

PENDLE COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE

SPRING

NEWSLETTER 2021

**WORLD
BOOK DAY**

Page 3

**MENTAL HEALTH
MENTORS**

Page 5

**THE GREAT BLACKO
& PENDLE BAKE OFF**

Page 6

**WE LOVE FOREST
SCHOOL**

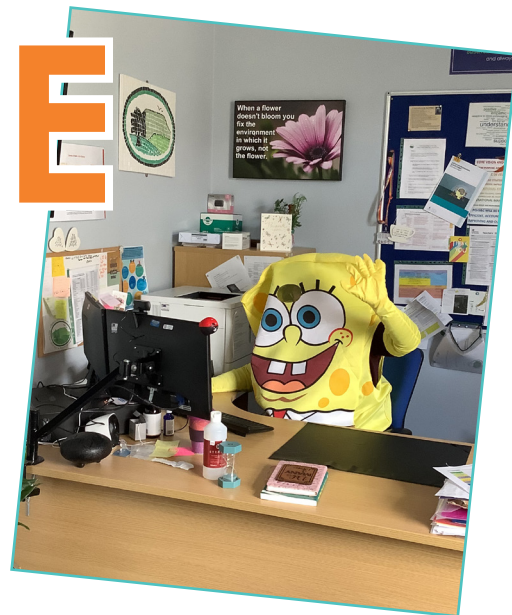
Page 10

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WELCOME

from the Headteacher

As always, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents, students and staff for their understanding, cooperation and resilience over the last couple of years, as our world was turned upside down with the pandemic. We are now looking to the future, to regain some normality to our school life.



Key Stage assemblies have resumed again in the hall and hopefully we will have some after school clubs again next term. Due to a relaxation in restrictions, educational visits have also resumed and we have managed to fit in plenty this term with a cinema trip, trips to ASDA, a Boccia competition, a trip to Liverpool museum, Towneley Garden Centre and a local Indian restaurant to name just a few! Transition activities for our new year 7 students (from Sept 2022) started this week, and we've enjoyed some memorable events and themed days; World Book Day, Science week, World Maths Day and Red Nose Day.

This term has also seen us host a Parent Governors Election as Tracy Tillotson's term as a parent governor was coming to an end. Tracy was happy to still stand but of course the opportunity had to be open to all parents in case they wanted to be considered. Nobody else declared an interest this time and so I am delighted to say that Tracy continues as a parent governor, for the next 4 years. The following are Tracy's words:

"During the past 4 years I have had the privilege to be a Parent Governor at PCHS. I consider myself an active Governor, being part of Ofsted, Interviewing, and engaging with parents when able. My role also includes being the Cooking & Nutrition link Governor where I have actively participated in preparing food with classes. I am very passionate about our school and college, and the future of our students, and all their challenges, and am honoured to continue as parent governor".



Tracy Tillotson

If you want to get more involved in school life, please do attend our courses and join our events as they start to happen again.

Also, 12 months on from my initial questions to parents and carers about curriculum and vision and values the students and staff have chosen a set of key words that mean the most to them and that best represent how we act in school. These are **Honesty, Embrace Diversity, Ambition, Respect and Trust** and will be at the HEART of everything we do at PCHS & C.

Have a truly wonderful holiday and take care.

Best wishes

Debra



WORLD BOOK DAY

3 MARCH 2022

25 YEARS

EXPLORING THE WORLD AROUND US



Year 7 have been discovering what is around them. They have explored rivers and settlements and asked inquisitive questions why people build where they do?

Years 8 and 9 have been looking at the weather and weather patterns. What is causing the change in weather and the affects to people, jobs and the local environment.

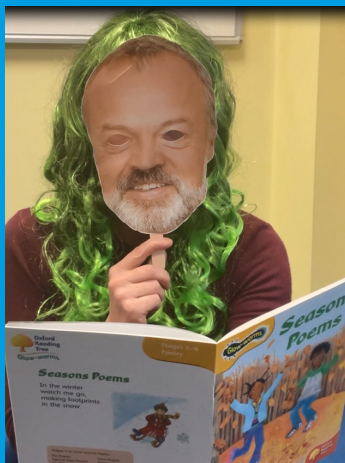


How better to celebrate World Book Day 2022 at PCHS than with our very own visiting Story Teller?

