

Garlinge Primary School and Nursery Newsletter

“Inclusion at our Heart”



February 2022



Message from the Executive Headteacher, Mr J Williams

It seems such a short time ago that we were entering into 2022 and here we are, already at the end of our first term of the year! As I am sure that you are aware, Covid has continued to bring difficulties to families, communities and schools across the country and we are very grateful for your communication and patience as we deal with the cases that occur in school. We have continued to try to keep clear lines of communication with our families and we appreciate your assistance with this matter. We will continue to work hard to minimise cases within school and we hope that we see a return to a more normal second half of the school year.

We continue to be very busy in school however and it has been lovely to see our Foundation Stage pupils celebrating Fairy Tales with a dressing up day, lots of enthusiasm for times tables via Times Tables Rock Stars and congratulations too to our handball team who have won the Thanet handball competition for the second time in succession – a fantastic achievement! Finally, I would like to wish you all a very relaxing and enjoyable half term holiday. Please don't forget that Monday 21st is an INSET day, so we look forward to welcoming all pupils back into school on **Tuesday 22nd February**.

Message from the Heads of School, Mr S Cope and Mrs A Northrop

It has already been a busy start to the New Year and it is good to see lots of us are still being successful with our New Year Resolutions! The children continue to work really hard in school and we are proud to share that they demonstrate the school values at all times. It is always a pleasure to see the children so engaged in their learning and see this presented so beautifully around the school. Please do have a look at the year group areas on the school website where you will be able to see some examples.

We continue to monitor and evaluate our Covid-19 risk assessments and would like to share some updates with you which we will implement after half term. We will continue to ensure good hand hygiene and that there is good ventilation around the school at all times. Face coverings will become optional in and around the school environment and may be worn at your discretion. Families who use the Caxton Road entrance will no longer be able to use the KS1 car park for entry on foot and will return to using the walkway onto the KS1 playground situated next to the car park. As you are aware, we have kept you fully updated of cases of Covid-19 since September. As we move forward we will continue to monitor these closely and only notify parents and carers if any temporary internal isolation measures (class bubbles) need to be put in place. We appreciate your understanding and support with this. We will continue to follow government guidelines and will keep you informed of any further changes.

Have a lovely half term break.

PE Department

The PE department have had another busy term. To find out more about all of the exciting things happening at Team Garlinge in PE, Sport and Physical Activities please see our PE and Sport magazine which can be found on our school website www.garlingeprimary.co.uk or in the 'Notices' section on Weduc.

I would just like to thank all of our wonderful pupils and families who support our PE and sport provision and make it so successful. Please continue to support your child by providing them with a full PE kit and don't forget to sign up to one of our fantastic sports clubs that are on offer again next term.

If you have any sporting successes that you would like to feature in our next PE and Sport magazine, please send your pictures and success story to Mrs Sparkes at PE@garlinge.kent.sch.uk.



Buster's Book Club



Our reading monitors have been busy counting the 'Reading Minutes' that you have been recording on your child's 'Buster's book club' bookmark every week.

This term, we have seen a pleasing rise in the number of children who read at home, but there is still some work to do. Please record any reading that you do with your child in their Home Reading Record, and on Wednesday record the total minutes they read that night on their 'Buster's Bookmark' (which should be inside their Home Reading Record).

Below are the reading targets that children should be aiming for:

Years R and 1 - Aim for at least 10 minutes of reading (sharing a book with an adult)

Years 2 and 3 - Aim for 15 minutes of reading (with an adult)

Years 4,5 and 6 - Aim for 20 minutes of reading (with an adult or independently)

Try to read at least 20 minutes- three times a week.

Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Wellbeing Workshops

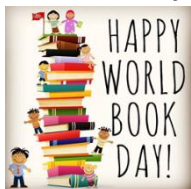
We are very much looking forward to welcoming Openview Education into Garlinge from Tuesday 22nd to Monday 28th February, to deliver a programme of wellbeing workshops for our children in **Year 1** through to **Year 6**. This is an excellent opportunity for pupils to learn interactively about 'wellbeing wisdom', the power of kindness and top wellbeing tips. Key Stage 1 workshops will be in the form of a puppet show performance where Milly will share her 'top tips'. There will be a follow up challenge that all teachers and pupils may take back and use in class during their PSHE, circle time and breaktime activities.

Ancient Greece Displays

The children in our lower KS2 were taken back in time to Ancient Greece and completed a range of craft and other activities. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed themselves and they were able to apply knowledge which they have already learnt.



World Book Day 2022



On **Thursday 3rd March**, we will be celebrating World Book Day at Garlinge Primary School and Nursery. The main aim of World Book Day is to encourage children to explore books and encourage the love of reading. Children will take part in a range of activities during the day and will get the opportunity to come to school dressed as their favourite book character.

