

SEDGEHILL

weekly

23 FEBRUARY 2018

MESSAGE FROM MS CASSIDY

I hope you and your children all had a good half term last week and took the opportunity to recharge some batteries. I know that I did.

Being off work last week meant that I could indulge in watching the first week of the Winter Olympics. I still get goosebumps thinking back to London 2012 and watching the events in Pyeongchong, even if on snow and ice, took me back to the thrills of that summer and the long hot days and evenings in Stratford.

There have been some great stories of excellence, determination and dedication in Pyeongchong. This is definitely true of the highest performers and gold medal winners. Lissy Yarnold winning her second gold medal in the skeleton was an obvious highlight and, as someone who still has vivid memories of watching Torville and Dean in 1984, the ice dance events are always a particular attraction.

This time, I have also been taken by the skiing and snowboarding events. The women's Super-Giant Slalom had a great twist. It was won by Ester Ledecker from the Czech Republic, who until now had thought of herself as a snowboarder rather than skier. And I'm in constant awe of some of the stunts and thrills in the freestyle skiing and snowboard events.

But, as ever with the Olympics, some of the best stories come with those at the other end of the performance range, not winning medals but still very much living their Olympic dream. Kwasi Frimpong's story is a particularly heartwarming one - making it to the Olympics in the skeleton to compete for Ghana, by way of the Netherlands and the US and athletics and the bobsleigh - and, most recently, selling vacuum cleaners door-to-door. Alright, he came last, but he is clearly having the time of his life, as he throws himself head first down a mountain.

I leave you with a quote from him: "Dreams can come true if you are resilient and work hard."

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH

At Sedgehill, rather than International Women's Day, we celebrate International Women's Month for the whole of March. This year, we're focusing on women in STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths). We will write more about this over the coming weeks so watch this space.



PERFECT STUDENTS

Perfect Student is presented to the student from each year group who has, in that week:

- 100% attendance;
- 100% punctuality;
- gained the most achievement points.

This week's Perfect Students are:

Year 7	Brenda De Freitas
Year 8	Praisegod Onyeme
Year 9	Beatrice Collins
Year 10	Sophie Humm
Year 11	Martha Sanya

Well done to all of the above students.

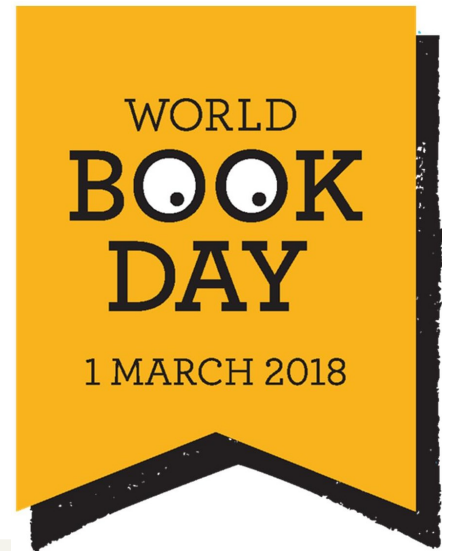
WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 1 March is World Book Day 2018.

As usual, students will receive a book voucher which can be used in three ways:

- 1) It can be exchanged for one of a selection of specially commissioned World Book Day short books—including titles by Clare Balding, Julian Clary and Nadiya Hussain.
- 2) It can be used to buy one of a selection of full size books by authors such as John Green, Francis Hardinge and Benjamin Zephaniah for the reduced price of £1.50.
- 3) It can be used to get £1 off the price of any other book.

If you're looking for a bookshop to use, the following local bookshops come highly recommended: Rye Books in East Dulwich; Kirkdale Books in Sydenham and Beckenham Bookshop in Beckenham.



NETWORK



GCSE and A level drama students watched *Network* at the National Theatre this week.

Isobel (Year 11) writes:

The play followed the life of Howard Beale (Bryan Cranston) and his experience of working in the news. The play gave a realistic portrayal of life in the newsroom and spread relevant and powerful messages, showing us the corruption that exists in the media industry. We were amazed by the set, which gave the audience a sense of involvement in the newsroom.

NATIONAL THEATRE CONFERENCE

Before seeing *Network*, GCSE and A level drama students attended a conference about the play and careers in the theatre.

Lewis Thomas (Year 12) writes:

*It was interesting to hear about the different approaches to directing: the director of *Network* at the National Theatre, seemed to take a backseat approach, allowing as much creative freedom to the actors, only stepping in when necessary.*

Georgia Wakenshaw (Year 11) writes:

We got the chance to listen to experts in the field... Guardian theatre critic Michael Billington (left with one of our GCSE drama students) told us how to judge a piece of drama by its initial impact and then find reasons for this emotion. He also explained that "drama is a world of illusions" - an idea that will stick with us.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 1 March Year 9 GCSE Options Evening, 5-7pm

Monday 12 March Year 9 GCSE Options deadline

Sedgehill School

Attendance Procedures



Students are EXPECTED to:

- Attend school regularly
- Arrive at school on time.
- Be punctual to lessons
- Bring notes to school to explain any absence

Parents are EXPECTED to:

- Ensure that their children attend school whenever possible.
- Ensure that their child leaves for school with enough time to be punctual.
- Informs the school of any absence.
- Book medical appointments outside of school hours wherever possible.
- Not book any holidays during term time. These will be marked as unauthorised and are likely to be subject to a fine.
- Support the school sanctions if students are late.

If your Child is Absent from School

1. Contact the school on 020 8698 8911 and follow instructions to connect the Attendance Voicemail Service.
2. Leave a message stating your child's name, form, reason for absence and expected return date to school.
3. If your child is absent for longer than 2 days, please contact the Attendance Team with an update.

If your Child's Attendance is 95% and Below

Absences below 95% **WILL NOT** be authorised unless you provide any of the following:

1. Letter from hospital/doctors confirming an appointment.
2. Copy of prescription or prescription label on medication.
3. Letter from a professional body stating the reason for absence.

If your Child is Late to School

1. Contact the school on 020 8698 8911 and follow instructions to connect the Attendance Voicemail Service.
2. Leave a message stating your child's name, form, reason for late and expected time of arrival to school.

Late Detentions

1. If your child is late to school he/she will receive a 1 hour detention that day.
2. Persistent lateness will result in further actions including, but not limited to:
 - Punctuality Report
 - Punctuality Mentoring
 - School and Parent Meeting

We will **ONLY** accept reasons/notes relating to lateness from parents which are of exceptional circumstances.

Monitoring Process

The Attendance Team will closely monitor students and may take the following actions:

- Send letters home
- Invite parents for attendance meetings
- Parenting Contract
- Fixed Penalty Notices
- Panel Meetings
- Refer to the Local Authority for Persistent Absence.