Author Dan Worsley came in on the 25th anniversary of the event and entertained two groups of our pupils with his fun stories about wigs, lost rings and stinky cow pats which, along with his props and engaging storytelling style, kept everyone glued to their seats and listening attentively for the whole afternoon.

Our celebrations continued with our very own 'Masked Reader' feature as part of a special World Book Day assembly and activities. Who was behind the masks and where exactly was Wally?

Thanks to everyone who dressed up and joined in the fun to share our love of reading at PCHS.



ONLINE SAFETY WEEK



Pendle took part in Online Safety week with some very mature ideas, views and opinions. We researched our own digital footprint and discovered how we can keep our passwords safe.

We also had a visit from the ICT department to talk to us about our browsing history and how even when we think we have deleted it is always still available.

All in all we had a very productive and positive week and we have gained a clearer understanding on how the internet can be a positive experience, but also have consequences.

COFFEE MORNINGS AT HODGE HOUSE

A big thank you to the parents & carers who attended our coffee morning and drop in session at Hodge House on 8th February focusing on 'Safer Internet Use'. Our Bowland college students gave an amazing presentation about how to keep safe online. They also gave advice and ended with a question and answer session with parents & carers.

A couple of weeks later, on 25th February, we hosted another coffee morning and drop in session, this time focusing on children's mental health. Once again, this was well attended by parents & carers. Bowland and Lytham gave some informative presentations about the wellbeing activities they take part in, both at home and in school/college. They also explained the role of a Mental Health Buddy in school and college and who they can talk to if needed. The students and parents took part in some mindfulness colouring and word searches and everyone then enjoyed some of Mr Byrne's delicious cakes and biscuits.

Look out for more of our coffee mornings next term, we would love to see more of you there!



"The students did a great presentation, very professional and really knowledgeable about Internet Safety and even did well answering our question well done everyone"

Tony Fletcher, attendee

CINEMA EXPERIENCE DAY

On 22nd March all classes across school and college took part in a cinema experience day as part of the 'Into Film Spring Festival'. The theme this year was 'We can be heroes'.

Five classes from school went to watch Coraline at The Whitaker museum. The Whitaker museum was very welcoming and all students and staff enjoyed the film.

Back in school, the students were also watching films on the topic of heroes. KS4 went to the school lecture theatre in the morning where they also watched Coraline.

Wenning, Calder, and Marsden got comfortable on some beanbags to watch Encanto, and Bowland and Lytham went to the lecture theatre in the afternoon to watch Soul Surfer.

PENDLE PLAY TO LEARN

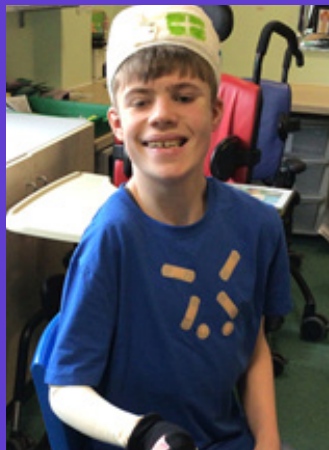


It has been a busy Spring term for Team Pendle. Students continue to work towards accreditation, this time on the topic of hobbies. Students have taken part in presentations, performed research and have undertaken speaking and listening tasks as well as other activities. All students did a great job of presenting their own choice of hobby. They spoke clearly and answered questions knowledgeably.

Maths is everywhere at the moment and students have been learning about exchanging money, measuring corridors, heights and liquid and have even been working out how many pieces of cake Miss Lee ate as a fraction! They have also been learning that we need to be able to add and subtract when we play board games and understand the importance of knowing our times tables.



WONDERFUL WENNING



We've had a very busy term in Wenning! In the first half of the term we took a trip to India. We explored lots of exciting and fascinating things to do with India. We had a look at Indian clothing, Indian animals, Indian markets and Indian food to name a few! We enjoyed tasting chili sauces, and found some of us love it and some of us weren't so keen! We decided to plant our own chili seeds, we've been looking after our plants and they are growing nicely! We also recreated the Indian flag with paint, flour, sand and tissue paper.

This half term, we have been exploring fairytales and fantasy. We've enjoyed lots of sensory stories, including Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Mr Wolf's Pancakes, The Three Little Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood, Hansel and Gretel. This half term we've also had World Book Day, where we made sock puppets to match our story that week, Mr Wolf's Pancakes. We have also enjoyed dressing up in red and making superhero masks for Comic Relief. To top off our busy half term, we got to have a film experience day, we watched Encanto in the hall, we enjoyed relaxing on the beanbags and getting to eat popcorn and sweets while we watched it.



