Headteacher's Newsletter Friday 5 March 2021

Dear families,

I hope you have all had a good week and I am sure that, like us, you welcomed the news of a full return to school for P4-7 and a partial return for our S1-4 from Monday 15 March. There is much planning to be done in preparation for our safe return and I will get detailed information out to all families as soon as I can next week.

Many thanks to all for persevering with the technology needed for our virtual Parent Contact evenings during the week. This is new to us all, but I am delighted that we are able to stay in touch in this way and remain partners in the development and learning of our young people.

Remote and in school learning continues at a pace throughout the school. Nursery have been continuing to explore and learn outdoors, focusing on their health and wellbeing, doing risk assessments and much more. One group spent some time just looking up at the wider world and sky from the top field and can thoroughly recommend the benefits of taking a quiet moment, seeing yourself as part of the bigger whole and celebrating nature. There is much to be learned from our youngest learners.

Primary 3 loved celebrating World Book Day, they have learned about Roald Dahl and the visual impact of the characters names in 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. They drew their own version of Augustus Gloop and created their own characters. They have also taken part in a World Book day Quiz and made their own bookmarks. P4 have been learning how to take notes on a video clip by author Jess French promoting her book about protecting the planet. Primary 5 have been finding out about Scottish myths and legends this week and have had a go at writing their own mythical stories set in Scotland. I have attached two of them below. P7 have been researching and planning their own "virtual adventures" for their Adventures, Discoveries and Explorers topic, using books and online resources to plan a trip that inspires them. So far, we are heading for the Arctic, Antarctica, the jungles of South America, Ottawa, St Kilda and The Bahamas…but don't worry they all plan to be back ready for school on the 15th of March. Everyone has enjoyed some themed World Book Day problem solving using logic, reasoning and calculations to solve mysteries and discover truths. They have also been designing hats/created artwork, and shared them in today's Live Lesson, based on their favourite books and characters, from The Cat in the Hat, Put Me in the Zoo, The Hobbit, Murder or the Orient Express and many more. They are now hard at work designing promotional posters for their favourite books, creating storyboards for films and writing scripts.

In Secondary our S4 Practical Cookery class have been enjoying getting into school and cooking together for the first time since December, the Art classes have resumed for clay and folio work and Computing classes have been in working on their assignments. It is course choice time for S2 and S3, with virtual meetings to discuss potential future plans with our Support Team and columns built around the pupil's initial straw polls. It is an exciting time, if challenging virtually and we are looking forward to seeing them and speaking about this face-to-face.

Thank you for all you have done and are doing to support your children in their learning.

Have a good weekend.

Take care

Elaine Liney

P3 Celebrating World Book Day on Thursday.

P1 A celebrating World Book Day

P4 have made notes on a video by Jess French, promoting her book about protecting the planet:

WORLD BOOK DAY

WORLD BOOK DAY
Author & Illustrator ACADEMY

Keep notes on the film you are watching here, to help you remember the AUTHOR and ILLUSTRATORS' tips.

My notes on

Jess French

[Author or illustrator's name]

NAME

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR ACADEMY

What did you hear? What ideas did you come up with as you watched the Author & Illustrator Academy? What stood out to you?

I will try to get a bambo toothbrush. We need to use less plastic to save the planet.

READING

How did you feel when you read the extract from the author's book? What was your favourite part? Did it remind you of any other stories you've read?

I felt happy because there are ways to save the planet. My favourite part was learing that bikes reduce your carbon footprint and I love cycling.

SHARE A STORY CHALLENGE

What was the challenge? How would you approach this? What ideas do you have in response to this challenge?

The challenge is to write a letter about saving the planet. I am going to write to my cousin Lucy.

