



"Inclusion at our Heart"

December 2017



Dear Parents & Carers

As we come towards the end of the term and the calendar year I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the support that you have shown the school in the recent months – it truly is much appreciated. This Autumn term has been a very successful one, with all of our pupils working hard and making very good progress. I am also very pleased to report that attendance within the school is rising too, and I am very grateful for the part that all of our teachers, parents, children and staff play in that effort.

This is a lovely time to be in a primary school, with some fantastic displays and decorations up around the school, nativity plays and carol concerts occurring and lots of other end of term Christmas treats. The children are really enjoying the festivities and deserve them after all of their hard work. I would also like to say a very special 'Thank you' to all of the volunteers from our PTFA for the huge amount of work that they have put in for the recent Christmas Fair. There were many hours of work that went into setting up the school, particularly making Father Christmas feel welcome in his grotto, and I hope that you all enjoyed their efforts. If there are any more parents and carers that would like to help out with the PTFA then please do get in touch with the school.

Finally, I would also like to congratulate all of the pupils that have represented Team Garlinge so far this academic year in any of the sporting events that have been organised. We have competed in many different sports so far and the children have always demonstrated the school's PART values, achieving an increasing amount of success on the field. In fact, the school football team have got to the final of the coveted Les Riggs Cup, which they will play later on in term 3. I wish them the very best of luck in the final as well as for the school's continued sporting success in the New Year.

I wish you all a very happy and restful Christmas and New Year break and I look forward to welcoming the pupils back on Thursday 4th January 2018.

J. Williams

Mr J Williams
Headteacher



1000 Mile Challenge

Well done to all those children and staff who participated in the 1000 mile challenge. In the space of a week, we walked/hopped/ran a grand total of 1043 miles; the equivalent of the distance from Margate to Rome! We raised a magnificent total of £2415.57 for the NSPCC. Many thanks to all parents and families for your continuous support of our fabulous children.

Children in Need



On Friday 17th November, our children showed their support for the annual Children in Need event by making donations.

The main fundraising event of that day was the cake sale, which raised £374.92. Big thank you to Year 6 children who helped with the selling of the cakes and to all parents who made/donated cakes and biscuits.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported this great cause.

Goodbye

This Christmas we are waving goodbye to a number of staff who are retiring or moving on to pastures new: **Mrs Mason**, one of our Teaching Assistants; **Mrs Singleton** from our Inclusion Team and **Mrs Turp**, one of our Teachers, who is retiring after 17 years spent at Garlinge. We would like to thank them for making a difference and for many happy memories at Garlinge. It has been a pleasure to work alongside them and we wish them all the best with a “farewell and good luck!”



Pupil Progress and Attendance Information

We believe that it is important to keep parents and carers fully informed about the progress that their child is making at school. You will soon be receiving a letter outlining the assessment band that your child is currently working at for the end of Term 2 and their end of year targets. There will be information on the letter to show you whether your child is on track to achieve the expected standard by the end of the year. This letter will also include attendance figures for the first two terms. If you have any questions following this information please do not hesitate to speak to your child’s class teacher.

Severe Weather Condition

We will always attempt to keep our school open if at all possible when there is severe weather.

In the event of school having to close, information will be available via:

- Text message service (please ensure you keep your mobile number up-to-date).
- KCC website www.kentschoolsclosures.co.uk. Search for Garlinge Primary School and Nursery in the search box.
- School website www.garlingeprimary.co.uk/

In the unlikely event that our catering team would be unable to provide a school meal, parents would be informed via the website and a text message at the earliest opportunity. Parents would then need to provide a packed lunch. Don’t forget suitable warm clothing – gloves, hats, scarves, wellies etc. or even a change of clothing.



Packed lunches



Please ensure that your child’s lunch box is clearly named. We would ask that you provide a drink (not fizzy) with their lunch, avoiding cans and containers which might leak or **flasks containing hot drink or food**. Can I remind you neither peanut butter/chocolate spread nor sweets are allowed. Crisps, biscuits and other such treats should also be kept to a minimum. Please ensure to include a spoon if your child has a yoghurt etc.

To help us protect our children please can we ask you to cut grapes and cherry tomatoes lengthways or into quarters, to avoid choking.

