



# Comber Grove Primary School

## Weekly Newsletter

### Spring Term 2

Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023

#### Quote for the week:

*'Happiness is not something ready-made. It comes from your won actions!'*  
– Dalai Lama

#### A message from our Headteacher

Dear Comber Grove families,

We have enjoyed a lovely first week back after the February Half term at Comber Grove Primary School. Our pupils returned to school very calmly and we have had a very enjoyable first week back. Well Done! everyone!!!

#### Weekly School Value: Happiness

This week we have been thinking about how to show happiness and make others happy in our school.

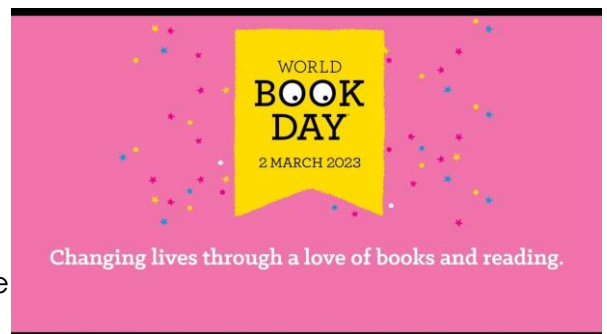
#### Teacher Strike- Thursday, 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2023

School will be **closed** on **Thursday, 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2023** due to industrial action. Children will be provided with a choice of either a cheese or tuna sandwich packed lunch which will be available for collection from the school on Wednesday, 01<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

#### World Book Day- Friday, 03<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

This year World Book Day will be celebrated on **Friday, 03<sup>rd</sup> March 2023** at Comber Grove Primary School.

We have lots of fun activities planned in school. We ask that all children bring one of their favourite books to school on Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023 and **dress up as their favourite book character**. Books will also be on sale after school.



#### Attendance:

We had an improvement at the end of Spring Term 1 with regards to children arriving on time, however this has lapsed this week. The gates open at 8:45 and close at 9:00am. Please ensure your child arrives at school on time and ready for the day. Attendance monitoring will take place over the next week for all children, and parents will receive letters about their child's attendance if it has fallen below **95%** this academic year.

#### School Uniform:

We have noticed that some pupils have begun to wear their own clothes or fancy shoes/ boots to school. Please remember we have a uniform policy which we expect all children to adhere to. This includes the school uniform PE kit which we expect your child to wear on your child's PE day. Uniform helps ensure all children are equal and prevents bullying issues. Please follow the policy.

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## Birthday party bags

### A polite notice regarding birthday cakes, treats and party bags

Please note that staff members will not be responsible for cutting or sharing birthday cakes, treats or party bags.

Many parents would rather limit and monitor the amount of treats (sweets, cakes, chocolate and biscuits) eaten by their child. Some of our children have very severe food allergies and must avoid certain foods. This makes these children very vulnerable and it is important that they do not consume foods that may contain items that can cause an allergic reaction.



We do realise and appreciate that Birthdays are special times and the school's policy is not to give out sweets or cakes in school time, however, parents have been allowed to distribute them in the playground if they chose to do so on their child's birthday. Increasingly, however, this practice has become more elaborate with some parents bringing in party bags for the whole class.

A number of parents have approached me to say that they have felt under pressure to do the same for their child, at a time when financially they are not in a position to do so. As a school, we would not want any parent to feel uncomfortable in the playground, therefore, from now on parents wishing to do so would have to distribute any gifts off school grounds.

## Maternity Leave- Miss Nancy Boothroyd

Today we have to say goodbye and good luck to Miss Nancy Boothroyd in Year 1 (Benjamin Zephaniah Class) who leaves us to go on maternity leave. We wish her and her new baby the very best of luck and look forward to meeting her new addition.

## Term Dates 2023-2024

We appreciate that many parents/ carers want to plan their Year in advance as far as possible. For this reason, a copy of the 2023-2024 Term Dates is contained in this week's Newsletter for your information and planning.



Thank you all for your ongoing support and encouragement! Please be reminded that we are available to speak to if you need any support or advice!!!

