



“Inclusion at our Heart”

2nd October 2015

Dear Parents & Carers

I hope that everyone had a restful and enjoyable summer holiday – the children have settled well in with their new teachers and classrooms and are progressing well with their learning. Firstly, I would like to thank you all for your patience and perseverance over the past 14 months whilst we have had the major building works going on in the middle of our site. It has not been an easy time for pupils and staff alike but I hope you are as pleased as we are with the results and the fact that more than half of our classrooms are now less than 3 years old. We also have a beautiful new hall that is already being put to good effect. We are extremely proud of our school and the upward curve that we are undoubtedly on and we would like to invite you to come and have a look around your children’s classrooms and the new facilities after school on **Monday 12th October**. The school will be open to parents to have a look around from 3:15pm until 3:45pm (please allow a couple of minutes to let us dismiss the children!). You will have an opportunity to pop into your child’s classroom and the other new facilities if you wish. This is not a formal occasion (parent’s evening is on 11th November), but it would be lovely to see as many of you as possible.

I would also like to congratulate your children on another set of fantastic results. Once again, they have been the highest ever scores at Garlinge Primary. I am proud to say that Key Stage 2 children were well above the national averages in both progress and attainment for the first time, and Key Stage 1 scores went up for the 5th year in a row! They too are now slightly above national averages. The children in Reception also did brilliantly, achieving 10% more than the national average. I do hope that you are as proud of your children as we are!

One of our school targets this year is to try and increase the level of engagement that we have with our parents this year, encouraging them to take as great a part as possible in their children’s education. We have already held our Parent Information Afternoons for Years 1-6 (Reception coming soon!) and as a result of these, we have already arranged the informal visit to classrooms outlined above. We will also be aiming to make our school website both more informative and smartphone compatible and will be holding sessions in English and Maths to help you understand what your children are learning and how you can support them. We really do value your feedback and look to improve our provision wherever possible. If anyone has further suggestions, please do let me or one of my teachers know and we will see what we can do!

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible on the afternoon of the 12th!

J. Williams

Mr J Williams
Headteacher

ALL NEWSLETTERS & INFORMATION ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE www.garlingeprimary.co.uk & ON THE CAROUSEL BY THE SCHOOL OFFICE



Hedge Cutting

The hedges outside the front of the school need to be cut back and it has been arranged for this work to be carried out during week commencing 5 October. Even though we do not expect any damage to occur to parked vehicles, it may be in your best interest not to park along this part of Westfield Road. If you do park here, you do so at your own risk.



PTFA



The PTFA Annual General Meeting will be held on **Thursday 8th October in class 3D at 3.45pm**. We invite all parents/carers/friends to come along. It is important that we have volunteers come forward to help with fund raising and activities if the PTFA is to survive, we value your input. Please come along to the meeting and say hello and support us. Of course, children are very welcome!

School Photographs

On **Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th October** the photographer will be in school! It is extremely important that your child arrives on time on both days as they will be starting promptly. It will be very difficult to fit children in with our tight schedule and we cannot guarantee that their picture will be taken. The photos will be available for you to purchase before Christmas and could make an ideal present for family members.



MacMillan Coffee Morning



We were delighted to welcome parents and carers into our new hall to support the MacMillan Coffee Morning on 25th September. It is Macmillan's biggest fundraising event and people across the UK held a coffee morning with donations being made to Macmillan Cancer Support. This year Garlinge raised £162 towards this good cause, thank you very much!

Football



The school football team have already played 2 friendly tournaments and not only played well, but were given huge credit for how they conducted themselves at the both St Saviours and Upton schools. Well done!

The first round of the John Curran Cup starts this Friday at St Saviours followed by a Les Riggs Cup 1st round home tie vs Haddon Dene on Monday. Good Luck to all our players!

School Dinners

Principals Catering would like to remind parents of children in **Years 3 to 6**, that school meals **MUST** be paid for in advance, on the child's first school day of the week, for all of the days that the child is wanting a meal provided – **you will be unable to pay daily**. If your child does not pay at the beginning of the week, you will be contacted and asked to provide a packed lunch.

School dinners are **£2.15 per day, £10.75 per week**.

If you think that your child is eligible for free school meals, please apply on-line:

www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals

(or pick up an application form from the school office if you do not have on-line access).



Safety and Considerate Parking



Since the road system around Caxton Road has become One Way we have received a number of complaints from our neighbours regarding speeding and generally inconsiderate driving and parking. Please take extra care if you drive your children to school and observe the speed limits and **PLEASE DO NOT** park across driveways.

Also, remember that the busy staff car parks are particularly hazardous and parents and children should **NOT** walk across them, **footpaths MUST be used**. The safety of your children coming to and from school is very important.

Behaviour on School Premises

We would appreciate it if all parents and carers would be aware that whilst on school premises unacceptable language and behaviour is **not allowed**, and the school has a **no smoking** and **no dogs** policy.



Dates for your Diary 2015/2016

Monday 5 th October 2015	Hedge Cutting
Thursday 8 th October 2015	PTFA AGM 3.45pm in Class 3D
Monday 12 th October 2015	Invitation to look around our new building 3.15pm
Wednesday 14 th October 2015	Individual School Photographs
Thursday 15 th October 2015	Individual School Photographs
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th October 2015	Term Break
Tuesday 27 th October 2015	Garlinge Residents Association Coffee Morning 10.30 – 11.30am Old School Hall, Garlinge
Wednesday 11 th November 2015	Parents Evening – details to follow
Thursday 19 th November 2015	Perspective Year R Parents Sept 2016 Open Day
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th November 2015	Ant bullying Week
Monday 14 th December 2015	Christmas Party Week begins!
Monday 21 st December – Friday 1 st January 2016	Term Break
Monday 4 th January 2016	INSET – School closed
Monday 15 th – Friday 19 th February 2016	Term Break
Friday 25 th March 2016	Good Friday – School closed
Monday 28 th March 2016	Easter Monday – School closed
Tuesday 29 th March – Friday 8 th April 2016	Term break
Monday 11 th April 2016	INSET – School closed
Monday 2 nd May 2016	Bank Holiday – School closed
Monday 30 th May – Friday 3 rd June 2016	Term Break
Thursday 21 st July 2016	Last day of term – Normal finish time
Friday 22 nd July 2016	INSET – School closed

STICK ME ON YOUR FRIDGE!