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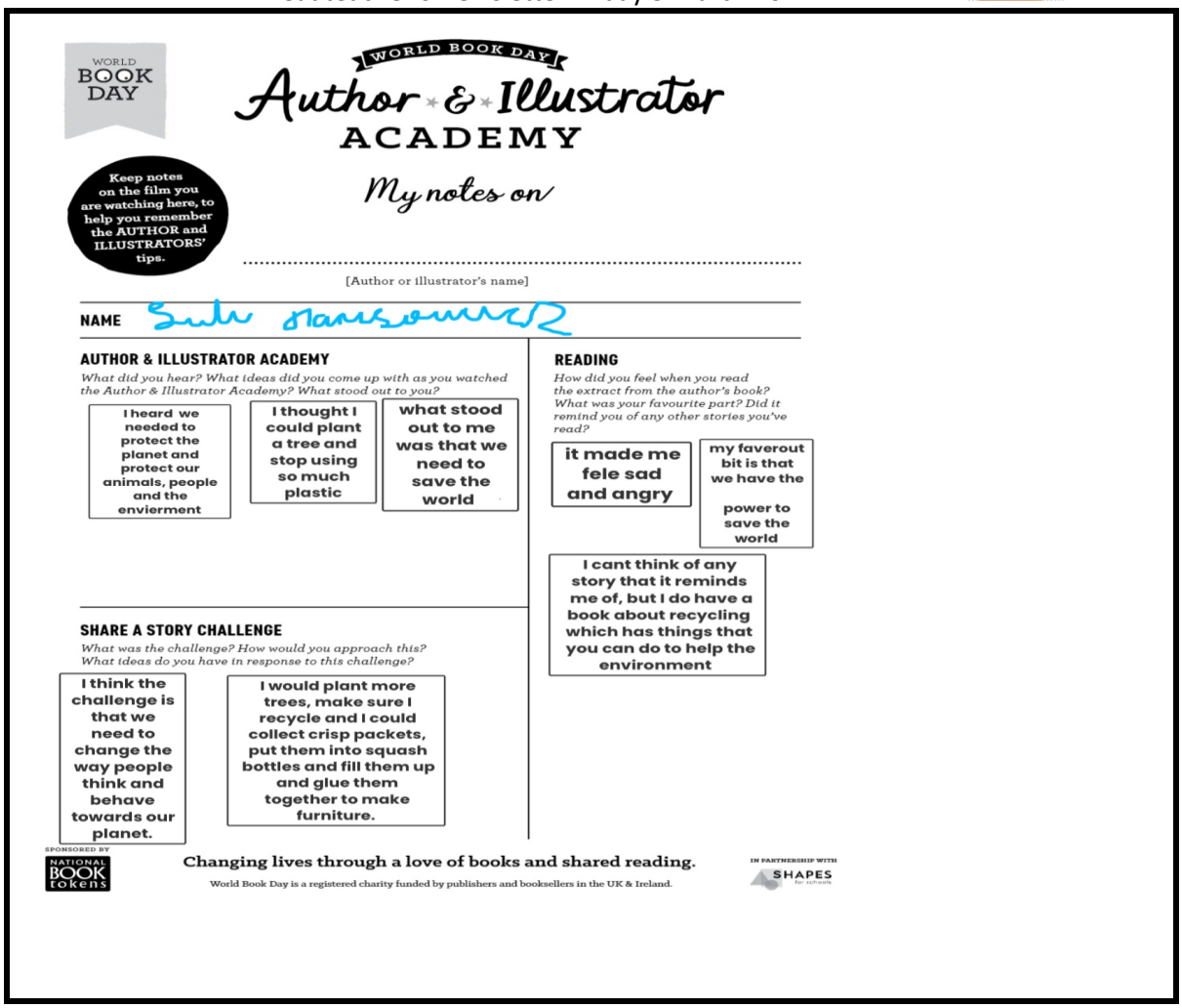
World Book Day is a registered charity funded by publishers and booksellers in the UK & Ireland.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SHAPES



WORLD BOOK DAY

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My notes on

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[Author or illustrator's name]

NAME Suki Hansomuch

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR ACADEMY

What did you hear? What ideas did you come up with as you watched the Author & Illustrator Academy? What stood out to you?

I heard we needed to protect the planet and protect our animals, people and the envierment

I thought I could plant a tree and stop using so much plastic

what stood out to me was that we need to save the world

READING

How did you feel when you read the extract from the author's book? What was your favourite part? Did it remind you of any other stories you've read?

it made me fele sad and angry

my faverout bit is that we have the power to save the world

I cant think of any story that it reminds me of, but I do have a book about recycling which has things that you can do to help the environment

SHARE A STORY CHALLENGE

What was the challenge? How would you approach this? What ideas do you have in response to this challenge?

I think the challenge is that we need to change the way people think and behave towards our planet.

I would plant more trees, make sure I recycle and I could collect crisp packets, put them into squash bottles and fill them up and glue them together to make furniture.

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SHAPES

The Huffle-Gryph by Laila

The Huffle-Gryph is a little silky grey animal that looks like a mouse but the head of it has a big blue mane with pink polka dots. The Huffle-Gryph lives in people's gardens in heather bushes. It also has big black beady eyes to see in the dark. It eats little insects such as ants, bees and butterflies. The Huffle-Gryph likes to put up flags when it is happy with pride.

There have been stories of a little child gone missing in the heather with a flash of pink and blue. The Huffle-Gryph lives in parts of Pitlochry Town especially Knockard Place number 5! People say they have seen these things and had bad luck for the rest of their lives so hearing these stories probably means it does not like being seen. The Huffle-Gryph hates being insulted and being called names. People have said they have seen pink and blue flags in the heather.

The Story of Tobi and the Kelpie by Tobi.

Once there was a kelpie that lived in the River Gary, nearby stood a little cottage. A small boy called Tobi lived there.

One day Tobi went out for a walk by the river bank. Suddenly he saw a man drowning in the river, Tobi went to help him and pulled him out, the man stared at Tobi and forced him onto his back, the next thing Tobi knew the man had dived back into the river and turned into a kelpie. Tobi could not get off, he struggled and the kelpie swam into a rock, Tobi was able to catch enough breath to swim to the surface, he scrambled ashore and ran home as fast as he could. He has been very careful while walking by the river bank ever since.

Primary 5 have also been listening to Scottish stories and retelling them, writing comic strips, having a book scavenger hunt and dressing up as part of our work for World Book Day.

Laila

I am a dementor from Harry Potter