



Guilden Morden Church of England (VC) School Newsletter

Friday 23rd March 2018

Head teachers update

Grafham Trip

Class 3 had a fabulous three days and two nights at Grafham Water Centre. Well done to the children who coped well with being away from family for the first time. I do believe that these experiences help the children to develop independence that will serve them well as they grow up. Well done also to the parents for putting aside their fears and supporting their children. One parent mentioned that she had had to 'let go a bit' and trust that her child would be fine and she was. I do appreciate the trust that is being put on my staff and know that it is well placed, as is my gratitude for the manner in which they cared for and looked after the children, giving up personal time to do so.

I had a very enjoyable lesson with class 3 on Thursday morning and found out a lot about what they had done, what they had enjoyed, fears they had conquered and how they had supported and helped each other. They obviously had an excellent and memorable time. Please have a look at the website news or gallery pages where there will be more pictures of the children doing their activities.

School Council Poster competition:

The School Council have been helping us all to think about our behaviour and how we can make sure it is always very good and becomes a consistent strength within the school. They carried out a survey and are now inviting the children to make posters to encourage everyone to follow our 'Learning Behaviours'.

The closing date for entries is the 28th March.

Road Safety

We are following up with local council and police to ensure that we can maintain safety around the school road and pavements. If any child would like to design a poster for us during the Easter holidays, we would like to choose the most relevant design to 'keep our school

safe', and perhaps place it as a poster at the path gate.

Please remember that parents should NOT be driving into the carpark or even using our drive to turn around in the morning. There have been a number of recent incidents wheresomeone could have been hurt.

Swimming after school

The swimming pool will reopen for swimming lessons after the next half-term break in June. The PTFA hope to organise swimming after school again, similar to last year. However, for this to operate EVERY parent volunteer must take responsibility for their children and be part of the supervising rota. In addition, it is essential for ALL supervisors to undertake RESUS training each year. This is to follow health and safety regulations to resuscitate in the event of an emergency.

Please put a note in your diary to attend our RESUS training date, after school on Tuesday, 24th April.

Last Day of Term:

On Thursday 29th April we will finish school at the usual time of 3.15pm, followed by the Easter Egg Hunt. However, as from the last day of the Summer term, Monday 23 July, we will commence an earlier finish time of 1.45pm at the end of each 3 terms.

PTFA events & Pond Clearance : A plea from me.

I am very pleased to have inherited a very dedicated PTFA committee and have been impressed with how industrious and ambitious they are. It was great to see so many people helping out with the first pond clearance and development day. Unfortunately, two subsequent days have had to be cancelled (including this Sunday's event) as there have been too few volunteers signed up. Please could you support these events and let the PTFA know beforehand so that they know they have enough volunteers, or suggest other ways that we can get these important tasks completed.

GDPR

You may be aware that there are new regulations regarding how we collect, use, store and remove data that will come into force in May. The Governing Body, and the school team, with support from DEMAT and the Human Resources company, EPM, are working through a step by step process so that we are compliant. There will be changes to some of our policies and procedures and more information will be sent out soon.

2018-19 Term Dates

The Autumn Term 2018 will commence on Thursday 6th September. Please see the attached list of dates which is also now on the website.

Easter Bible Comic

We have been given some Scripture Union Easter Bible Comics. If you and your children would like one, please collect one from the foyer.

School Improvement Focus

We have been continuing to develop and refine our marking and feedback policy.

Play Equipment on the Playground:

Fantastic News. With the funds we had raised and PTFA support, we now have enough funds to go ahead with the ordering and installation of a 'trim trail' on the edge of our playground. Well done to everyone who has been involved. We are looking forward to having this equipment during the Summer term.

Jeremy Fisher

Neighbourhood Watch



The school are part of the neighbourhood watch notifications, and please see a recent message:

South Cambs has active and very enthusiastic Speedwatch groups and would welcome new volunteers to help them run more sessions.

The Community Speedwatch scheme trains volunteers from members of the community to get actively involved in monitoring the speed of vehicles travelling through their neighbourhood.

