



## HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

Dear Parents/Carers,

November seems to have flown by and already we are in the preparations for Christmas. The Christmas service is being organised, the class hampers are starting to build up (please see your class teacher for information), the school are learning songs for the December production, cards have been made and delivered and the PTFA are working hard on events leading up to the end of term.

This Friday sees the first of these events. There will be a cake sale in the playground (or the group room if wet) after school. If families could bring cakes to sell Friday morning it would be great – nut free where possible please. The PTFA are asking for donations towards the cakes, there is no pricing, pay whatever you feel the cakes are worth! The profits from the cake sale will go directly to fund a music performance and workshop next term which costs £200. Also on Friday we have our termly book sale. Those who have been saving will be able to choose books in the afternoon before there is a open book sale to everyone from 3pm until 3.45pm. There are some fantastic books at a reduced price that we feel offer great value and the children will enjoy.

Another way of making a difference is by signing up the school as your charity preference with your Co-op card. 1% of all the purchases made at the Co-op goes towards their chosen charities of the year, this year we are one of them so don't forget to add us as your chosen charity!

It has already been a busy half term, Brian Moses came in earlier this month and we had a marvelous couple of days with him. The family writing evening was great fun and the children enjoyed working with and listening to Brian the following day. He was impressed with the poetry the children were producing and even published one year six's work on his blog! We would all like to thank our anonymous benefactor for funding this visit, it was well worth it and inspiring for the children.

This week both Hedgehog class and Badger class have had exciting school trips. Badger class had an immersive experience at Stibbington during their evacuee day and Hedgehog class visited two museums in Cambridge – see our twitter feed for pictures. Thank you to all the staff and volunteers who helped on the trips, the children really appreciate it.

In December we will again start our 'opposite advent'. Every day throughout the month we will put out a box for donations to Jimmy's night shelter. Please donate what you can - it could be socks, hats, gloves, pasta, tins – donations will be warmly welcome and a separate Parentmail will come out with full details on. We feel it is a great opportunity to give back to others at this time of year and we wouldn't be asking for a lot individually, but together we can make quite a difference.

Many thanks,

Richard Brown





## Attendance and the School Day

Please can you ensure that your child/ren arrive at school at the correct time in the morning and are collected promptly at the end of the school day. School opens at 8.40am and registration is at 8.50am. If children arrive after 8.50am please bring them in the front door to sign in. If they get here after the register has been done then this counts as an absence for attendance figures. We will be sending out attendance letters tomorrow to parents of all pupils whose attendance is below 95%.

School finishes at 3.15pm for all children in Years R, 1 and 2 and at 3.20pm for those in Years 3 - 6. We know that sometimes there are exceptional circumstances which mean parents are occasionally late to collect their children but we do provide an after school club Mondays to Thursdays so if you are not going to be able to collect your child on time please book them into Discovery Club. If children are not collected on time and we have not received a message from parents to say they are arriving imminently then they will be asked to join Discovery Club whilst attempts are made to contact parents. A charge will be made for the time spent in Discovery Club.

## Keeping Safe

Please can we remind you that children should not be using the play equipment before and after school. We have also noticed some children climbing the trees near to the kitchen door after school. Please can you ensure that children are kept with you in the playground at pick up time and are not allowed to climb the trees. Finally can we remind you that bikes should not be ridden on the school premises, please dismount and mount bicycles outside the gate and wheel bikes when on the premises. Thank you.

## Governors:

The Governing Body plans to meet on  
Thursday 1st February @ 6.30pm  
Thursday 22nd March @ 6.30pm  
Wednesday 9th May @ 8am (Budget ratification)  
Friday 6th July – Governor morning from 8.45am



## PTFA:

We are delighted that the Co-op has chosen Great Wilbraham Primary School for the next round of the Co-op local community fund. This means that every time members shop at the Co-op 1% of what you spend on own brand products and services goes to our school. We need as many parents, friends and relatives to sign up for a Co-op membership card, sign in and choose Great Wilbraham Primary School as a local cause then spend on own brand products. This can be done online starting on 12th November and we will receive the money for 11 months. As an incentive any parents who successfully nominates Great Wilbraham as a local cause will be entered into a draw for a prize. The draw will take place at the school disco on 8th December so please sign up by then and inform Helen Barry that you have successfully nominated Great Wilbraham Primary as your local cause. Any questions speak to Helen Barry who is happy to help you with the process.

