



Garlinge Primary School and Nursery

International Walk to School Month

Wednesday 30th September

Dear Parents and Carers

October is a very exciting month as it is **International Walk to School Month**, with the 'Walk to School Campaign' (**Walk on Wednesday**) also starting in the first week.

As explained in the **WoW** letter, if your child walks to school on a Wednesday they earn a sticker, the opportunity to win their class the WoW trophy and the chance to win vouchers for a variety of fun activities. Other benefits for the children include a reduction in traffic and congestion around the school therefore reducing pollution.

Over the last couple of years we have had a great response to International Walk to School Month and the **competition** we held in school throughout the month of October. Our efforts have been recognised by the KM Green School Awards and we were the winners of two awards and a trophy for being the overall 2019 Green Travel Champions for the whole of Kent! We are looking forward to holding the competition again this year.

The competition involves walking to school throughout the whole of October (not just Wednesdays!) and keeping a look out for any wildlife that might be seen on the way to school.

Your child might want to record what they have seen, e.g. by picture or writing, or verbally share it with their class. Your child will then get entered into the competition and every week of October there will be a draw within each Department for the chance for your child to win a prize. For the class who has walked to school the most and have shared the most finds, they will get a prize for their class. As our half term falls during the last week of October, we would like to encourage you and your children to go on nature walks and bike rides and share any wildlife sightings upon their return to school with the final prize being awarded on the Friday of our first week back.

You will find a guide to a variety of bugs and birds that you might encounter on your walks overleaf. This is a great opportunity to develop your child's communication and language skills, enabling them to confidently share what they have discovered with their class. By the time they have walked to school they will be more alert, engaged, and ready to learn.

We look forward to your child taking part in our competition and hearing about your discoveries!

C Stannard

L Keegan



How to identify soil invertebrates

Use this chart to help you identify what you find in your investigation.

What's Under Your Feet?



What's Under Your Feet?

How to identify birds

Outdoor spaces are great places to see birds. Use this poster to help you identify which birds you see when you're outside.

<p>ROBIN The Robin's red breast is a sign of territorial disputes so young Robins are born without it.</p>	<p>SONG THRUSH The Song Thrush's name says it all. Its song is easily recognised by its repeated phrases.</p>	<p>MAGPIE Many traditions surround seeing a lone Magpie. One is to say 'Hello Mr. Magpie' to avoid bad luck.</p>	<p>FERAL PIGEON The Feral Pigeon comes in a wide range of colours and patterns. All-white and everything in between.</p>
<p>DUNLIN A sparrow-like bird with a blue-grey wash around the head, it's very mouse-like.</p>	<p>STARLING Starlings may look black from afar but they are actually coloured with purple, green and red feathers.</p>	<p>FIELDFARE A large colourful thrush. It has a grey head and rump, chestnut back, and a speckled breast with orange wash.</p>	<p>WOOD PIGEON Wood Pigeons produce crop milk to feed their young. It's much more nutritious than human milk.</p>
<p>GOLDFINCH A group of Goldfinches is perfect for these colourful little birds.</p>	<p>HOUSE SPARROW The House Sparrow's thick bill is perfectly adapted for eating large seeds.</p>	<p>REDWING A winter-visiting thrush with a streaky breast, whitish eyebrow and a black band on the side of its body.</p>	<p>COLLARED DOVE In Germany, the Collared Dove is known as 'Hohltaube' because it sits on rooftops and aerials.</p>
<p>WREN One of our smallest birds, the Wren has a short, stocky tail.</p>	<p>PIED WAGTAIL A black and white bird, which wags its tail. Often seen coming low to the ground, it can look like a mini Magpie.</p>	<p>MISTLE THRUSH Spotted below and pale grey above, look for the pure white armpits when they are in flight. They look like an old footballer.</p>	<p>CROW Jackdaws, Carrion Crows and Ravens are all black. Use the ID chart from the Pod to spot the difference.</p>
<p>CHAFFINCH During the winter, our Chaffinch population is almost doubled by the arrival of birds from other countries such as Norway.</p>	<p>BLACKBIRD Blackbirds usually eat insects and berries, but they will also eat tadpoles and newts from ponds. Females are brown.</p>	<p>GULLS Gulls are large, white birds with long necks. Use the ID chart from the Pod to identify the Gulls you spy.</p>	

To help you identify which birds we've listed in this poster - size order -

- Smaller birds
- Medium-sized birds
- Larger birds

(Apologies that this is sideways, we are trying to be eco-friendly with our paper usage! ☺)