Have a restful weekend!

*Lorram Black and Team Comber Grove*

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## WORLD BOOK DAY Friday, 03<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

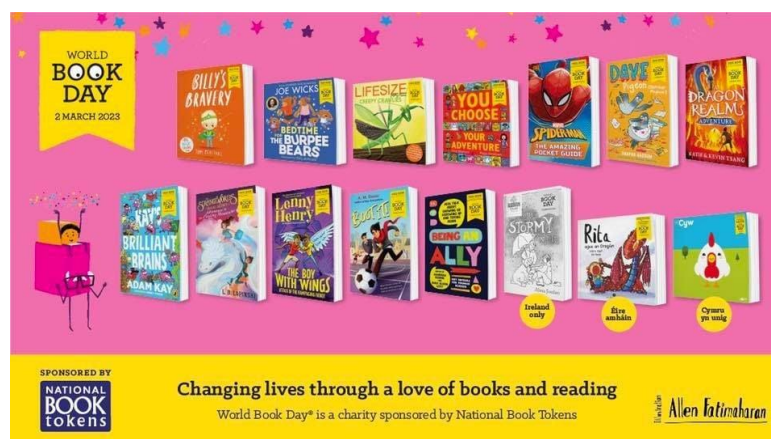


### THE £1 BOOK SELECTION

We're delighted to share with you the line-up of **£1** books for 2023 that **children can choose for free with their £1 book token!** With books for beginning, early, fluent and independent readers, there is something for everyone to enjoy. There are up to 12 titles available to choose from.

The books will be available from booksellers from 16 February 2023 – **find your nearest participating bookseller**. The token redemption period is from **16<sup>th</sup> February – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023**.

Find out everything you need to know about the books and token exchange **here**.



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## EMERGENCY

### Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal



#### Emergency Appeal for Turkey-Syria

Please continue to donate online to support the Emergency Appeal for Turkey/ Syria!

#### They urgently need your help.

You can help organisations get families the food, warm blankets, winter clothes and shelter materials they need to survive. You can help them set up safe spaces for women and children, and get psychological support to children so they can start to process their terrible experiences.



#### Save the Children:

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/how-you-can-help/emergencies/turkey-syria-earthquake>

#### Oxfam:

<https://www.oxfam.org.uk/oxfam-in-action/current-emergencies/turkey-and-syria-earthquake-appeal/>

#### Islamic Relief:

<https://www.islamic-relief.org.uk/turkiye-syria-islamic-relief-provides-swift-emergency-medicine-food-and-shelter-to-earthquake-survivors/>

Thank you all for your ongoing support!!!

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# **TEACHER STRIKE School CLOSED Thursday, 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2023**

## **Teacher Strike- Thursday, 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2023**

The country's biggest teaching union, have voted in favour of a national strike. There will be several days of strike action by their teacher members over the next few months. The second proposed day of action will be held on **Thursday, 02<sup>nd</sup> March 2023** and school will be closed to children for the day.

School will re-open as usual on Friday, 03<sup>rd</sup> March 2023!

**Apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused you and your families!**



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## Stars of the Week



### Value of the Week: **HAPPINESS**

Class:	Pupil:	Reason:
<b>Year 1</b> <b>Benjamin Zephaniah</b>	<b>Whole class</b>	For spreading happiness!
	<b>Whole class</b>	For spreading happiness!
<b>Year 2</b> <b>David Attenborough</b>	<b>Aliyah</b>	Thank you for being so positive and always happy.
	<b>Paul</b>	Thank you for being so positive and always happy.
<b>Year 3</b> <b>Mo Farah</b>	<b>Kamilia</b>	You always make everyone, including the teachers, happy!
	<b>Samiatu</b>	You always make everyone, including the teachers, happy!
<b>Year 4</b> <b>Marcus Rashford</b>	<b>Sima</b>	For always being kind and considerate and spreading happiness in the class.
	<b>Jahan</b>	For always being kind and considerate and spreading happiness in the class.
<b>Year 5/6</b> <b>Mae Jemison</b>	<b>Khalid</b>	Always smiling and spreading happiness in the class.
	<b>George</b>	Happily gets on with his tasks in the class.
<b>Year 6</b> <b>Olive Morris</b>		



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## ATTENDANCE MATTERS!!!

