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A Parent Workshop to Celebrate the National Year of Reading!

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, this year is the National Year of Reading, a special celebration of the magic that books bring into our children's lives. Reading opens the door to new worlds, sparks imagination, builds language and confidence, and helps children make sense of the world around them. Most importantly, the simple act of sharing a story together creates precious moments of connection that children carry with them for years to come. By nurturing a love of reading now, we are giving our children a gift that will support them throughout their lives.

To celebrate, we would love to invite you into school for a special parent workshop where you can enjoy bringing a favourite story to life alongside your child. Please bring your child's favourite story book (or non-fiction if they prefer) from home in with you. If this isn't possible, don't worry at all, we will have a lovely selection of school books available to borrow on the day.

During the workshop, you and your child will create characters and simple props from the story and turn them into puppets. Together, you will use your puppets to retell the story in your own wonderful way. At the end of the session, you can take your puppets home to continue the storytelling with siblings, grandparents, and other family members - a fantastic way to build confidence and keep the joy of reading going beyond the classroom.

All **Reception** parents are invited to come in to school on **Wednesday 18th March** at 2:15pm
All **Year 1** parents are invited to come in to school on **Thursday 19th March** at 2:15pm
All **Year 2** parents are invited to come in to school on **Friday 20th March** at 2:15pm

On the day, please come to the school office where you will be directed to the hall. Your child will meet you there ready to begin the workshop. If you are unable to attend, your child will still take part in the activity and will be supported by a member of staff to create their puppets and retell their story, so no one misses out. To help us with planning and resources, please complete and return the reply slip below to your child's class teacher, to let us know whether you will be attending.

We are really looking forward to welcoming you and sharing this special experience together.

With warmest wishes,
The Harewood Team

Childs name _____ Year group _____ Class _____

I will be attending the parent workshop with my child

I am unable to attend the parent workshop with my child

Email to staff

Hi everyone,

I wanted to let you know about a parent workshop we'll be running as part of our National Year of Reading celebrations.

We're inviting parents into school to take part in a storytelling session with their child. Families will bring in a favourite book from home (we'll also have a small selection available to borrow), and during the workshop they'll work together with their children to create characters and simple props from the story, turning them into puppets. They'll then use the puppets to retell the story together. The aim is to promote a love of reading, encourage oral storytelling, and give parents simple, practical ideas they can continue at home.

The workshop will take place in the hall and will begin at 2:15pm. Please could tables be set out in rows so families can sit and work together comfortably? At the front of the hall, we'll need a small table with a small selection of books available for parents to borrow on the day.

Once the children have finished making and using their puppets, parents can take their child home directly from the hall.

It should be a really lovely, creative session and a great opportunity to strengthen home-school links around reading. Thank you in advance for your support — please let me know if you have any questions.