



Great Wilbraham CofE Primary School

School Newsletter: July 2017

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HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been an incredibly busy end of term and one I hope the children have enjoyed. Squirrel class assembly was fantastic, the open morning was a great success and congratulations must be made to the Year 3/4 athletics team who all won bronze medals at the recent Youth Games event. More recently the performance of Oliver last week was phenomenal and I would like to congratulate Mrs Neish, the children and staff who helped make it such a success. Many of you also attended and I hope you enjoyed it as much as me.

I was so proud of the children during our whole school trip to Milton this week. They were so well behaved and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. To see children working well together from across the school was a delight to see. I would like to thank all the parents, staff and volunteers who helped on Tuesday, your support is really valued.

Today we see end of the primary school journey for our year six pupils. I would like to say what a privilege it has been to be part of their school life and I am certain Mrs Neish would agree with me that they have been a pleasure to teach. I wish them every success at their future schools, they are ready for their next stage of education and I hope they will remember Great Wilbraham primary fondly.

We will also say farewell to two members of staff today. Mrs Babouris has taught in Fieldmice all year, we would like to thank her for her support and efforts and wish her well at her new school in Cambridge. Mrs Horsfield is also leaving today, she has worked at the school for over 16 years and loves the school; we wish her every success in North Lincolnshire at her new school and we will miss her greatly. We would like to welcome Mrs Forshaw into Fieldmice class in September and look forward to working with her, she has already been in a couple of times and is looking forward to starting in the new academic year.

This summer we would like the children to get caught reading in creative ways and we have also had the Library Service deliver an assembly about their summer reading challenge. The reading challenge is a great way to get children into libraries and earn a medal for their reading. We hope that the children may use some of the new books purchased at the school book sale yesterday for the reading challenge; huge thanks once again to Suzanne Northfield and Aga Hextall for running this.

Many parents have asked what they could do over the summer to support their child's learning. An area which can fit in with holidays and will stand the children in good stead would be to develop telling the time and using money in real situations. Talking about what the time it is at key points during the day, how long a car journey or flight may take or world time zones is a great way of embedding learning. Paying for ice cream, counting change on holiday or estimating the cost of a meal encourages mental arithmetic in real situations without needing to be a didactic worksheet task. However, the main objective of the summer break is for the children to rest, recuperate and enjoy their time off!

It is the end of an excellent year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped this year be such a success. Ofsted came and went within a day and we were pleased to achieve the Good grading with the new high standards. This term was followed up by the SIAMS inspection assessing us as Outstanding. The staff have worked incredibly hard throughout the year and deserve huge thanks for their efforts. The children are all looking forward to summer break but we look forward to seeing them and yourselves again in September.



Have a great summer, and thank you for your support this year,

Richard Brown





Dates 2017 - 2018

Autumn Term 2017

4th September—Staff Training Day—School Closed

5th September—School Opens

23rd—27th October—Half Term

30th October—Staff Training Day—School Closed

Friday 15th December—School Closes

Tuesday 31st October—Individual & Family photos

Thursday 9th November—Flu Vaccinations for children in Years R—4

Monday 18th December—Staff Training Day—School Closed

Tuesday 19th December—Staff Training Day—School Closed

Spring Term 2018

3rd January—School Opens

12th—16th February—Half Term

Thursday 29th March—School Closes

Summer Term 2018

Monday 16th April—School Opens

Tuesday 24th April—Class & Group photos

Monday 7th May—May Day Holiday

28th May—1st June—Half Term

Monday 4th June—Staff Training Day—School Closed

Tuesday 24th July—School Closes

A full list of dates will be circulated early in September



Goodbye Year 6 and Good Luck for the future!

*Do you have a concern or query about your child, or would you just like someone to talk things over with?
Come along to one of our Parent Drop-ins and chat to the experienced Family Workers.*

No need to book - Just turn up.

Tuesdays 2.00 - 3.15 pm

26th September, 28th November, 23rd January and 27th February

There are other drop-ins regularly at Burwell, Bottisham, Fen Ditton, Teversham, Kettlefields, Soham and Isleham
- please ask for details.



Dear Parents,

Well, the Summer holidays are here at last. Hopefully, you can take some time off and enjoy the weather and if you do manage to get away may I wish you idle days and lazy nights.

For the school, the Summer term brought some more positive news as we were rated 'Outstanding' at our recent SIAMS inspection. As well as echoing the conclusions of the OFSTED inspection with regards to the quality of teaching and learning and young people's behaviour and well-being, the inspector found the school possesses 'a deeply embedded distinctively Christian vision that 'prepares pupils to be inquisitive and active learners as children of God.'

As a Church of England School, it was a wonderful assessment of the work and support that the staff and local Christian community afford the young people of GWPS and again I would like, on behalf of the Governing body, to extend my congratulations and thanks to the staff and yourselves for ensuring our young people have the best of school experiences.

Meeting of the Governing Body: 14th July 2017

Administration of the Governing Body

- No issues arising.

Operational Business

- Governors reviewed the recent Special Educational Needs (SEN) report from our Local Authority consultant. GWPS supports a higher than national average number of young people with SEN (inc those with emotional and behaviour issues; diagnosed learning barriers; highly academic achievers) whose needs impact upon their ability to access the school curriculum fully.

As a Governing body, we were pleased to hear staff are good at identifying SEN at an early stage and that parents and young people are engaged in the process of planning and reviewing the delivery of interventions. Our strategic role means that we are keen to ensure that any interventions meet the young person's needs and can be met within existing resources. To this end Holly Tilbrook (named Governor for SEN) will be meeting with Mr Brown and the school SENCO to review current interventions in the 2017/18 Autumn term.

- The Governing body reviewed and signed off the SRE policy.
- The Governing body reviewed recent learning walks completed by named governors in the areas of Health & Safety, Early Years and Maths.

Strategic Business

- As was noted in my previous report, despite the results of the recent general election which has meant that some of the concerns that existed regarding future education policy are unlikely to be realised (at least in the short term) the question of academisation remains an area of due consideration for the Governing body and Mr Brown.

As was noted in my last report, given the positive academic and financially position of the school, academisation is not in our interests at this time. However, it is our view that it is an area that requires further ongoing consideration and to this end the FGB are to set up a working party to look at academisation in more depth.

Finally, on behalf of The Governors I would like to wish all for those young people who are leaving us to begin at secondary school in September the best of luck and to paraphrase Einstein – remain curious and never stop questioning.

Have a wonderful summer.

The Governing Body plans to meet on

19 September 2017

Brendan Reid

Chair of Governors