MENTAL HEALTH

MENTORS

This term, Ifras, Nabil, Asad and Callum have been doing Mental Health Mentor training from the Anna Freud centre. The training has taught them to understand what a peer mentor is and how they can support other children, understanding that building a relationship is central to being a good peer mentor. They have also been learning what active listening is and have been practising it.

The training focuses on how a Peer Mentor can act as a helping hand, a listener and someone who can support another child with making positive changes. This support includes encouragement, and information to the children they are supporting.

The training has been teaching them to try to understand things from the viewpoint of the pupil they are supporting. They have also been learning skills which will help them support other pupils to make a positive change in their life and not about telling the pupil what to do.

The Mental Health Mentors have been learning how to: understand the pupil's current problem, why the pupil wants to change it, thinking of what some of the options are to make a change and who might be able help the pupil to make this change.

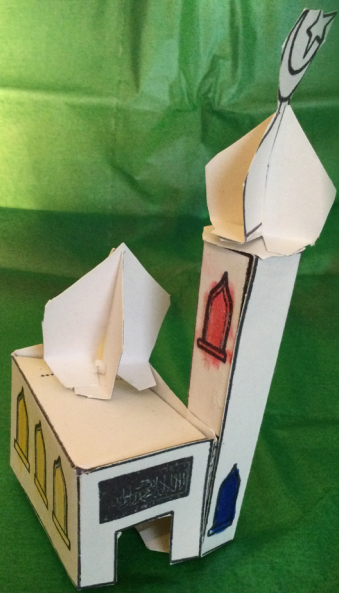
The Peer Mentors have been learning to understand when they need to keep something private and when they need to inform an adult. The training will be completed next term and they will plan with Jenny how to begin their work from the ideas they have come up with.



EXPLORING FAITH

In RE this term, students in year 7 have been exploring the Islamic faith. We have looked at celebrations and rites of passage, the journey to Mecca and the features of a Mosque.

Years 8 and 9 have been focusing on Pilgrimages and the special journeys people take in their faith. We have discussed Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Buddhism.



THE GREAT BLACKO & PENDLE BAKE OFF®

As part of their AQA Cake Making and Decorating unit award, Blacko and Pendle took part in a cake making competition to show off their baking skills. Students were given the opportunity to research and choose their own recipes or follow a recipe for a cake they had made before.

Students were given all morning to bake their cakes from scratch as part of International Maths Day. They used their maths skills to interpret recipes independently and create a cake to be judged by staff with a coveted blue chef's hat up for grabs for the winner.

Competition was tough with cakes ranging from baked cheesecake to vanilla cupcakes. Staff obviously loved the responsibility of judging and it was very close in the end, but the overall winner was Erin who baked Red Velvet cupcakes. Lemon drizzle came a close second and carrot cake came in third.

All of the students did themselves proud, using their food preparation, maths and independence skills to create a wide range of tasty cakes.



BUSY IN BLACKO

It's been quite the busy term down in Blacko; it's fair to say that they've made a lot of progress in all areas!

Throughout English and Maths during the term, the students have been busy preparing for their exams, whilst learning many essential life skills along the way, such as money management and writing job applications for a radio station.

Blacko have also been cooking up quite the variety of delectable cakes in Cooking & Nutrition, ranging from all sorts of cupcakes, lemon tarts, to much larger desserts such as the Brooklyn Blackout Cake that was quite the hit amongst those that took a slice!

Despite all the work, there's been more than enough room to join in on the World Book Day, Red Nose Day and World Maths Day celebrations, featuring a host of activities, a colourful range of clothing and even a surprise appearance of everyone's favorite wall crawler, Spider-Man swinging his way in time for Red Nose Day!

It's safe to say Blacko is ready to wind down, all fresh and ready to go for the Summer Term!





KEEPING SAFE IN YARROW

During the Spring term, Yarrow have been looking at the importance of Online safety in ICT. We discussed the awareness of stranger danger and how we must not give out any personal information online or to people we do not know.

As a class, we dressed up as different characters and acted out scenes to make a video which brought our storyboard to life.

TEAM PENDLE BALLERS

Our KS3 pupils were selected to take part in a Boccia tournament organised by Active Lancashire on Friday 4th February at the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School.

