

# Garlinge Primary School and Nursery



## Lower Key Stage 2-Summer Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all enjoyed a relaxing half term break. The children have all come back looking refreshed and ready for the final term.

The last few terms were very busy ones with various events taking place across the department. I was very proud to hear news of all the sporting activities that many Year 3/4 children took part in, achieving success in a variety of sports and representing the school with pride and excellent sportsmanship. The children enjoyed a visit from local Police Community Support Officers and valued the opportunity to investigate a police vehicle, try on some uniform as well as finding out about the valuable role that the police hold in our local area and ways they can support children and the community. The children in Year 4 were also visited by a drama company (Inspiration Creative) to help them consider ways in which they can 'Get out and Get Active'.

This term looks to be very busy and exciting with many events to look forward to. Our annual Arts Week is fast approaching and I am sure that you are all looking forward to the year group Sports Days. We have already welcomed Year 3 parents into the classrooms for a parent workshop and are looking forward to the next Year 4 workshop this week. Thanks as always for supporting these events.

I'm sure the children will keep you informed of key events, but please do check the dates at the end of this letter and remember to check the children's bag for any information on new events.

### How you can help your child

#### Attendance and punctuality



We want all of the 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. Please also look out for school initiatives rewarding good attendance as these prove to be very popular with some fabulous prizes on offer.

#### 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](http://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 their new house colour 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.



#### 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. We have been particularly impressed with the recent project style homework activities completed on Volcanoes in Year 4. Our classroom displays look amazing with all the fantastic models and projects. Well done! Please do look on the school website for some pictures of some of these very soon.

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 on Wednesday 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.



## Times Table Rock Stars

You have received a letter from Miss Rowden informing you about the new Times Table assessment which becomes statutory in Year 4 next year. As you are aware, the current Year 4 children will be trialling the check this year between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June. The introduction of Times Table Rock Stars has proved to be very beneficial, with children thoroughly enjoying the resource as a different way to practise their times tables and challenge themselves. Please do continue to encourage your children to use this resource as they particularly enjoy achieving personal successes as well as taking part in class battles. If you have any queries regarding the times table test or Times Table Rock Stars, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, myself or Miss Rowden.

## Warmer Weather

As the weather becomes warmer, please help to ensure that your child is suitably prepared at school. Although there are plenty of shaded areas on the playground, I would 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 6</u>
<b>History/Geography</b>	Scotland
<b>Science</b>	Plants
<b>RE</b>	Why do some people believe that life is a journey?

### Year 4

	<u>Term 6</u>
<b>History/Geography</b>	Volcanoes
<b>Science</b>	Animals including humans
<b>RE</b>	What can we learn from different religions?

## 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, so please do take the time to discuss these with your child.

## Outdoor Learning

I am sure you will agree that we are very fortunate to have such a wonderful school site with many outdoor learning areas which are constantly being improved and developed. As a school, one of our priorities is to increase the use of the outdoor areas to support learning. As a result of this, we are looking for more and more ways to get the children learning outside and enjoying the benefits that being outside can bring. Some examples of this so far this year have included: active maths lessons on the playground, reading for pleasure, science investigations e.g. nature walks, art and drama activities to name just a few. Please do ask your children about this aspect of their learning as I'm sure they will enjoy telling you about the opportunities they are being given.

## 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:

**WB 10<sup>th</sup> June**-Years 3-5 Assessment Week  
**WB 10<sup>th</sup> June-28<sup>th</sup> June**-Year 4 Times Table check  
**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June**-Year 4 Parent Workshop (1.45pm-3pm)  
**WB 17<sup>th</sup> June**-Arts Week in school  
**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June**-Year 4 Sports Day (9.30am-11.30am)  
**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June**-Year 3 Sports day (9.30am-11.30am)  
**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July**-Transition afternoon  
**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July**- Open Celebration Event -full details to follow  
**Friday 19th 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,  
Assistant Headteacher and Department Leader