



FLORA NEWS



Head's Blog

One of my friends told me about a powerful lesson in her daughter's school that she had experienced this week. They are learning about the Salem Witch Trials, and their teacher told them they were going to play a game.

"I'm going to come around and whisper to each of you whether you're a witch or a normal person. Your goal is to build the largest group possible that does NOT have a witch in it. At the end, any group found to include a witch will have a lunchtime detention."

The children began to grill one another. One fairly large group formed, but most of the pupils broke into small, exclusive groups, turning away anyone they thought gave off even a hint of being a witch.

"Ok," the teacher said. "You've got your groups. Time to find out which ones have failed. All witches, please raise your hands.:"

No one raised a hand.

The children were confused and told the teacher that he had messed up the game.

"Did I? Was anyone in Salem an actual witch? Or did everyone just believe what they had been told?"

And that is how you teach pupils, children, adults just how easy it is to divide a community.

Keep being welcoming, beautiful people. Acknowledge everyone you meet and smile. Shunning, scapegoating and dividing destroy far more than they protect. We're all in this together, whatever this is.

Have a fine weekend.

We have had some fantastic efforts for 'Dress up for Digits' and raised lots of money for NSPCC. Well done Flora!





Here are some quotes and some interesting facts about the importance of attending school every day

- ‘Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.’ (John Dewey)
- **There is a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower grades.**
- According to an old French proverb, ‘No person is too old to learn.’ Come and learn today
- **Only 3% of pupils with attendance of less than 50% achieve 5+ GCSE’s.**
- ‘An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.’ (Benjamin Franklin) Invest in your knowledge by coming to school.
- **Only 33% of pupils with attendance between 8-85% achieve 5+ GCSE’s.**
- Nelson Mandela said ‘Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.’ Arm yourself with the most powerful weapon: education. Attend school every day.
- **73% of pupils with attendance of 95% achieve 5+ GCSE’s.**
- ‘You cannot open a book without learning something.’ (Confucius) Come to school and enjoy reading.
- **Over 80% of pupils with 100% attendance achieve 5+ GCSE’s.**

Sapphire Fundraising Day! Sponsored Walk

On **Monday 4th February** (next Monday) the whole school will be completing a sponsored run/walk to raise funds for Cancer Research UK. Pupils can wear **blue** or **pink** clothing on this day, or in order to raise even more money, can dress up in something silly!

Pupil Absence Answer Machine

When telephoning the school to inform the office that your child will not be in or will be late, please choose option 1 on the recorded message and leave us a message. There is no need to speak to a member of staff as we listen to the recorded messages regularly throughout the day.

Attendance

28th January – 1st February 2019

Class	Attendance
Reception	79.2%
Year 1	88.5%
Year 2	94.4%
Year 3	93%
Year 4	95.3%
Year 5	94.8%
Year 6	94.2%
Total	91.5%

Please can we see a big improvement next week.

Nursery	80.8%
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Value Award Winners

- Nursery – Leon**
- Reception – Gabriel**
- Year 1 – Rahima Mohammed**
- Year 2 – Rashid**
- Year 3 – Odri**
- Year 4 – Raya & Lily**
- Year 5 – Mikayla**
- Year 6 – Addani**
- PE – Eloise**