Our young pupils were delighted to take part in the local level competition against other schools across Lancashire.

Having put in their hard work and efforts before and during the competition, our team reached the quarter finals only to be stopped by a team with two national champions. Congratulations 'Team Pendle Ballers', maybe next year we can get even closer to kissing the trophy!



GARDENING FOR ALL WITH THE HELP OF DT



This term, Pendle Community High School & College were successful in securing grant funding from Pendle Council Climate Action Small Grants scheme, in order to build a raised bed to make gardening activities in the sensory garden more accessible to students in wheelchairs.

Having incorporated the project into their DT lessons, students were tasked with designing and building a raised bed that students in wheelchairs could easily access to carry out planting activities with the rest of their class.

Once a design was agreed upon and all of the materials had been ordered and delivered, students began to build the item in place in the sensory garden. The project was a huge success and students were able to develop a variety of skills such as communication, measuring, tool skills, motor skills and problem solving amongst others. The students and staff in the DT department really enjoyed having a big build project to get stuck into.

After a few design adjustments, the finished raised bed looks great and is ready to be planted up!





RIBBLE IN SPACE

Ribble have had lots of fun learning this half term! We have been studying Space. As part of our topic, we visited the Liverpool Museum and visited the Planetarium. Students learnt lots about all the different planets and watched a planet show telling the story of a newly formed star and how he finds out about other types of stars and his own family of planets. All the students had a fantastic time!

FANTASY FUN IN IRWELL

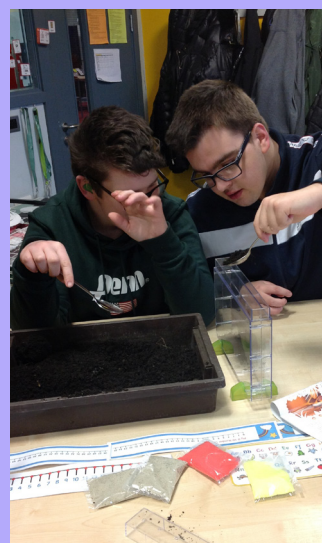
As part of this term's topic, 'Fantasy' Irwell pupils visited the pirate themed park at Crow Wood Hotel. Pupils reenacted the story, 'The Night Pirates' before exploring all what the park had to offer.



MARSDEN EXPLORE HABITATS

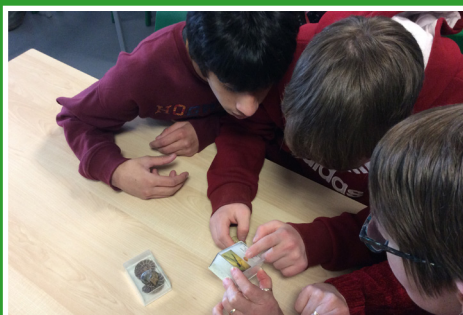
One of the topics Marsden have been learning about this term is insects and their habitats. The students dug in some soil and observed the worms in their habitat. They then collected some worms and made a new habitat for them, adding layers of soil and coloured gravel, water, and food.

Some of the students found out that during the day earthworms mostly stay in their burrows underground and at night they come up near or on to the surface to feed. If the air it is too cold or too dry, they stay down in the soil. Other students played matching games on the interactive board, as well as completing jigsaws that they made in their DT lessons.



WE WILL ROCK YOU!

On Tuesday 15th March Dr Neill Crane (Geologist) came to school and did workshops with KS3 & KS4 covering the different types of rocks, fossils and crystals.



TREE PLANTING



This term, students in college took part in tree planting at Sabden with the Pendle Hill HLF Project.

Students and staff were given cards explaining which trees were which, so they were able to identify them.

They took part in tree measuring activities, as well as activities to understand the age of the trees.

Overall, 25 trees were planted. It was a Great outing, except for the weather.



TRAIN TRAVEL TRAINING

Students in college took part in Train Travel training with Katie Douglas from CRL. Students participated in a rail safety workshop that was followed up by a rail experience day, where they travelled to Colne, Nelson, and Accrington.



RED NOSE DAY 2022

On Friday 18th March students in school & college took part in raising money for Red Nose Day. For a donation of £1, students came dressed in non-uniform with the theme 'the colour red'. Some of our staff members got involved by volunteering to have wet sponges thrown at them in the sensory garden, an activity which was enjoyed by everyone. Some got more soaked than others!

