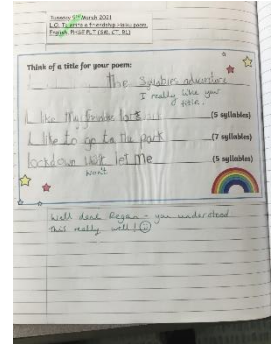
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Year 4 – Regan

For his amazing focus and efforts, particularly in English. Regan has written a lovely letter to someone he has missed and the poem, as pictured.

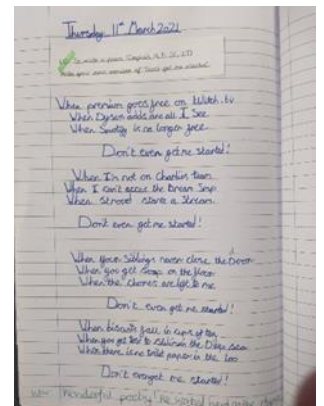


Year 5 – Ethan

For a fantastic return to Connor Downs and his persistence with his M.C. Escher inspired tessellation.

Year 6 – Leo W

For a super attitude towards reading. Leo is always keen to share the books he is reading with his teachers. Leo has had a great first week back to school – well done Leo, keep it up!



Kind Regards,

Belly.

Mrs Eddy
Head of School

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