

Garlinge Primary School and Nursery



Lower Key Stage 2 Newsletter - Terms 3 and 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin by welcoming you all back to a new year after the Christmas holidays, hoping that 2022 is a happy and healthy one. I would also like to thank you for your support in settling the children back after the break. Term 3 already feels like it is whizzing by and the children are all working really hard and enjoying a fresh start to a new term! The Year 3 and 4 team are greatly looking forward to the terms ahead with new topics and challenges and as always, we welcome all the valuable support that you give us. This newsletter aims to update you on some key information about the coming terms within the department, as well as providing you with information which you may find useful when supporting your child.

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 this. In years 3 and 4, we are keen to promote good attendance and punctuality. Please help your children to appreciate the importance of regular attendance and good punctuality by ensuring that they arrive at school promptly in time for a smooth and organised start to the day. The gates are open between 8.45 am and 8.55 am and registers are taken at 9.00 am. We ask that in the case of illness, the school office is informed at the earliest opportunity.

Please may I ask for you to also refer to the updated Covid guidance document, that was sent to parents via the WEDUC app. This gives step by step information for you as parents on the procedures to follow in the case of Covid related illness.



Uniform

The children have all returned to school 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 website www.garlingeprimary.co.uk or if you are unsure, please do speak to your child's class teacher.

There have recently been incidents of lost items of uniform, so please ensure that all items of school uniform are **clearly named** to enable us to return any lost clothing to the right child. All items of lost property can be found outside the medical room.

Can I also please request that children are sent into school suitably dressed for the colder months with warm clothing for outdoor learning and playtimes, e.g. hats and gloves. Due to the current situation, we are also keeping the windows open at times during the day for additional ventilation so would suggest extra layers where needed.

PE

Thank you for your support in helping the children to be organised for PE by making sure that they wear their PE kit into school on their PE day. Year 3 is **Friday** and year 4 is **Tuesday**. This should consist of their house team coloured T-shirt, dark shorts or dark joggers and trainers. We have asked for children to still wear their usual Garlinge school jumper or cardigan on their PE days, with extra layers underneath during the colder months please. If your child needs a new coloured house t shirt, these can be ordered on our school website - <https://www.garlingeprimary.co.uk/uniform> . Alternatively, they are available from the Ambition Sport website - <http://www.ambitionsport.com/> . 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. Please may you also ensure that pupils have long hair tied back for their PE day.



Classes 4A and 4B have started their swimming lessons this term at Hartsdown which I know they are thoroughly enjoying. 4C and 4D will be enjoying this opportunity in term 4, which I am sure they will look forward to. There will be further information to follow regarding these lessons, so please do look out for a letter towards the end of this term.

Homework

The majority of the children in years 3 and 4 have settled well into their homework routines, using their homework activities to reinforce their learning in class as well as developing the important skills of **independence and organisation**. We have been really impressed with the recent homework projects the children have completed on Ancient Greece and Roman Britain. Please take a look at the Lower Key Stage 2 area of the school website and the Weduc app in the next few weeks for photos of some examples of these. The children have quite rightly taken great pride in sharing these with their classes and it was clear that a lot of hard work and time had been spent on them. **Thank you so much for your support with this!**

Please continue to look out for weekly homework tasks and encourage your children to approach all tasks with independence, ensuring that tasks are **handed in on time**. Homework for years 3 and 4 will be set every **Friday** and will be expected to be handed in the following **Wednesday**. If a longer project style piece of homework is set, your child may be given longer to complete it.

Reading

Thank you for supporting your child with their reading at home. This really is a vital part of the children's routine and whilst we appreciate time is often an issue, 10-15 minutes of reading with your child every day will really help them succeed in school. The children also really enjoy the Buster's Book Club challenge on a Wednesday, so please continue to support this and make sure that those **bookmarks are signed!**

We are continuing to work hard as a school to raise the profile of reading for pleasure amongst our children and the children are enjoying the many opportunities they are given to enjoy reading a range of books, comics etc in school. Please support us at home by sharing books that you enjoy with the children, helping them to understand that reading can be a wonderful way to learn and relax. Many of our children have also shared with us that they are members of a local library. This is wonderful and the children enjoy sharing with us ways that they can use the library to find books to read for pleasure as well as supporting them with homework tasks.