The aim of the activities throughout the day was to increase students' awareness of the work done by Comic Relief.

We had a really enjoyable day and everyone really embraced our school's efforts in raising money for a cause that is close to hearts throughout our community. We managed to raise a total of £241.77. Thank you to everyone who donated and got involved.



WE LOVE FOREST SCHOOL

This term, both Wyre and Slaidburn have enjoyed going to forest school. The students in Slaidburn have spent their time building a new mud kitchen. They have also played many games, created wonderful mud paintings, clay faces, built a tree swing, explored the forest and had the best time puddle jumping and hunting for big foot!

Wyre have spent their time and efforts beginning to build a big shelter using branches and other things they have found in the forest. They have used a variety of big tools to saw logs, snip weeds and build the most fantastic shelter. Students have also spent their time building a swing, climbing trees, decorating wands and creating wind chimes and wooden necklaces.

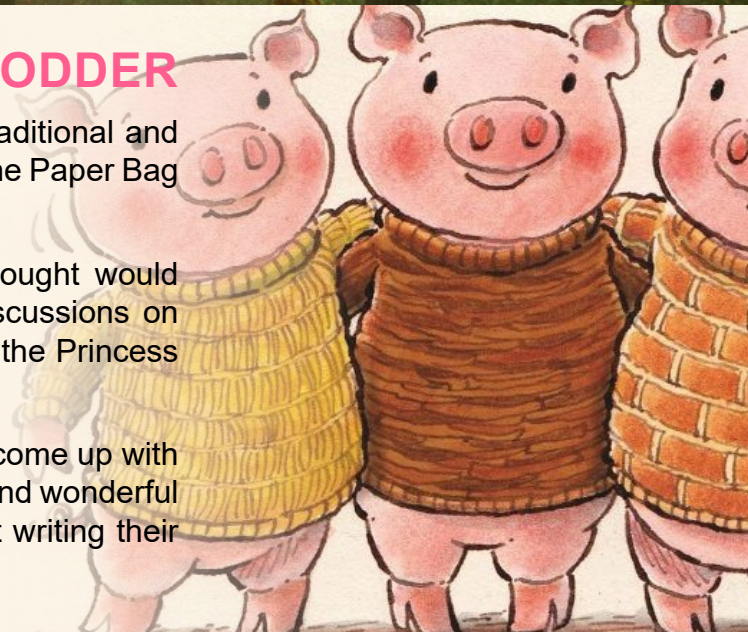


FAIRY TALES WITH A TWIST IN HODDER

In Hodder this half term we have been reading both traditional and modern fairy tales such as The Princess and the Pea, The Paper Bag Princess, and The Real Story of the Three Little Pigs.

We have been making predictions about what we thought would happen in each tale and we have even had some discussions on gender roles within fairy tales such as why it is always the Princess that needs to be rescued!

Each week the students have also been challenged to come up with their own alternative ending. We have had many weird and wonderful endings and this week the students are having a go at writing their own fairy tale from scratch!



FOLLOW US ON facebook

Don't forget to join our Facebook page where you will find lots of information about what's happening in school as well as links to lots of helpful resources. **Join us today:** <https://www.facebook.com/pchsandc>

Here are a couple of Facebook shout outs about the partnership projects we have been working on:



Bradley Big Local Community Land Trust
@BBLCommunityLandTrust · Community organisation

We've been quiet but busy over the past couple of months but at last we've some good news to share! We're really excited to have received [#NationalLottery](#) funding for a community climate action project. Thanks to [@TNLComFund's #TogetherforOurPlanet](#) programme, we'll be starting work to get our Pocket Park at Hodge House Community Centre back up and running.

The first thing we need to do is improve the security fencing then replace the damaged polytunnel. We're already working with Pendle Community High School & College and the revamp will enable them to restart gardening sessions with their students.

We've also got plans for additional sessions open to local residents to join in with learning/using gardening skills to grow healthy, organic, edible produce to reduce both food bills and food miles. There will be more information on this soon.

[#OneStepGreener](#) The National Lottery Community Fund



Pendle Hill HLF Project

@pendlehillproject · ★ 5 (7 reviews) · Non-profit organisation

There has been a lot of tree planting going on at the projects latest WINNS site in Sabden with [Ribble Rivers Trust](#).

