



Great Wilbraham Primary Academy

Executive Headteacher: Mr David Sandford

Great Wilbraham C of E Primary School, Church Street, Great Wilbraham, Cambridge, CB21 5JQ, 01223 880408

Our Vision: 'With God, all things are possible'

Our Core Values: Love, thankfulness, courage and wonder

Dear Families,

Hi again everyone. It has been another excellent week here at Great Wilbraham. Children are working so hard.

I am proud to announce that our Prayer Team have been appointed, and they will be working with me next week on the script for the Harvest Festival. I want the children to run our performances and services and, after they have been introduced, they will run the whole show. They are all excited by this opportunity and I am sure they will do the school and community proud.

Phonics Sessions

Alice Leadbeter, our Fieldmice Lead, spent 2 mornings this week explaining about our new phonics scheme – Little Wandle. Parents had relevant elements of the scheme explained and then had an opportunity to watch their children in a live phonics session. The aim was to really bring home to parents the effectiveness of Little Wandle. A huge thank you to Alice for her work in this area.

On one of the sessions, I gave an alarming statistic to parents:

'Less than 15% of children from low-income families who are behind by the age of 7, will go on to achieve 5 good (5+) GCSEs – including maths and English'

This, and other similar quotes, really bring home to necessity to get reading right from the word go. All our teachers are always available to support and advise parents and children in this area.

Badgers trip to Cambridge

On Thursday this week, Badger went to the Fitzwilliam Museum to enhance their studies of Ancient Egypt. Please see below for some photos of their excellent day!



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Behaviour Questionnaire

A huge thank you to the 12 of you (so far) who have contributed to the questionnaire. I will be sending another one out next regarding the whole school as I am very keen to collect views on a huge range of topics.

Safeguarding at Great Wilbraham C of E Primary Academy

The Diana Award - the charity set up in memory of the late Diana, Princess of Wales - exists to empower young people to change the world.

One of four programmes offered by The Diana Award, the Anti Bullying Programme, engages young people, parents/carers and teachers to tackle bullying behaviour in all its forms across the UK.

This amazing website built around the annual award has lots of super advice for parents and carers. It is widely used in school for children aged 7-14 and it is so helpful. It has many aspects that children, parents and carers would find informative and supportive.

<https://www.antibullyingpro.com/support> (hopefully the link works!)

World Mental Health Day

On Friday 10th October, it is World Mental Health Day. Children and adults alike can wear something yellow to support this hugely important cause.

Please do remember this is individual and sibling photo day so you may want to send something that your children can easily slip on after having their photograph taken (or of course they can just wear their school uniform polo shirt as their yellow!).

Please join us and thousands of schools, companies and communities across the UK by coming together to wear yellow on World Mental Health Day, Friday 10th October.

Wear a splash of yellow and a donation for Young Minds <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/> and show children and young people they're not alone with their mental health. Parents can join in by wearing the colour on the school run when dropping off. Thank you

Parents Evenings

These will be happening later this month. Booking is open on Arbor.

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Speaking and Listening

Here are two conversation starters. Research tells us that it is so important that we engage in meaningful conversations with our children. It helps them to grow as both speakers and listeners.

1) Are all inventions good? (I like this one!)

2) What makes a good friend?

These are just fun ideas for a discussion to have with your family or friends. The intention is to provide an opportunity for fun discussions as a family. Hope they are useful! Enjoy!

I would like to remind all parents that your children shouldn't be bringing in 'precious' personal items into school. We cannot be held responsible for them if we do not know they are here!

Have a great weekend

David and the GW team

Attendance expectations

Attendance whole school 2024-25: 97.3%

Best class attendance: Squirrel Class 98.3%

Dates 2025 – 2026

Autumn term

Wednesday 8th October – Team of Year 4,5,6 to Tag Rugby

Thursday 9th October – Fieldmice Class to Little Wilbraham – wildflower planting

Friday 10th October – Individual and sibling photos

Friday 10th October – World Mental Health Day – wear something yellow

Monday 13th October – 2.15 pm – Harvest Festival – Little Wilbraham Church

Monday 20th October – Author visiting Hedgehog and Badger Classes

Tuesday 21st October – STEM Space challenge – Hedgehog and Badger Classes

Wednesday 22nd October – 3.30 – 7.30 pm - Parent Consultation meetings

Thursday 23rd October – Year 6 to STEM event at AstraZeneca with Year 6 from Burrough Green

Friday 24 October – School closes

Monday 27 October to Friday 31 October – Half Term

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Monday 3 November – School opens

Wednesday 5th November – ISP meetings

Thursday 6th November – Cooking and Food Waste Workshops

Friday 14th November – Children in Need

Tuesday 18th November – Year 4 – 6 cinema trip

Wednesday 19th November – R – Year 3 cinema trip

Wednesday 26th November – whole school trip to Ely (more details soon)

Wednesday 26th November – Panathlon event

Wednesday 26th November – LGB meeting

Monday 1st December – PTFA funded pantomime to Years R - 6

Tuesday 9th – Friday 12th December – Year 5 and 6 residential trip to Flatford Mill

Friday 19 December – School closes

Monday 22 December to Friday 2 January – Christmas Holidays

Spring term dates 2026

Monday 5 January – Professional Development Day – School Closed

Tuesday 6 January - School opens

Wednesday 28th January – LGB meeting

Friday 13 February – School closes

Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February – Half Term

Monday 23 February – School opens

Tuesday 17th March – Class Photos

Wednesday 25th March – LGB meeting

Friday 27 March – School closes

Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April – Easter Holidays

Summer term dates 2026

Monday 13 April – School opens

Thursday 16th April – National offer date for primary places

Monday 4th May – May Day Holiday – School closed

Monday 11th – Thursday 14th May – KS2 SAT's

Wednesday 20th May – KS2 scootering event

Wednesday 20th May – LGB meeting

Friday 22 May – School closes

Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May – Half term

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Monday 1 June – School opens

Wednesday 8th July – LGB meeting

Thursday 16th July – School closes

Friday 17th July and Monday 20th July – Professional Development Days – School Closed

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