## **NEWSLETTER 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020**

Welcome back to another half term – they certainly seem to fly by!

Last half term a team of senior leaders from other schools in our cluster came to carry out a review into how effectively we teach reading skills at Fishergate. This is part of a peer review process in which schools work together to help each other to improve. The review team gave us some great feedback – saying that "The whole school culture of a love of reading was really evident." They also found that all the children that they spoke to had an extremely positive attitude to reading and that they had daily opportunities to read and to be read to at school. They saw great consistency across year groups and commented upon the excellent leadership of English. One interesting thing that came out of the review, and something that you can definitely help us with, is the fact that a large number of the Key Stage 2 children who were spoken to, said they very rarely read to an adult at home. Even if your child is an extremely fluent reader sharing a book together is invaluable.

This is a bit of a strange one but we could do with a yoga ball, resistance bands and a round trampette. If you happen to have any that you no longer use please could you let Emma or Helen in the office know.

Finally a bit of advance notice about our Star Wars marathon. If you would like to join us in any capacity then keep the date free. We will be running on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May and you might like to run with us, walk groups of children to and from school, stand at the turn-around point or support along the route. We will be there all day but don't feel that you need to be there for the whole thing. It is a fabulous day and I hope that as many of you as possible can join us.

## LOW MOOR ALLOTMENTS COMMUNITY KIDS' ALLOTMENT

We are located at the bottom of Kilburn Road, just alongside the Allotments Car Park.

The Kids' Allotment has been running for 15 years and has received many awards. It is organised by volunteers and the sessions are staffed by them and parents, on a rota basis.

We have room for 12 members, aged between 6 and 12 years, Sessions run weekly on Saturday mornings, 10am - 12 noon, between March and end of October. Members pay £1.00 per session.

During the session the children are helped to "garden" the allotment - growing fruit, vegetables, herbs and flowers. Whilst the work has to be done, we make it fun. Produce is shared out after harvesting and brought home.

This year we have a few vacancies for new members. Our sessions will start on Sat 14<sup>th</sup> March. For more information, or to register your child's interest, please contact Angela Johnson, angela3147@hotmail.com and I will arrange to meet up and discuss a place.

## MUCH NEEDED CROSSING IN BUSY AREA OF YORK

One of our parents has set up an online petition to help get a crossing on a busy road near our school. Please take a look and sign the petition and help keep our children safe. http://chng.it/RKC8rSdh