

Garlinge Primary School and Nursery



Years 3 and 4 –Summer Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It only seems like yesterday that I was writing to welcome you all to the Year 3 and 4 Department and now we have nearly completed our first year in our new building. The children are all working very hard and enjoying all that the summer term has to offer. There have been some more exciting developments on our school site, with the opening of the new outdoor play area in Key Stage 1. Although this is based in the Key Stage One Playground, I am sure that your children will keep you informed of times when they use it for play or as an outside learning area.

This newsletter aims to inform you of some key information and dates which will be useful at this busy time of year.

How you can help your child

Attendance and punctuality



We want all children at Garlinge to get the most out of their education, and attending school every day is an important part of your child's education. In Years 3 and 4, we are keen to promote good attendance and punctuality through a variety of rewards for individual pupils and classes which I'm sure your children will enjoy telling you about. Please help your children to appreciate the importance of regular attendance and good punctuality by ensuring that they arrive at school promptly at 8.45am in time for a smooth and organised start to the day. We ask that in the case of illness, that the school office is informed at the earliest opportunity.

Uniform

The children in Years 3 and 4 are looking lovely and smart and we would like all of the children to continue to take pride in their school uniform. A full uniform list is available on our school web-site www.garlingeprimary.co.uk or if you are unsure, please do speak to your child's class teacher. Please may I also take this opportunity to remind you that children should wear black shoes to school and not trainers or sandals. Also, children should not be wearing jewellery to school, apart from stud earrings and watches and the wearing of nail varnish to school is not permitted. We thank you for your support with this.

PE

Please continue to help your children to be organised for PE by making sure that they **always** have a PE kit in school. This should consist of a white T-shirt, dark shorts and plimsolls for indoor PE; trainers for outdoor PE. As the weather becomes warmer, the children are advised to wear their shorts for outdoor PE lessons, rather than jogging bottoms. Children with pierced ears will need to remove earrings when taking part in PE lessons; this can be done either at school or at home beforehand. I would also recommend that if you are considering having your child's ears pierced, that this is left to the longer summer break to ensure that children do not miss PE lessons.



Homework

The majority of the children in Years 3 and 4 always work hard on their homework, using their homework activities to reinforce their learning in class. Well done! We were particularly impressed with the imaginative and creative approach from the children towards recent Volcano Projects, completed by Year 4 for homework. Thank you for your support with these-they were a pleasure to display in the classrooms.



There are occasions when we need to remind children to hand their homework in on time whilst making sure that it is completed to the best of their ability. As your children prepare for the transition into Years 4 and 5, please help to ensure that they take pride in their homework tasks and develop more **independence** in their approach to this important part of school life.

Your children should bring home a reading book and spellings with them each day. Please remind them that it is their responsibility to ensure that these are brought home and returned to school each day. We are trying to encourage the children to have a more independent approach towards their learning and your support with this would be greatly appreciated.

Please support your child by listening to them read on a daily basis as well as spending time discussing their books with them. Our 'Buster's Book Club' competition continues to be popular, where children can record a target number of minutes spent reading at home to help towards the possibility of winning a class trophy. The children do really enjoy finding out which class has won the trophy, so please support your child with this and do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

Packed Lunch/Fruit



Please may we remind you that we are a nut free school and promote healthy eating. Therefore we request that chocolate spread in any form, e.g. cakes, croissants and in sandwiches is **not** permitted in any packed lunch. The children are also able to bring in a piece of fruit to eat at break times.

Warmer Weather

As the weather (hopefully) becomes warmer, please help to ensure that your child is suitably prepared at school. They are encouraged to bring in a water-bottle with a sports-cap lid, which can be filled from our water dispensers during the day. Although there are plenty of shaded areas on the playground, I would also recommend that sun cream is applied to your child on hotter days and that they have a sun hat/cap which they can wear at break and lunchtimes. Thank you for your support with this.

Topics and Learning

The main topic areas in Years 3 and 4 for the coming terms are as follows:

Year 3

	<u>Term 5</u>	<u>Term 6</u>
History/Geography	Rivers	Scotland
Science	Rocks and soils	Plants
RE	Judaism	Christianity

Year 4

	<u>Term 5</u>	<u>Term 6</u>
History/Geography	Volcanoes	Physical features of our world
Science	Living things	Animals including humans
RE	Islam	Islam

Parent Open Afternoons

This year, at Garlinge we are keen to share all the good learning that goes on in our classroom. Year 3 parents recently attended an Open Afternoon where they were invited to spend the afternoon with their child in class, supporting their learning. The Year 3 teachers would like to pass on their thanks to all the parents/carers who were able to attend and all reported that a fun and rewarding experience was had by all. Year 4 teachers greatly look forward to their Open Afternoon, which will take place in Term 6. (Please look out for your invite with details very soon).

Targets

All of the children have been given new targets for maths, reading, writing and science to ensure that they continue to move forward and make the progress expected of them. Children should know their targets and be constantly working towards achieving them in terms 5 and 6 so please do take the time to discuss these with your child.

Important Dates

Please take the time to check with your child each day to see if they have been given any letters as you will be informed regularly of any events/school news.

Key dates for your diary:

Friday 27th May-End of Term 5

Friday 10th June-Whole school celebration of Queen Elizabeth's 90th Birthday-details to follow

WB 13th June – year 3, 4 and 5 Assessment Week.

Thursday 30th June-Year 3 Beach School trip (Details to follow soon)

Thursday 7th July – Transition day (Year 3 and 4 children to meet their new teachers)

Friday 8th July – KS2 sports day (details to follow).

Saturday 16th July- Garlinge Summer Fair

Thursday 21st July – End of Term 6



Finally, if you have any questions regarding any of the information in this newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's class teacher.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs A.Goode
Lower Key Stage 2 Department Leader