Volunteers are trained to use speed indicator devices which display vehicle speeds. The registered owner of any vehicle

seen exceeding the speed limit is sent an advisory letter by the Constabulary, explaining that speeding is unacceptable to the local community and asking them to be more considerate.

Volunteers typically offer 1 to 2 hours a month helping to reduce the speed of vehicles driving through their neighbourhood. There is no expected time commitment, volunteers attend sessions when they like, and it's a great opportunity to meet new people, and enjoy the activity whilst benefiting your community. Volunteers are fully trained and insured by the Constabulary.

Training sessions will be held on Saturday's 14th April, 12th May, 9th June and 14th July starting at 10.00am in Cambourne Police Station. If you would like to attend please book a space via e-mail. If you would like more information please contact speedwatch@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Cool School Club



This week the children have enjoyed doing some Easter activities. In Spanish the children learnt songs including 'Incey Wincey Spider!'. They also learnt about Easter traditions in Spain. Next week, Spanish club will continue on the last day of term, however if your child would like to attend the Easter Egg hunt please inform Club and ask the children to book into Club first before they start the Hunt, then return for snack and Spanish at 4pm. Thank you.

Helen and the team



- 1 mile run

To recognise Sports Relief the children will be doing a 1-mile run in P.E. on Monday 26th March.

- Please come to school wearing Sports Attire, and perhaps a healthy snack for after the activity
- Please organise your own sponsorship to raise some money for Sports Relief, or you may choose to donate at the school office.

Please see the attached sponsorship form for your completion. Let the office have a copy of the form so that we can coordinate the donations to Sports Relief.



P.T.F.A.

GARDENING CLUB

We are planning to start gardening club the second week back after half term. If you are interested to volunteer by helping or running the club please do get in touch. A teamwork of gardening expertise will ensure a fun activity.

It will cost £2 per child per session to be paid half termly. Ideally we would like to run this on a Monday afternoon (only other available day is Thursday afternoon but realise this is the same day as Spanish club) 3.15 til 4.30pm children would need to bring their own wellies, trowels, gloves, protective clothing etc.

EASTER EGG HUNT

The Easter egg Hunt is on Thursday 29th March, after school on the school field. Tickets are £2.50 per child and must be purchased in advance from a PTFA member. There will be a number of hunts to cater for the different age groups and it looks to be a really fun event.

Children may attend the Easter Egg Hunt before Cool Club/Spanish class, although please ask children to 'check-in' at Cool Club beforehand for registration.



Scholastic Book Fair: We will be selling books from Friday 20 April until Wednesday 25th April, after school. Please do spare some time to come and purchase some new children's books, which also raises funding towards our school library book area.

Mad Science Club:

Following our enquiries it appears there is interest for this which we could possibly run on a Monday or Friday, commencing after half term in June, subject to sufficient numbers. We are checking availability.

AWARDS

This week our awards have been made to :-

	Progress	Conduct & Values
Pre-school	Eve Speed	Mary-Ann Hostler
Class 1	Freddie Barnes Noah Speed	Ophelia Hall Amy Doherty
Class 2	JJ Datu Leo Kendall	Kayden Brear Andrew Speed
Class 3	All of Magpies' for their hard work and good behaviour at Grafham Water	

Thought for the week:

"The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn."
[Ralph Waldo Emerson](#)

Collective Worship Theme for the week

The message of the grain of wheat.
John chapter 12 verses 20-33

Diary Updates and Reminders

26 March (Mon)	P.E. 'Sports Relief' - 1 mile run
26 March (Mon) 2.30pm & 6.30pm	Parents' Forum All parents welcome to attend
27 March, (Tues)	Church Service at 9.30am All parents welcome to attend
29 March (Thurs) - 3.15pm	PTFA Easter Egg Hunt, Before Spanish & After-School Club
29 March (Thurs)	Easter Holidays to 16/4
24 April (Tues)	Swimming RESUS training at 3.30pm and 7pm
7 May (Mon)	Spring Bank Holiday
28 May-5 June (Tues)	Half-Term Holiday

Guilden Morden C of E Primary School
Part of the Diocese of Ely
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