



Great Wilbraham CofE Primary School

School Newsletter: September 2018

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HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back everybody, I hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer holiday. It has been great to see all the children again and I would like to give a special welcome to all the new pupils and families to our lovely school. Already this term Badger class have had a fun trip den building at Anglesey Abbey and children are learning about their new topics, having settled in really well.

There have been quite a few positive premises changes throughout the school. Both Hedgehog and Badger classes have been redecorated and a partition wall has been built in Fieldmice class which will enable us to make a bigger learning area for the whole school next to the library. Remote control blinds have been installed in Squirrel, Hedgehog and Badger classes; huge thanks to Carolyn Hull who completed a grant application through Wadlow Trust for this – it has made a great impact!

We have also had our new catering company, Lunchtime Co., start this term and we are really impressed with the quality of the food, I hope the children are too. Huge credit to June Saunders and Hazel Clark who have embraced the changes and produced some fantastic meals. I personally can recommend the barbeque chicken which was very tasty indeed!

We have been working hard on dates for the diary, even putting in dates for July, and these are on the back of this newsletter. Please bear in mind that whilst we will try not to change the dates, there may be things that crop up but we will let you know in advance! Below are a few items of interest coming up this half term.

Parent Welcome Evening

You will have already been invited to attend a parent welcome evening next Monday. This is a chance to find out about what your child will be learning and to meet your child's teacher. Unfortunately, it won't be an opportunity to have a parent consultation but you can organise to meet the teacher on another day through our new admin@greatwilbraham.cambs.sch.uk email. Any communication to teachers can go through this channel and is the best way to contact teachers if you are unable to catch them in the playground.

PTFA

The PTFA are meeting next week to decide the events for the year. They work really hard to raise substantial amounts of money for the school and if you are able to help please contact them. Not only do they raise money for school trips, opportunities and performances but they have bought extra dining tables, music workshops and glockenspiels. One of the first events is the film night planned on 28th September, more details to come out soon.





Parking

The issue of parking at drop off and pick up times is one that is ongoing but at the start of the new year I would like to encourage parents to park at the Memorial Hall and walk down to the school when possible. This helps alleviate congestion around the school and we need to ensure the safety of the children. I know the Parish Council are also aware and concerned about the issue so your assistance with this is really valued.

Phonics and Reading Information Morning

Last year we conducted a phonics information morning for parents with children in Squirrel and/or Fieldmice classes. The feedback was very positive and we have organised for this to be in the hall at 8.50am on **27th September**. If you attended last year please attend again because we will not only be looking at phonics throughout the school but also reading and how to support the children at home. As your child goes through the school the expectations also progress so we hope that it will be informative and that you will be able to join us.

Parent Forum

We have our first parent forum of the year on **Tuesday 2nd October at 8.50am** in the group room. This is a chance for parents to give their opinions on the items on the agenda and help move the school forward together. If you are available and want to participate just turn up on the day.

Times tables Information Morning

We are going to be holding a meeting for parents of children in Years 3 and 4 about different ways to learn times tables at home and what we will be doing at school. We will also be explaining the new DfE times tables test. This will be at 8.50am on **4th October**. We hope that you will be able to attend.

Harvest Service

You are invited to our Harvest Service on **Tuesday 9th October**, to be held at **2.15 pm** in **Little Wilbraham Church**. The children will be collecting items for Jimmy's Cambridge including fruit and veg, canned goods, condiments and jams / spreads. They are also happy to receive dried produce such as; coffee, drinking chocolate, sugar and biscuits, etc. Please could children bring their Harvest gifts in to school on the Tuesday morning and we will arrange to get them to the Church. We hope you can join us, every class will be showing some of their artwork and poetry related to Harvest during the service.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultation lists will be available to book online in the next few weeks. For those who are new to the school we offer online booking for parent consultations and we invite you to log on and book a slot that is suitable for you. Parent consultations will take place on **Wednesday 17th October 4pm-7pm** and **Thursday 18th October 3.30pm-5.30pm** and we will inform you how to book in the next few weeks.

Thank you for your continued support, the children have settled well, are working hard and in every room I have been into there is a great learning atmosphere.