Times Tables

The teaching and learning of times tables and division facts continues to have a high profile at Garlinge and we value the support that you are able to give the children as they learn these. As I am sure you are aware, year 4 children are expected to know **all** of their times tables and division facts up to 12 x 12 by the end of year 4 and year 3 pupils should be fluent in the 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 10 times tables by the end of the year.

Our year 4 pupils will be expected to take part in the statutory year 4 **Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)** this academic year in June. Information for parents regarding this check will be provided soon to ensure that you are aware of how the test will be administered and ways in which you can support your child to do their best.



We have been really impressed with the children's commitment to using Times Tables Rock Stars as a fun and challenging way of helping to learn their times tables. They are particularly enjoying taking part in 'battles' against different classes and can get very competitive which is great fun! Each class now takes part in a weekly battle against other classes in their year group to try and win a sparkling new trophy for their class which is awarded in our Friday Celebration Assembly. The children are very excited about this new trophy so it would be great to see them earning as many points as they can for their class whilst using the opportunity to become more fluent in their times tables knowledge.

Please do continue to support this and don't hesitate to ask your child's class teacher if you have any questions about the resource.

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

	Year 3	
	Term 3	Term 4
History/Geography	Ancient Greece	Modern Greece
Science	Animals including Humans	Animals including Humans
RE	Why is the Bible important to Christians today?	Why are festivals important to religious people?
PSHE	Relationships	Relationships
Music	Music Express-Food and drink	Music Express-The human body

Year 4

	Term 3	Term 4
History	The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain	The Roman Empire and its impact on Britain
Science	Electricity	Electricity/All living things and their habitats
RE	Why do people pray?	Why are festivals important?
PSHE	Relationships	Relationships
Music	Music Express-Sounds	Music Express-Performance

Important dates

Please take the time to check your WEDUC app or the school website, as you will be informed regularly of any updates, events or school news here. If you require any help with this app, do please contact our school office for support. Our school website will also have regular updates providing useful information, as well as news about some of the fabulous learning our children are doing in school.



Key dates for your diary:

Tuesday 11th January- Weekly swimming lessons start for classes 4A and 4B (see separate letter for dates/information)

Friday 11th February- End of term 3

Monday 21st February- INSET Day

Tuesday 22nd February- Term 4 begins.

Tuesday 1st March- Weekly swimming lessons start for classes 4C and 4D (Further information to follow)

Monday 7th March- Year 4 trip to Lullingstone Roman Villa for classes 4B and 4D (Further information to follow)

Friday 11th March- Year 4 trip to Lullingstone Roman Villa for classes 4A and 4C (Further information to follow)

Friday 25th March- Annual Pupil Reports to parents.

Wednesday 30th March- Parents evening (Further information to follow)

Friday 1st April- End of term 4

Communication with teachers

Finally, if you have any questions about your child's education, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself, we will gladly be able to assist you. Can I also remind you about the class email contacts, as listed below. These are a useful way of keeping in contact with your child's class teacher as well with any queries that you may have.

Year 3	Year 4
Miss Setchfield - 3A@garlinge.kent.sch.uk Mrs Moore - 3B@garlinge.kent.sch.uk Ms Bridgeman - 3C@garlinge.kent.sch.uk Miss Rowden - 3D@garlinge.kent.sch.uk	Miss Subramaniam - 4A@garlinge.kent.sch.uk Mrs Flynn - 4B@garlinge.kent.sch.uk Mrs Goode - 4C@garlinge.kent.sch.uk Miss Bobbett - 4D@garlinge.kent.sch.uk

Thank you for taking the time to read this department newsletter. If you have any questions regarding any of the information, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's class teacher.

We all look forward to a successful term working with you and your children and thank you again for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs A.Goode

Assistant Headteacher and LKS2 Department Leader