### Can We Help?

Your child's school attendance is very important, and we are here to help. If you need support to increase your child's attendance, please contact any member of the Safeguarding and Wellbeing Team (Mr Black, Ms Fielding, Mrs Anchebe, Ms Rowe or Ms Trent).

Call the school on: **020 7703 4168** or email: [office@combergrove.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:office@combergrove.southwark.sch.uk)

## Attendance Matters



## Every Day Counts....

Days off school add up to lost learning!

**175 NON-SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR**

175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, household jobs and other appointments.

0 DAYS ABSENCE (190 school days) <b>100%</b>	6 DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE <b>96%</b>	15 DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE <b>92%</b>	19 DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE <b>Below 90% (Persistent Absentee)</b>
<b>EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>SATISFACTORY ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>REQUIRES IMPROVEMENT</b>	<b>CAUSE FOR CONCERN</b>
Best chance of <b>SUCCESS!</b>	Harder to make good progress.	Less chance of success.	Serious concern. Possible court action!

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**ATTENDANCE MATTERS**  
*every student, every day*

**Attendance Winners**

<b>School Target: 95.6%</b>	<b>This week's attendance: 93.9%</b>
<b>Years 1, 2 and 3</b>	<b>Year 4, 5 and 6</b>
<b><u>Well Done:</u></b> <b>David Attenborough</b> <b>95.9%</b>	<b><u>Well Done:</u></b> <b>Mae Jemison</b> <b>93.1%</b>
<b>Class:</b>	<b>Attendance:</b>
<b>Reception</b> <b>Maggie Aderin-Pocock</b>	<b>95.7%</b>
<b>Year 1</b> <b>Benjamin Zephaniah</b>	<b>95%</b>
<b>Year 2</b> <b>David Attenborough</b>	<b>95.9%</b>
<b>Year 3</b> <b>Mo Farah</b>	<b>92.3%</b>
<b>Year 4</b> <b>Marcus Rashford</b>	<b>90.5%</b>
<b>Year 5/6</b> <b>Mae Jemison</b>	<b>93.1%</b>
<b>Year 6</b> <b>Olive Morris</b>	<b>93%</b>

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## School Information and Events

<b>Dates for your Diary</b>	
Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	<b>National offer day for Secondary Schools</b>
Thursday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2023	<b>Teacher Strike Action (School closed!)</b>
Friday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2023	<b>World Book Day</b>
Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> to Friday, 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	<b>Assessment Week</b>
Friday, 10 <sup>th</sup> March to Sunday, 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	<b>British Science Week –THEME: 'Connections'</b>
Wednesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	<b>Teacher Strike Action (tbc)</b>
Thursday, 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	<b>Staffing Committee Meeting at 4pm</b> <b>Teacher Strike Action (tbc)</b>
Thursday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2023	<b>Beginning of Ramadan</b>
Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	<b>Parent OPEN Day (more information to follow closer to the time!)</b>
Wednesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	<b>SPRING Fair</b>
Monday, 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	<b>LA Progress Review Meeting</b>
Friday, 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	<b>End of Spring Term. School closing at 2pm</b>