Richard Brown

Highest year group attendance to date: Year 1 with 100%



Governors Page

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after your Summer Holidays. I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable time and that the children are refreshed, energetic and enthusiastic for school and all the challenges that this new school academic year will bring. Certainly, my brief visit last week seemed to suggest that the young people have started school happy and raring to go.

Firstly, as Chair of Governors I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of all the Governors and Staff to extend a very warm welcome to all the new children and their parents and carers. The Governors and Staff and pupils are looking forward to getting to know you all and I know that you will all very quickly feel part of our School Family. This is the beginning of an exciting educational journey for each and every one of you which we hope will bring great personal fulfilment and development.

Can I, on behalf of the Governing Body, also thank all staff both teaching and non teaching for ensuring that the school was ready and welcoming for the children as they returned to school.

Finally, I would just like to say that Great Wilbraham School has a very positive reputation for its friendly atmosphere, its hard-working professional staff and the mutual respect which is part of the school ethos. I would encourage you all to approach a Staff Member if you have any concerns or questions in relation to your child/children. An important aspect of our school is the continued development of the partnership between parents, carers and staff to the benefit of the children attending the school.

With every good wish to you all

Brendan

Chair of Governors

Meeting of the Governing Body: 10th September 2018

This was principally an administrative meeting and as such was mainly spent on ensuring that the governance of the Full Governing Body is fit for purpose for the forthcoming year. To this end, I was returned as the Chair of Governors for the academic year and Lewis Robinson was voted in as vice-chair of the Full Governing Body.

As a Governing Body we agreed our standing orders and committed to our 'Code of Conduct'. Finally, dates for future Full Governing Body, sub-committee meetings and learning walks were agreed. If you wish to know who the link governor is in relation to each discreet area of learning Sue Lockwood can provide you with the name.

As governors, we are always keen to hear about you and your children's experiences, positive or not so. This said, it is important to stress that our role is about oversight rather than the day-to-day business of the school. To this end, if there are specific issues related to your child's school experience I would encourage you to contact the specific class teacher at the earliest opportunity either verbally or via email so that the issue might be addressed appropriately and in a timely fashion.

The Governing Body plans to meet on:

November 13th

January 22nd

March 26th

May 3rd

July 12th

Brendan Reid (Chair of Governors)



Proposed Dates 2018 - 2019

Autumn Term 2018

Monday 17th September – 1st group of Reception pupils stay all day

Monday 17th September – Code Club starts

Monday 17th September – parent welcome evening from 6pm

Tuesday 18th September – PTFA Meeting

Monday 24th September – 2nd group of Reception pupils stay all day

Monday 24th September – Mad Science after school club starts

Thursday 27th September—Phonics meeting for parents of children in Fieldmice and Squirrel Classes

Friday 28th September – PTFA Film Night

Tuesday 2nd October – Parent Forum

Wednesday 3rd October – Hedgehog Class to Ely Cathedral - Church Schools Day

Thursday 4th October – Census Day - all KS1 children to be offered school lunch

Thursday 4th October—Times Tables meeting for parents of children in Year 3 and 4 8.50am

Tuesday 9th October – Harvest Service 2.15pm Little Wilbraham Church

Tuesday 9th October – Lunchtime Company Parent Tasting 3.30pm

Wednesday 10th October—Badger Class Parents Aylmerton Information meeting 8.50am

Friday 12th October – PTFA Cake Sale

Tuesday 16th October—PTFA AGM 9.00am

Wednesday 17th October – parent consultations 4.00 – 7.00pm

Thursday 18th October – parent consultations 3.30 – 5.30pm

Friday 19th October – School Closes

Monday 29th October – school closed – staff training day

Tuesday 30th October – School re-opens

Wednesday 31st October – National closing date for Secondary places

Monday 5th November – Bonfire Lunch

Monday 5th to Wednesday 7th November – Badger Class Residential Trip to Aylmerton

