



## Head's Message

Theme for next week : Martin Luther King

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you all enjoyed a restful Christmas break.

It was a pleasure to welcome the children back to school on Monday, looking very neat and well prepared for the new term. The theme for the week is 'Make Your Dreams Come True'. In assembly, we discovered that our pupils dream about becoming Lords, teachers, princesses, actors, professional footballers and much more besides! Beth Mead, Pele and Stevenage Football Club were all given as examples of how to rise to challenges and 'make your dreams come true'. The children learned that Pele grew up in poverty and had to make a 'ball' out of a sock stuffed with rags. I demonstrated the difficulty of playing with a stuffed sock as Reception pupils counted my football juggling skills. I managed three! Having a big goal, working hard at something that you enjoy and seeking help from the right people were the important messages.

On our INSET day last week, staff took part in Emotions and Behaviour training led by Jen Foster. She is an inspiring educator who is an emotional literacy specialist. The training focused on understanding how the brain develops and how this influences our emotions and behaviour. Proactive strategies to engage and support pupils featured throughout the session and further equipped staff with tools to support emotional wellbeing.

Currently, our Year 6 pupils are in the process of taking their 11+ exams. The pupils have worked really hard and they now just need to take these exams in their stride. Remember, exams are simply a part of the educational process and we must all be mindful to view it in this way.

Dates for your diary for this half term include:

Monday, January 16	5.05-5.45pm	Ski Trip Meeting
Friday, January 27	7.30-10.30pm	SASS Quiz
Wednesday, 1 February	3.45-7.30pm	Nursery, Year 1 and Year 2 Parents' Evening Online
Thursday, 2 February	3.30-6.00pm	Nursery and Reception Parents' Evening Online
	4.15-5.45pm	Middle School Parents' Evening Online
Thursday, 9 February	2.30-3.30pm	Year 2 Play
Friday, 10 February	Time TBC	SASS Disco for Pre Prep
Monday, 13 - Friday, 17 February		Half Term

I wish you all a wonderful Lent term.

Sincerely,

Marcus Shute