Local schools have been helping us out and so far planted over 200 trees. We were joined by students from [Pendle Community High School & College](#) last week. [The Ernest Cook Trust](#) Outdoor Learning officer has been working with the group for the last 2 years, in partnership with [Action For Conservation](#). Alison, Sophie and Ben have been teaching the pupils about conservation and what action they can take to combat climate change. The tree planting morning with RRT Leanne, was their final session and the school now plan to develop their school grounds to be more accessible and wildlife friendly. We wish them all the best and thank staff and students for all their hard work over last 2 years.

[#WorkingTogetherToMakeADifference](#) [#betterwithpartnerships](#)
[#treeplanting](#) [#actionforconservation](#) [#RibbleRiversTrust](#)

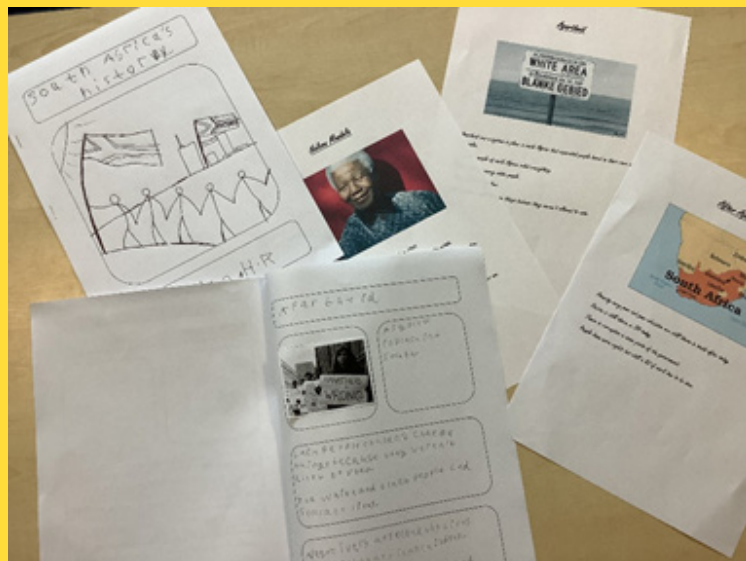


COMPUTING AND ICT

In Computing and ICT the students have been learning the art of video creation and editing using iPads and iMovie. They planned their videos around the theme of this year's Childnet film competition: 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online. What can we all do to play our part?' We then shot our videos on the iPads and edited them using iMovie adding in subtitles and transition effects. Hopefully some of the fantastic films will be entered in this year's competition.

WORKING HARD IN DARWEN

Darwen have had fun learning about animals and humans in science, from classification to skeletons. In English we read a book called Grandad Mandela and found out about South Africa's troubled past and apartheid. The students then created their own amazing non-fiction books about the topic. Fractions, time, money and shapes have been the topics we have been studying in Maths. Everyone has worked really hard and produced some great work. Well done Darwen!



SUMMER STAYS SILENT...

We must say a huge well done to our very own Summer from Blacko who has managed to raise an incredible £321.70 by completing a sponsored silence. This was a particular challenge for our usual chatterbox! Funds raised will go to We CAN Charitable Trust, to support our school.



● NOTICEBOARD ●



ParentPay
COUNT ON US

Thank you to the 68% of our parents and carers who have already activated their ParentPay accounts. We are sure you are enjoying the ease of paying online and seeing the benefit of being able to track your payments.

ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, safe in the knowledge that the technology used has the highest internet security available.

Making a payment is straightforward and ParentPay holds a payment history for you to view at a later date. Once you have activated your account you can make online payments straight away.

In the future we will be putting all payment items online. This includes school dinners, uniform, trips and also fundraising donations. If you haven't done so already, please activate your account as soon as possible. If you need the details sending home again, please contact the school office who will be able to help you with this.

We hope you will support us in achieving our goal to become a cashless school. Your support in using ParentPay will help the school enormously. Thank you.

**SCHOOL CLOSURES:
FRIDAY 1ST APRIL**

**We will re-open
Wednesday 20th April,
Have a fantastic
Easter break!**



THE BIG BATTERY HUNT

Each student will be coming home with a battery collection box as part of the Big Battery Hunt.

The Big Battery Hunt is a nationwide battery recycling initiative funded by Duracell. Young people in schools across the UK are encouraged to think about the importance of recycling, and then challenged to collect as many used batteries as they can.

The aim is for each pupil to contribute to an overall total of 4 million batteries being recycled.

