



"Inclusion at our Heart"

**31st March 2017**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you once again for all your support over this term. It is amazing how quickly time has passed from Christmas until Easter and the children have once again done fantastically with their learning. It has been very nice to welcome so many of you into the school over the term to participate; whether in the learning afternoons in the classrooms, the wonderful year 4 Easter play or one of our PTFA led after school activities. It is always good to have parents in the school as it makes things even more special for the children as you are supporting their education so well.

I would also like to say a big 'Well Done' to all the children who have taken part in school sport so far this year. This is an area we recognise to be so important to the children's development and Mrs Mileham, Miss Allen and several other staff have worked extremely hard at improving the provision for the children. It was lovely to watch so many Garlinge pupils at the recent cross country event and there are many more exciting things planned for sport over the coming months.

Finally can I wish you a very restful and enjoyable Easter holiday. I hope that you enjoy some good weather and come back refreshed and ready for a productive summer term.

Mr J Williams  
Headteacher

### Red Nose Day



A **HUGE THANK YOU** and big well done for Red Nose Day, on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March, we raised a fabulous £700.00.

### Sport Events

Our school sports teams have been on impressive form this term. Our Year 4 hockey team finished in a well-deserved bronze medal position in their School Games qualifying event at Chatham House Grammar School. They played with great skill, determination and teamwork and were a credit to the school. Well done.

Our Cross Country team also did incredibly well with over 50 pupils taking part. It was a pleasure to see so many green Garlinge shirts in every race! Congratulations must go to all pupils who, without exception, competed with enthusiasm, pride and a smile on their faces! Thank you to all for being proud to represent our school.



### Ducklings

On Tuesday 8th March, 'Incredible Eggs' delivered 7 duck eggs for us to care for over 2 weeks. The Foundation Stage children have really enjoyed watching the eggs hatch into seven healthy ducklings. We spent time watching them grow and looking after them. The time came to say goodbye to the ducklings and we have sent them off to Manor House Forest School based at Quex Park to live. We have heard that they are very happy and are continuing to grow. The children in Reception are now looking forward to visiting them when our Forest School sessions start after Easter. Have a look at the Ducks Development Diary under the Foundation News link on the schools website.



### School Start and Finish Times

Pupils are reminded to arrive at school by 8.45am where they go straight into class, and have quiet time where they can read or finish school work. Pupils that arrive late **must** report, with their parent, to the school office and give the reason for their lateness, which is recorded.

#### **Why it is not good for children to be late:**

- They walk into a class being very noticeable by their peers and this can socially isolate them.
- They are missing important education
- It disrupts the other children in the class with their learning.
- Lateness teaches poor time keeping which may impact on them in later life



In the afternoons, the gates are opened at 3.00pm – please collect your child at 3.10pm for KS1 pupils and at 3.15pm for KS2 pupils.

There seems to be an increasing number of children being collected from the main school office at the end of the school day and this is causing us concerns for the children's safety. The staff in the school office are not able to watch every child as it is a very busy time and this may increase the chances of difficulties when children are being picked up late.

We would like to remind parents that there is **no access** through the Westfield Road office entrance to the playgrounds for dropping off and collection of children.

### School Meals and Universal Free School Meals

Principals Catering would like to remind parents of children in Years 3 to 6 that school meals **MUST** be paid for **IN ADVANCE**. This has to be on the child's first school day of the week, for all of the days that the child needs to have a meal provided. It is not possible 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](http://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). Our office staff are able to assist you if necessary.

Parents/guardians who receive any of the following benefits are entitled to Free School Meals:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (not including Working Tax Credit) - if the household income is below £16,190

#### **•Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit**

- an income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 if you are an asylum seeker

This applies to all pupils from Foundation Stage through to Year 6. If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact the School Office.

### Stagecoach Bus Company Presentation for Year 6 Children and Parents

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May there will be a presentation by Stagecoach to explain everything your child needs to know about using the buses to travel to and from secondary school. This will include information on Freedom Passes and timetabling. A letter with more details will be sent to Year 6 parents on the first day back of the new term.

### Responsible Parking

This new KCC scheme is an initiative to make us all stop and think about how we drive and park around the school.



As a driver you have a responsibility to park in a safe and considerate manner, if you don't you could be endangering a child's life. Please park with care and help make the area near and around our school a safer place for pupils.

If it is necessary to park on the roads around our school, remember:

- No parking on single or double yellow lines
- No double parking
- No stopping, dropping or parking on the School Keep Clear yellow zig zags
- No parking on corners or junctions especially near the school entrances
- Please do not block driveways

Following these rules will not only improve the safety of the area surrounding our school, it may also avoid you receiving a parking ticket!

### Scavenger and Great Eggcase Hunts

The Thanet Coast Project are running some exciting holiday activities this year, such as a "Scavenger and Great Eggcase Hunt" this April. Pop down to the beach for some fun, with talks, explorations and beach-art! For more information and how to book places, visit [www.thanetcoast.org.uk](http://www.thanetcoast.org.uk)



### Buster's Big Bash

Buster's Big Bash is a fantastic action –packed event for families, with lots of exciting things for children to see and do. It is run by the KM Charity Team to celebrate its successful green travel and literacy work with schools across the county. This is a free event, but tickets require advanced booking. To book your place, go to the website <http://www.kmcharityteam.co.uk/walktoschool/bigbash/>



### Reminders

- Please keep collecting the **Sainsbury Active Kids** vouchers.
- **Packed lunches**- To help us protect our children please can we ask you to cut **grapes** and **cherry tomatoes** lengthways or into quarters, to avoid choking.
- **Team Shirts** - If anyone still has a school team polo shirt please could they make sure they are returned before the end of term.
- **Scooters/Bikes** - We have received quite a few complaints from parents regarding children riding scooters/bikes whilst in the school playground. Due to health and safety risks to pupils and others this is not permitted. Therefore can we please ask you to ensure your child **does not** use these until they have left the school premises.

**Thank you**

## Dates for your Diary 2017- (31/03/2017)

Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017	Last Day of Term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	<b>EASTER TERM BREAK</b>
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	<b>INSET DAY</b>
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	Return to School
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	PTFA Uniform Sale
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2017	Bag2School- Non-Uniform Day
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	<b>KS2 SATS</b>
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	PTFA Book Share
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Year 6 Group Photos
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	PTFA Uniform Sale
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	Last Day of Term
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2017	<b>TERM BREAK</b>
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	Return to School
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> –Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	Year 6 Gaveston Hall Residential Visit /Activity Week
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	Race for Life
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	Summer Fair
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	Summer Discos
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	Last Day of Term
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2017	<b>INSET DAY</b>



Please take the time to either check in your child's book bag each day or visit our website to be informed of any events and/or school news. For all diary dates please visit the [EVENTS PAGE](http://www.garlingeprimary.co.uk) on our website [www.garlingeprimary.co.uk](http://www.garlingeprimary.co.uk).

**STICK ME ON YOUR FRIDGE!**



**ALL NEWSLETTERS & INFORMATION ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR NEW SCHOOLWEBSITE [www.garlingeprimary.co.uk](http://www.garlingeprimary.co.uk) & ON THE CAROUSEL BY THE SCHOOL OFF**