Thursday 8th November—Squirrel & Hedgehog Class

English trip to see Peter Rabbit at cinema

Friday 9th November – Individual and Family photos

Friday 9th November – PTFA Cheese & Wine

Tuesday 13th November – Governors Meeting

Thursday 15th November – Badger Class Sharing Assembly and Book Look

Wednesday 21st November - Flu Vaccinations - R-Yr 5

Friday 23rd November – Hedgehog Class Sharing

Assembly and Book Look

Friday 30th November—Year 5 & 6 to Cross Country event

Monday 3rd December – Panto to school – pm

Monday 10th December 9.30am – Dress rehearsal

Tuesday 11th December – Christmas Performance – 2pm

Wednesday 12th December – Christmas Performance – 6pm

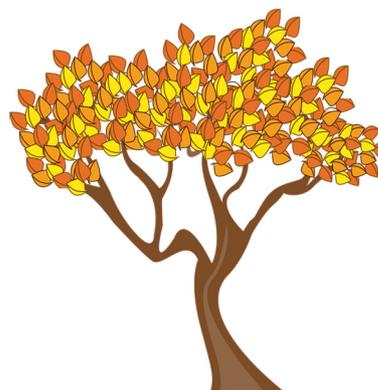
Friday 14th December – Christmas Lunch

Friday 14th December – PTFA Childrens Disco

Tuesday 18th December— Christmas Service 2.15pm

Great Wilbraham Church

Wednesday 19th December – school closes





Spring Term 2019

Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th January – staff training days
 Monday 7th January – school re-opens
 Tuesday 8th January – Epiphany Service 2.15pm Great Wilbraham
 Tuesday 15th January – National closing date for Primary places
 Thursday 17th January – Census Day - all KS1 children to be offered school lunch
 Tuesday 22nd January – Governors Meeting
 Friday 1st February – Squirrel Class Sharing Assembly and Book Look
 Friday 8th February – Fieldmice Class Sharing Assembly and Book Look
 Tuesday 12th February—Team of Year 5/6 to Quicksticks hockey event
 Friday 15th February – school closes
 Monday 18th – Friday 22nd February – half term

 Monday 25th February – school re-opens
 Monday 25th February – parent consultations 3.30 – 5.30pm
 Tuesday 26th February – parent consultations 4.00 – 7.00pm
 Friday 1st March – PTFA Quiz Night
 Thursday 7th March – World Book Day
 Friday 8th March - Hedgehog Class Sharing Assembly and Book Look
 Monday 11th March – Class Group photos
 Thursday 14th March - Badger Class Sharing Assembly and Book Look
 Thursday 14th March—Team of Year 4/5/6 to Tag Rugby event
 Friday 22nd March – PTFA Film Night
 Tuesday 26th March – Governors Meeting
 Friday 29th March – Mothers Day lunch
 Tuesday 2nd April – Easter Service 2.15pm – Little Wilbraham
 Wednesday 3rd April – Spring Concert
 Thursday 4th April – PTFA Cake Sale & Easter Tea
 Friday 5th April – Easter lunch
 Friday 5th April – school closes

Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April – school re-opens
 Friday 3rd May – Governors Meeting
 Friday 3rd May - Fieldmice Class Sharing Assembly and Book Look
 Monday 6th May – May Day holiday – school closed
 Monday 13th –Thursday 16th – KS2 SATS
 Thursday 16th May—Team of Year 3/4 to mini tennis event
 Monday 20th – Friday 24th May – Activity Week
 Tuesday 21st May – Sports Morning
 Wednesday 22nd May – Y6 Beacon Event
 Thursday 23rd May – Open Morning & Picnic lunch
 Friday 24th May – school closes
 Monday 27th – Friday 31st May – half term

 Monday 3rd June – staff training day
 Tuesday 4th June – school re-opens
 Thursday 6th June—Year 5/6 to Quadkids event
 Friday 7th June - Squirrel Class Sharing assembly and Book Look
 Week beginning 10th June - Phonics Screening Check Week
 Friday 14th June – Fathers Day lunch
 Thursday 20th June—Year 3/4 to Sport for All event
 Wednesday 3rd July – KS2 play—9.30am dress rehearsal and 6pm performance
 Thursday 4th July – KS2 Play—6pm performance
 Friday 12th July – Governor Morning
 Tuesday 23rd July - Leavers Service 2.15pm Great Wilbraham
 Wednesday 24th July – Leavers Assembly 9.15am
 Wednesday 24th July—School closes

