

NDS Events Committee

Meeting: Thursday 18th February 2021

Attendees:

Odette Dawkins (Minutes & Chair)
Emily Hotine
Nicky Iyer
Louise King
Valerie Parke
Lucy Paterson
Elena Villarreal Norton

Lucy shared list of up and coming festivals, dates of note to consider creating events:

- Chinese Lantern Festival (Friday 26th February)
- World Book Day (Thursday 4th March)
- Easter (Friday 2nd-Monday 5th April)
- St Patricks Day (Wednesday 17th March)
- First day of Passover (Sunday 28th March – last day is Sunday 4th April)
- Holi Colour Festival (Monday 29th March)
- Start of Ramadan (Tuesday 13th April)
- St George's Day (and also, Shakespeare Day – both Friday 23rd April)

Events discussed by committee and the following ideas agreed and to be achieved for members of the department:

SLACK

Emily to re-boot Slack and re-advertise out to the department to encourage further participation

Chinese Lantern Festival

Odette to create event for **Thursday 25th February** 1pm to 2pm via TEAMS as a drop-in session to share making lanterns using a variety of craft items chosen by the participant.

TEAMS link to be sent to include

- Lantern designs
- Instructions on lantern designs
- Examples of homemade lanterns
- Facts about Chinese Lantern Festival
- Invitation to join in as a lunch time creative time away from the desk

World Book Day to Include Mental Health Week

Louise and Elena to find a suitable short play and encourage participants to take part as a character or to just listen.

Event to take place **Thursday 4th March** time to be confirmed

Further details to be decided and created by Louise and Elena

Book Celebration

Emily to create a book sharing day by:

- Send out a request for '*your favourite book or piece literature*' to NDS colleagues and collate answers with a deadline **Wednesday 24th February**.
- Post list to all in NDS to choose a title to read on **March 4th**
- Hold a drop-in session via TEAMS **Thursday 18th March** for anyone to chat about their chosen title over a virtual coffee morning.

Spring Festival Food Celebration

Lucy to lead this event as a celebration of food within the world and show case cooking and baking in the department which could incorporate Easter, Passover, Ramadan, St Patrick's Day and many more

To be held **Thursday 25th March** via TEAMS

Participant to enter categories of their pre-prepared food on the day during the meeting but with a request to send in a photo too which can be shared after the meeting.

Categories:

- Best Beginner Food/Bake
- Best Traditional Food/Bake
- Best Festival Food/Bake
- Best Overall
- Best Recipe

Decision to make it food or baking to encourage more people and away from a baking competition, also to gain diversity in cooking, baking and to incorporate cultures and festival.

Odette to source an independent judge

Agreed to make a request to ask for favourite recipes and to collate into an NDS Recipe Book

Plants for Garden and or House

Elena to create a virtual meeting in April to discuss the value and use of plants in the home, how to care for plants, the healing properties of plants and mental health benefits.

Elena to source a speaker