



Garlinge Primary School and Nursery



Years 5 and 6 Newsletter

Terms 1 and 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin by welcoming you all back to a new academic year after the summer break and before that the school closures during the COVID 19 period. We truly look forward to a successful year working together with you making the year ahead successful for your children. They have all come back looking lovely and smart and I'm pleased to share that they have settled well into their new classrooms and routines in the upper school. Thank you too for your ongoing support with the adjustments that have been made to school life and the changes that we have made.

This newsletter aims to introduce you to the Year 5 and 6 department and the main topics of learning within each year group, as well as providing you with information which you may find useful when supporting your child.

Staff

The department staff for this academic year are:

<u>5A-Miss Griffin</u> TAs- Mrs Petzendorfer & Mr Lambert	<u>6A-Mrs Pegden</u> TA-Mrs Ray
<u>5B-Miss Hatcher</u> TA- Miss Whelan & Mrs Wilson	<u>6B-Miss Jenkins</u> TA-Miss Atkins
<u>5C-Miss Hawtin</u> TA- Miss Mason & Miss Hudson	<u>6C-Mr Shepherd</u> TA – Mrs Scott, Mrs Cooke & Mrs Wigington
<u>5D-Mrs McGrath</u> TAs-Mrs Broad, Mrs White & Miss Brooker	<u>6D-Mr Millership</u> TA-Ms. Coleman & Mrs Wigington

How you can help your child

Please make sure that your child arrives in school ready for registration and their first lesson. The gates are open between 8.45am and 9.05 am. Registers are taken at 9.05am. Please may I also also request that the year 6 children do not arrive early at the year 6 gate end, or gather in groups at the year 6 school gate – your support with this is appreciated. We ask that you telephone the office if your child is not well enough to come to school, or is displaying any COVID related symptoms and then follow through the government advice and advice given in Mr Williams' recent whole school newsletter.

Uniform

We would like all of the children 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. All items of school uniform should be clearly named. We would also request that children wear plain black shoes and not trainers to school. Earrings are permitted, but must be small plain studs please.

PE

Help your children to be organised for PE by making sure that they wear their PE kit into school on their PE day. Year 5 is Thursday and year 6 is Friday. 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 school jumper or cardigan on their PE days. 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.

Term 1 Homework - Reading, Spellings and Times Tables

Homework is an important way in which you can support your child's learning. During term 1, we will be focussing on the core areas of learning for the children, particularly after their longer period of time away from school. This will consist of: spellings, times tables and reading. Your children have all been issued with a home reading book, which they should take home each day. Please support your child by listening to them read on a daily basis as well as spending time discussing their books with them. Also, please encourage your child to take part in our Buster's Book Club reading incentive scheme, which is every Wednesday. This is a popular scheme in school, encouraging children to read for a target number of minutes each Wednesday for a possible class reward. Times tables and weekly spellings are also an important part of regular learning in school and should be practised at home daily. All children have a Times Tables Rock Stars login, where they will be able to practise their times tables using this fun resource. We also welcome other ways in which to practise times tables at home that is also successful for your child. Knowing the times tables is an integral part of the upper school maths curriculum, so your support is gladly welcomed. Spelling lists to learn will be sent home weekly in your child's home spelling book, regular practice will also support your child.

A 'Healthy School'

We are proud to have been awarded a 'Healthy School' status, therefore we encourage parents to pack a healthy lunchbox for their child, and we discourage chocolate, sweets or crisps. We encourage children to bring in a piece of fruit to eat at break times. Also, as a 'Healthy School', we are unable to hand out birthday cakes/sweets to children in our classes provided by parents.

The children are encouraged to drink water throughout the day, they may use their school water bottle or bring in a water-bottle of their own from home. Please may we ask for water only in these bottles, not squash. May I also remind you that we are a '**nut-free**' school; therefore food containing nuts cannot be eaten in school.

Topics and Learning

Years 5 and 6 Topics for Terms 1 and 2:

<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>
HISTORY- Anglo Saxons	HISTORY- World War Two
SCIENCE- Earth and Space Properties and changes in materials	SCIENCE-Evolution & inheritance Electricity
R.E- Belief and Practice, Christianity Christmas	R.E- Beliefs and Charities Christmas
PSHCE- Living in the Wider World – rights, responsibilities and duties	PSHCE-Living in the Wider World – human rights and the media
MUSIC- Learning to play the ukulele	Music- World War Two music Journeys
PE- Teamwork and tactics Sports hall athletics	PE- Invasion games Invasion games and cardio circuits

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 updates, events or school news. As well as letters, you will receive regular updates from the school via the WEDUC messaging app; 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.

Key dates for your diary:

Thursday 15th October – Kent test year 6

Friday 23rd October - Last day term 1

Monday 2nd November – Term 2 begins. Year 6 secondary applications to be completed online.

Monday 16th – Friday 20th November – Anti-bullying week in schools

Thursday 26th November – Kent Test results expected to be released by this date - TBC

Week beginning Monday 14th December - Christmas party week - Christmas details and class party dates will be finalised nearer the time

Friday 18th December – Last day term 2.

Secondary School Process - Year 6 The time is approaching for year 6 parents and children to consider their secondary school applications. In the coming weeks, Mr Williams and I will be preparing a useful guide for our year 6 parents, so do please read through the useful guide carefully. In the meantime I would recommend to start researching the individual schools via their websites and if you have any admission queries, do please contact the schools individually; most schools also have an admissions email contact available online. This year, the closing date for secondary school online applications is Monday 2nd November.

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.

Miss Griffin – 5A@garlinge.kent.sch.uk

Miss Hatcher – 5B@garlinge.kent.sch.uk

Miss Hawtin – 5C@garlinge.kent.sch.uk

Mrs McGrath - 5D@garlinge.kent.sch.uk

Mrs Pegden – 6A@garlinge.kent.sch.uk

Miss Jenkins – 6B@garlinge.kent.sch.uk

Mr Shepherd – 6C@garlinge.kent.sch.uk

Mr Millership – 6D@garlinge.kent.sch.uk

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

Yours faithfully,

Mrs D. Pegden - Assistant Headteacher and UKS2 Department Leader