PTFA

On Monday 31st January, our PTFA held a non-uniform Bag2School day giving everyone the opportunity to recycle any unwanted clothes, shoes and toys. Thanks to the efforts of everyone on that day the PTFA raised an amazing £384! Thank you to everyone that contributed on that day. The PTFA have more events planned, including some Easter fun – further information to follow.



In recent years, in the media we have seen the difference a defibrillator can make, especially at sporting events. Garlinge Primary School and Nursery is set over a large area meaning our existing defibrillator would need to travel quite a way if needed in the Key Stage 1 block or sports field. In a situation of cardiac arrest every minute is precious and the quicker the defibrillator gets to the patient the better the chances of a good outcome. Our existing defibrillator in the Key Stage 2 block is close to the sports hall and all of the KS2 playgrounds and classes. We are really pleased to inform all of our community that the PTFA have funded an additional defibrillator for us, at the cost of almost £1000. This will be placed in the Key Stage 1 building, which will reduce the time of getting the device to Nursery, Reception, all of KS1 classes and playground, as well as being closer to the sports field. Both defibrillators can be used for adults and children. They are fully automated so in the heat of the moment, clear instructions are given to aid use. We are sure you will agree that this is an incredible resource that, whilst we hope we will never need, could be invaluable.

Finally, on Monday 21st February (INSET day), the PTFA will be holding an Extraordinary General Meeting at 4:00pm via Zoom. If any parents or carers would like to attend virtually, or would like further information on how to get involved with the PTFA please email ptfa.garlinge@gmail.com

After School Clubs

After school clubs will commence in Term 4 from Monday 28th February. If your child has been accepted to an after school club you will receive a Weduc message from Monday 21st February to confirm the club details. If you do not receive a message, then your child will be added to the waiting list for that club. If you require any more information about after school clubs, please contact Mrs Verrall.

Polite reminders

- Please inform us if your child has any medical condition or allergies. If so, it is essential that you fill out or renew the Medical Needs Form which is available from the office.
- If you have changed address or telephone number recently, please notify the office of new details.
- Please note that parents should not use the staff car parks when delivering or collecting children from school without prior authorisation.
- All items of your child's belongings must be **clearly marked** with your child's name. Please be aware that pen or biro fades quickly and needs regularly replacing, so nametags are a good idea. Please include shoes, coats, bags, PE kits and lunch boxes in your labelling. If a named item is found, it is a lot easier for us to return it to your child.
- Dinner money is £11 a week (£2.20 a day) and is due on Mondays (or first day of school)
- Could we please remind parents that dogs are **not allowed** on the school premises at any time and that smoking/vaping is **not permitted**.
- Please be considerate of our neighbours and do not throw any waste or cigarette butts on the ground around the school.
- There have also been more cases recently of dog mess around the main entrances to school and on the pavement leading to the KS1 gate. Please pick up after your dog.

Dates for your Diary 2022



Friday 11th February	<i>Last Day of Term (normal finish time)</i>
<u>Monday 14th February – Friday 18th February</u>	TERM BREAK
Monday 21st February	INSET DAY
Tuesday 22nd February	<i>Return to School -Term 4 begins</i>
<u>Tuesday 22nd February - Wednesday 2nd March</u>	<i>Year 6 Bikeability training</i>
Tuesday 1st March	<i>Year 6 Secondary School places confirmed</i>
Tuesday 15th March	<i>Year 6 to accept or decline school places</i>
Friday 25th March	<i>Annual Pupil Reports to parents</i>
Wednesday 30th March	<i>Parents Evening</i>
Friday 1st April	<i>Last day of term (normal finish time)</i>
Monday 4th April – Monday 18th April	EASTER TERM BREAK
Tuesday 19th April	INSET DAY
Wednesday 20th April	<i>Return to school- Term 5 begins</i>



School Term Dates

Please consider term time dates carefully when booking any holidays for the year. For a full list of **term/holiday dates** please see the school website calendar

www.garlingeprimary.co.uk

ALL NEWSLETTERS & INFORMATION ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR SCHOOLWEBSITE www.garlingeprimary.co.uk

ATTENDANCE

Attendance Winners - Term 3

<u>Class</u>	<u>Attendance Percentage</u>		<u>Class</u>	<u>Attendance Percentage</u>
EYFS (Nursery & Reception) RA	95.8%		LKS2 (Years 3 & 4) 3B	92.5%
KS1 (Years 1 & 2) 1C	95.9%		UKS2 (Years 5 & 6) 5A	95.8%

Punctuality matters too!

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 single day.

Every Minute Counts



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!

We have put together some useful tips to help you and your child:

- Help them get their school bag ready the night before.
- Make sure you have their uniform ready the night before, especially after weekends and half terms.
- Get them to bed at a reasonable time so they have a good night's sleep.
- Try a morning checklist:
 - Get up and make the bed
 - Brush hair and teeth
 - Wash face and hands.
 - Eat breakfast
 - Get dressed
 - Double check bag
 - Put shoes and coat on
 - Be ready to start the day!

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow!