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1st March 2019

**Wix's Lane, Clapham Common North Side, London SW4 OAJ**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

On Wednesday 6th March, Belleville Wix will be marking World Book Day and have planned a number of exciting events to celebrate the joy of reading, which are set out below.

**Dress up as a character from our ‘Star Author’**

As you know your child has been studying the work of an author (see the table below) and this year they are invited to come in to school dressed up as a character from any one of the books written by the star author. Their class teacher will discuss ideas with the class this week. During the afternoon, your child will have the opportunity to parade in our special whole-school assembly. We look forward to seeing lots of wonderful costumes.

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| **Year Group**  | **Star Author**  |
| **Nursery** | Janet and Allen Ahlberg or Jez Alborough |
| **Reception**  | Eric Carle |
| **Year 1** | Julia Donaldson |
| **Year 2** | Roald Dahl |
| **Year 2b** | Francesca Simon |
| **Year 3** | Dick King-Smith |
| **Year 4** | Anne Fine |
| **Year 6** | Louis Sachar |

**Star Reader**

The child in each class who has read the most books during spring 1, will be presented with a ‘Star Reader’ gift and certificate. At the end of this term, we will reveal the ‘Star Reader’ in each class before we break up for Easter.

**Read-o-Meter**

It is lovely to have a big event to celebrate something but we want our pupils to enjoy reading every day of the year and develop a real thirst and love of books. As we have shared with you before, reading for pleasure is also more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background.

Research shows that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don’t, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. Many parents stop reading to their child when they can read fluently but many believe you should read to your child until the age of 11. This means your child can enjoy a book that they would not be able to read themselves and of course it is very enjoyable to have a story read to us. So many of us now listen to Podcasts or books.

It is with great excitement that we are launching our Read-o-Meter which aims to help embed some protected reading time that you share with your child at home, every day.

*How does it work?*

Until the end of this term, we are asking you to record the amount of time your child reads to you, or another adult and how long they are read to, on the ‘Read-o-meter’ that will be stuck in your child’s reading record. On the Read-o-Meter we have given our recommendation for the length of time your child should read with someone and the children can log their time over the half term. At the end of term we will acknowledge those children who have increased the time they read daily by inviting you both to our very first Belleville Wix’s ‘Booky Event’. We hope to see many of you there.

If you have any questions about any of these events, please don’t hesitate to ask us.

With kind regards,

Miss Hawes

BWA English Champion