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### TERM Dates 2023-2024

AUTUMN TERM	
INSET DAYS for staff (School closed to pupils)	Monday, 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 and Tuesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
First day of Autumn Term 1 (Pupils return)	Wednesday, 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
End of Autumn Term 1	Friday, 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Half Term (School closed)	Monday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> October to Friday, 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
First day after Half term (Autumn Term 2)	Monday, 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Tutorial Day	Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
End of Spring Term	Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 (2pm finish for children)
CHRISTMAS Holiday (School closed)	Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December to Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
SPRING TERM	
First day of Spring Term 1 (Pupils return)	Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
End of Spring Term 1	Friday, 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Half Term (School closed)	Monday, 12 <sup>th</sup> to Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
First day after Half term (Spring Term 2)	Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Tutorial Day	Friday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024
End of Spring Term	Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 (2pm finish for children)
EASTER Holiday	Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> March Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
SUMMER TERM	
INSET DAY for staff (School closed to pupils)	Monday, 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
First day after EASTER Holiday (Summer Term 1)	Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
May Day Bank Holiday (School closed)	Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
End of Summer Term 1	Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Half Term (School closed)	Monday, 27 <sup>th</sup> to Friday, 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2024
INSET DAY for staff (School closed to pupils)	Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024
First day after Half term (Summer Term 2)	Tuesday, 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
Last day of Summer Term	Wednesday, 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2024 (2pm finish for children)
INSET DAY for staff (School closed to pupils)	Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July 2024

#### INSET DAYS:

Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
 Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
 Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
 Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024  
 Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2024

#### Public Holidays

Christmas Day Holiday      Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
 Boxing Day Holiday      Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
 New Year Holiday      Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024  
 Good Friday      Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
 Easter Monday      Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024  
 May Day Bank Holiday      Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
 Spring Bank Holiday      Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
 Summer Bank Holiday      Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> August 2024

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# **SPRING FAIR**

**Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2023**



Please put this date in your dairy.

We would like to invite as many parents/ carers as possible to help plan our Spring Fair this year.

Please speak to Ms Joanne Fielding if you are able to offer your help, support, volunteer!!!





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## After Diagnosis - Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

An Online Workshop for Parents and Carers  
after your child's assessment with ARD Service

Meet other families from Lambeth and Southwark and ask your questions to the Speech and Language Therapists

Children Under 5 Years	Date	Time
	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	10:00 – 11:30am
	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	1:00 – 2:30pm
	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	10:00 – 11:30am

Primary Age Children (approx. 5-11 years)	Date	Time
	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	1:00 – 2:30pm
	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	10:00 – 11:30am
	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	1:00 – 2:30pm

Secondary Age Young People (12 years +)	Date	Time
	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	1:00 – 2:30pm
	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	10:00 – 11:30am

How to book – email your details to [gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net](mailto:gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net)

- include your name, your child's name / date of birth
- date you wish to attend
- add 'After diagnosis - Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder' workshop as the subject of your email



OR

- Scan the QR code



For any other queries related to the Autism and Related Disorders (ARD) Clinic please contact:  
Lambeth (Mary Sheridan Centre): 020 3049 5964 Southwark (Sunshine House): 020 3989 0370





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## Welcome to the Autism and Related Disorders (ARD) Service

Your child has been referred to the ARD Service for an assessment

Book your place onto:



### 'What will happen at my child's autism assessment: An online workshop for Parents and Carers'

The workshop includes information about:



- What Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is
- What will happen on the day of the assessment
- Where to look for more information about ASD

The workshops are run by the Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) Team

Children Under 5 Years	Date	Time
	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2023	10:00 – 11:30am
Primary Age Children (approx. 5-11 years)	Date	Time
	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2023	1:00 – 2:30pm
	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	10:00 – 11:30am
Secondary Age Young People (12 years +)	Date	Time
	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	1:00 – 2:30pm



How to book: Please email [gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net](mailto:gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net)

Write 'Subject' of email as **ARD Assessment Workshop**

To: [gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net](mailto:gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net)

Cc:

Subject: ARD Assessment Workshop

Include **your name**

To ARD team

My name is XXX

Your **child's name / date of birth**

My child's name is XX and date of birth (DOB) is XXX

OR

➤ Scan the QR code



For any other queries related to the Autism and Related Disorders (ARD) Clinic please contact:  
Lambeth (Mary Sheridan Centre): 020 3049 5964 Southwark (Sunshine House): 020 3989 0370

### Need help with another language for this letter?

You can get an interpreter here:

<https://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/patients/your-care/language-support/language-support-services.aspx>



Call 020 7188 8815



Email [languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk)

[gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net](mailto:gst-tr.contacts@nhs.net)

<https://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/visiting-us/language-support>

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