



Great Wilbraham CofE Primary School

School Newsletter: March 2019

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HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

Dear Families,

Welcome back after the half term break. It has been great to see everyone this week and thank you for so many positive comments regarding the school and the staff at the recent parent evenings. The positive feedback is much valued and appreciated by all the members of staff. We would appreciate it if you are able to complete our annual parent questionnaires – they will be available in the playground (weather permitting) or in the office foyer for the next week. Your feedback is welcomed.

Fieldmice class assembly

The children did a fantastic job and have enjoyed talking about their learning. It shows great confidence to stand up in front of the school and parents to talk about what they have done and I thought they were brilliant. There was some great maths, writing, artwork and if all the children grow up to be what they talked about in the assembly then our catchment area will be a very safe and happy one! Thanks to Mrs Forshaw, Mrs Rodbard and Mr Smith for their continued hard work, it takes a lot of time and effort to get the children ready.

Lockdown

Next week we will be having a lockdown practice at the school. This involves the children coming into the school sitting quietly on the carpet in their classrooms, locking all the doors, closing all the windows and blinds. We often have a fire alarm to evacuate the children, this is an evacuation procedure that locks the school down. We do this regularly throughout the year and will talk about it to the children beforehand.

Safeguarding

As you are aware, we have had some unwelcome visitors of the vermin kind this week but I am glad to inform you that there has been no rat activity on any of my school inspections in the morning and we will remain vigilant.

One area I would ask for your help with though pertains to a plea I put in my last newsletter that hasn't necessarily been adhered to. If you are picking your child up or coming into school for whatever reason during the day and the children are in the playground we would appreciate it if you could come straight into the school and not approach children over the gate. If this continues to be an issue then we will reconsider our arrangements but this hasn't been an issue in the past and we would appreciate your support in this matter so that we can secure the safeguarding of every child at the school.

PTFA events

Next week is the PTFA quiz and chips night. The staff have been studying hard to regain the much treasured and valued Quiz and Chips trophy and we hope that lots of teams will be able to challenge them and raise lots of money for the school.

Science week

We have some marvellous activities planned for our science week, which is rapidly turning into a science term. Already, parents have been volunteering to come in and talk about their careers and work with the children. We also have visitors from Cambridge University, British Antarctic Survey, Life Education Bus and there will be a whole school display from the Raptor Foundation.





Life Education Bus – 6th March

The school feels passionately about keeping children safe and the Life Education Bus is something that we fund every two years as feel it is a very important part of our PSHE programme. If you want to know anything about the Life Education Bus there is a parental session at the end of the day (3.05pm 6th March); please email admin@greatwilbraham.cambs.sch.uk if you would like to attend. There is also a link below with details of the content of the sessions and I have attached a synopsis on our website. Do get in touch if you wish to discuss it.

<https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/services-to-schools/pshe/programmes/life-education-cambridgeshire/>

Science question

One of the agenda items on the last parent forum was the use of the science question in the newsletter and how it was used at home. A suggestion was to have an assembly where children brought in examples of how they answered the question and I think this is a great idea. This month the question is 'do big seeds grow big plants?' and any way that children work with families on this we would love to hear in a special assembly on Friday 22nd March. Perhaps the children could bring in a photograph, a picture and even some seeds to talk about. Although we won't be able to have parents in for this assembly, I will have some science awards and house points to give out as an incentive!

Richard Brown

Highest year group attendance to date: Year 2 with 96.81%

Reminders and Notices

Sport

We have many fantastic things planned for sport and PE at Great Wilbraham this half term. Badgers have a touch rugby tournament coming up, as well as starting their play leadership responsibilities. This will put them in charge of running fun, active games during lunchtime for the other children in the school.

Governors

The Governing Body plans to meet on Tuesday 26th March, Friday 3rd May and Friday 12th July.

To contact the Governing Body please email clerk@greatwilbraham.cambs.sch.uk or speak to any of the Governors; details of who they currently are can be found on the school website -

www.greatwilbraham.cambs.sch.uk/

PTFA

Please can we request raffle prizes for the Quiz Night next week; do you have any unwanted Christmas gifts you like to get rid of and could donate please? Any donations of raffle prizes would be gratefully received for either the quiz night or future events. Please leave with the office until 8th March or bring on the night.

Many thanks as always and we're looking forward to a fun evening!

PTFA Committee



Proposed Dates 2018 - 2019

Spring Term 2019

Wednesday 6th March—Life Education Centre visit
 Thursday 7th March – World Book Day—dress as your favourite book character
 Friday 8th March - Hedgehog Class Sharing Assembly and Book Look
 Friday 8th March—PTFA Quiz Night
 Week beginning 11th March—Science Week
 Monday 11th March—Hedgehogs STEM Day with visiting engineer
 Monday 11th March—Science Week Lunch
 Thursday 14th March—Outreach visit from Raptor Foundation to all classes
 Thursday 14th March—Team of Year 5/6 to Tag Rugby
 Friday 15th March—Comic Relief—wear red and bring £1 for Comic Relief
 Friday 15th March—Science Week display available to parents from 2.30pm
 Monday 18th March – Class Group photos
 Tuesday 19th March—Badger Class visit to Wicken Fen
 Thursday 21st March - Badger Class Sharing Assembly and Book Look
 Friday 22nd March – PTFA Beetle Drive
 Monday 25th March—Year 3/4 to Choir Festival—Burwell
 Tuesday 26th March – Governors Meeting
 Friday 29th March—BMX Assembly plus workshop for Year 5/6
 Friday 29th March – Mothers Day lunch—fully booked
 Tuesday 2nd April – Easter Service 2.15pm – Little Wilbraham
 Wednesday 3rd April – Spring Concert 9.15am
 Thursday 4th April – PTFA Cake Sale & Easter Tea
 Friday 5th April – Easter lunch
 Friday 5th April – school closes

Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 16th April—1st round offers made for Reception
 Tuesday 23rd April – school re-opens
 Thursday 25th April—Team of Year 5 taking part in Maths Challenge
 Friday 3rd May – Governors Meeting
 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

Friday 17th May—PTFA Bingo
 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
 Wednesday 5th June—Swimming starts for KS2
 Thursday 6th June—Year 5/6 to Quadkids event
 Week beginning 10th June - Phonics Screening Checks
 Friday 14th June – Fathers Day lunch
 Monday 17th June—Reception vision screening
 Thursday 20th June—Year 3/4 to Sport for All event
 Friday 21st June - Squirrel Class Sharing assembly and Book Look
 Friday 28th June - Fieldmice Class Sharing assembly and Book Look
 Saturday 29th June—Piece of Cake 10k Run & School Fete
 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
 Wednesday 24th July – Leavers Assembly 9.15am
 Wednesday 24th July—School closes

2019 - 2020

Autumn Term 2019

Tuesday 3rd September—staff training day (tbc)
 Wednesday 4th September—School Opens
 Monday 21st—Friday 25th October—half term
 Monday 28th October—staff training day (tbc)
 Thursday 19th December—School Closes
 Friday 20th December—staff training day (tbc)

Spring Term 2020

Monday 6th January—staff training day (tbc)
 Tuesday 7th January – School Opens
 Monday 17th—Friday 21st February—half term
 Friday 3rd April—School Closes

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20th April—School Opens
 Monday 4th May—May Day Holiday
 Friday 22nd May—staff training day (tbc)
 Monday 25th—Friday 29th May—half term
 Tuesday 21st July—School Closes