On Friday afternoon the PTFA will be running the first of our monthly cake sales. This month we are attempting to raise £200 in order to pay for a musical day in school next term as part of the Cambridgeshire Music Live Festival. The PTFA is going to entirely fund this wonderful day but in order to do so we need you to eat cake! There will be a lovely selection of bakes to buy, but instead of the usual set price we are going to leave it to your discretion as to what you think you should pay for the cakes. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

**PTFA Committee**



## Dates 2017 - 2018

### Autumn Term 2017

Thursday 16th November—Applications opened for Primary School places in September 2018—*please contact Mrs Crisp if you have any queries*

Friday 24th November - Badger Class Sharing Assembly and 'Book Look'

Friday 24th November—Book Club Book Sale—pm

Friday 24th November—PTFA Cake Sale—pm

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November - Yr 5/6 to Cross Country at Netherhall

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November - Parent Drop-in 2.00 - 3.15pm

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December - Christmas Lunch—Fully booked—slips have been sent home giving sitting times—any queries please check with the office

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Panto to school 2pm

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am – Dress rehearsal

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2.15pm – Christmas Service to include Christingle

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Performance – 2pm—ticket requests have been sent home

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Performance – 6pm—ticket requests have been sent home

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December - School closes

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December—Staff Training Days

### Spring Term 2017

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January—School opens

Tuesday 9th January—Epiphany Service at Great Wilbraham Church—2.15pm

15<sup>th</sup> January - National closing date for primary places

Thursday 18th January—Census Day—all KS1 children to be offered a meal

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January - Parent Drop-in 2.00 - 3.15pm

Thursday 1st February—Squirrel Class Sharing Assembly and 'Book Look'

Thursday 1st February—Governors Meeting

Thursday 8th February—Fieldmice Class Assembly and 'Book Look'

12<sup>th</sup> —16<sup>th</sup> February—Half Term

Thursday 22nd February—Team of Yr 5/6 players to Tag Rugby tournament

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February - Parent Drop-in 2.00 - 3.15pm

Thursday 1st March—World Book Day

Thursday 1st March—2 teams of Yr 5/6 players to Quick-sticks hockey tournament

Thursday 8th March—Hedgehog Class Sharing Assembly and 'Book Look'

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March – Mother's Day Lunch

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March – Class & Group vista photos

Thursday 15th March—Badger Class Sharing Assembly and 'Book Look'

Thursday 22nd March—Governors Meeting

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Easter Service 2.15pm

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March - Spring Concert 9.15am

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Lunch

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March – School closes

### Summer Term 2017

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April—School opens

Thursday 26th April—National Child Measuring Programme—Yr R & Yr 6

Monday 30th April—Hedgehog Class trip to Warner Brothers Harry Potter Studios

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May – May Day holiday

Thursday 10th May—Group of Yr 4 to mini tennis

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> –Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> – KS2 SATS

Thursday 17th May—Census Day

Tuesday 22nd May—Sports Morning

Friday 25th May—Open Morning & Picnic Lunch

28<sup>th</sup> May—1<sup>st</sup> June—Half Term

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Staff Training day

Tuesday 5th June—Pentecost Service—2.15pm

Thursday 7th June—group of Yr 5/6 pupils to Quadkids athletics

Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> June - Phonics Screening Check Week

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June – Father's Day lunch

Tuesday 19th June—Squirrel Class Sharing Assembly and 'Book Look'

Thursday 21st June—Yr 3/4 to Youth Games

Tuesday 10th July—Fieldmice Class Sharing Assembly and 'Book Look'

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July—School closes