Spare Clothes

As all children may need a change of clothes for different reasons, we need to keep a good supply of spare pants and trousers in school. If you have any unwanted tights, socks or tracksuits bottoms, especially boys’ clothes, we would be very grateful to have them in Foundation Stage. Also, if school lends your child clothes, please return them as soon as possible. Thank you



Christmas Dinner

A BIG thank you goes out to the Principals Catering kitchen staff, Maggie and her team, who produced an excellent Christmas dinner last week, catering for 630 pupils and staff! The food was absolutely delicious and there was a very festive atmosphere in the dining hall.

Job Vacancies

We currently have a vacancy for a **Midday Meals Supervisor** working 10 hours a week to support our children at lunchtime. The hours are from 11.20am to 13.20pm, 5 days a week, term time only (38 weeks per year). The pay is approximately £7.50 per hour, or £3,311 per annum pro rata.

We also have a vacancy for a **Cleaner** for 11.25 hours per week. The hours are 6.30am to 8.45am, Monday to Friday, 42 weeks per year (term time, INSET days, one week in the Easter break, first and last weeks of the summer break). The pay for this role is set at Kent Range 2 which is approximately £7.50 per hour, or £4,085 per annum pro rata.

If you are interested in applying for either of these positions, please request an Application Form from the school office or you can apply online via the advert on www.kent-teach.com. The closing date for both positions is Friday 5 January 2018.

Every Minute Counts

Every time your child is late to school their progress could drop in ALL subjects!

Please work with us to give your child the best chances of learning by ensuring they are on time every day.

 LATENESS = LOST LEARNING (Figures below are calculated over a school year)	
5 minutes late each day	3 days lost!
10 minutes late each day	6.5 days lost!
15 minutes late each day	10 days lost!
20 minutes late each day	13 days lost!
30 minutes late each day	19 days lost!

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow!

Tips to help you and your child make going to school easier:

1. Help them to get their school bag ready the night before.
2. Make sure you have their uniform ready especially after the weekend or holidays.
3. Get them to bed at a reasonable time so they have a good night's sleep.
4. Make sure they have a good breakfast.
5. Remind them to set off for the bus or start walking early enough so they won't be late. **Punctuality is important!**



17 Day Christmas Challenge! Monday 27th November – Tuesday 19th December!

As we reach the end of the year, Garlinge Primary School and Nursery are holding our first challenge to see who can achieve 100% attendance over the last 17 days of this term.

Every child who is at school on time for the 17 days will be entered into a draw to win a £25 Smyths voucher!

7 Prizes to be won- one for each year group!

FLO News

Would you like to come along for a **FREE** Adult Education course: 'Parents to Employment', starting on Wednesday, **17th January at 9.15am?**

The course will be running for 4 weeks and is designed to help mothers, fathers and carers recognise barriers to employment, work out how to overcome them and have the confidence to make decisions that are right for them and their families.

During the course, there will be the opportunity to discuss practical ideas to succeed when applying for a new job. You will also have the chance to reflect on what employment options might be right for you and your family and to look at your skills and strengths.

Another exciting **FREE** Adult Education Course: 'First Aid for families' will be running in February

Would you like to be able to recognise and treat someone choking? Learn how to place someone on the recovery position and many other valuable skills in First Aid? If so, come along to the 3-week course starting on the **27th February at 9:15am**. Information flyers will be sent out at the beginning of new term.



Coffee Morning

We hold our Coffee and Conversation mornings every Thursday between 8:55am and 10:00am in the ICT suite.

Drop your children off and meet us in the KS1 playground.



All parents, grandparents and carers are welcome.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Ali Gillatt (Family Liaison Officer) and Ewa Farrall (Minority Ethnic Outreach Worker)



Christmas Dates 2017

Wednesday 13th December	Year 2 Christmas Production 9:15pm KS1 Hall
Thursday 14th December	Year 3 Party Day
Thursday 14th December	Foundation Party Day
Thursday 14th December	St. James' Community Carol Concert 18:30 KS2 Hall
Friday 15th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 15th December	Year 4 Party Day
Friday 15th December	Year 5 Party Day
Friday 15th December	Year 2 Party Day
Friday 15th December	PTFA Christmas Movie Afternoon (15:45-18:00)
Monday 18th December	Year 6 Party Day
Monday 18th December	Year 1 Party Day
Tuesday 19th December	Non Uniform Day for winning House Team for Terms 1&2
Wednesday 20th December	INSET DAY – school closed
21st December 2017-3rd January 2018	Term Break
Thursday 4th January 2018	Return to School

