



# Guilden Morden Church of England (VC) School Newsletter

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018

## Head teachers update

### School Improvement Focus

This week, we are in the process of updating our pupil assessment data. We are also looking again at the marking and feedback we provide to the children so that we are confident that it supports all of the children in making good progress and is also manageable in terms of teacher work-load.

### Heating Problems

Thank you to the staff, parents and children for your flexibility this week regarding the Pre-school and Cool Club. Due to problems with the heater in the Ark building, the pre-school has spent most of this week in the school hall. Well done to everyone for the flexibility that has been shown in managing this. We are hoping that the repair work will have been completed by the time we return after half term.

### Family Snack Challenge: 'Change 4 life':

We will be sending home some Family Snack Challenge leaflets today. Please have a look. Half term may be an ideal time to have a go.

### Half Term Break

I hope you all have a lovely half-term break and that all the children return refreshed and healthy and ready to continue doing their best.

**Jeremy Fisher**

### Stars Award : National School Travel Awards

We are pleased to announce that Guilden Morden School has been awarded the Bronze Level STARS Award for their efforts to increase levels of walking, cycling.



## Purple Day - "Being Ourselves"



Purple Day' was a lot of fun for everyone. The children learnt the importance of being ourselves and our uniqueness based on each individual's strengths.



In addition, we raised £34.50 towards our chosen charity, Home-Start Royston & South Cambridgeshire. Thank you all very much for your contributions and continued support.



## Unexplained Absences

It's been recently brought to our attention the importance of communicating with you whenever a child is not in school. Thank you to those of you who are very prompt in letting us know when your child is unwell. We have been asked to clarify the procedure we follow and have been provided with this model letter.

*"I am writing to make you aware of the school procedure for children who have unexplained absences from school. There have been public cases in the past where schools have not chased up the reasons as to why children are off school. It has then transpired that there have been tragic circumstances around these absences, eg. Illness of a parent and a child unable to seek help. We will do everything we can to prevent such situations occurring as I am sure you would agree that your child's safety is paramount to us all.*

*If your child is not going to be in school please call or email the office to report their absence, before 9.30am. If we haven't heard from you by this time we will start to call the telephone numbers that you have provided to gain an explanation for the absence. A home visit may be necessary or maybe reporting to the Police as your child will be classed as a 'missing child'. We will then know where your child is and you are all safe. Please let us know in good time why your child is absent."*

### Cool School Club



The children have had a change of scene this week when we returned to the hall, whilst the heating in the Ark is being repaired. There has been lots of den building and gymnastics going on which everyone has enjoyed.

In Spanish, the children learnt all about the ingredients for a pizza: queso, jamon, pan, piña, maiz, champiñon, amongst others. They were able to create their own pizza which they cooked and ate.



Spanish will continue after half-term on a Thursday - starting 22<sup>nd</sup> February, finishing Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

Helen & all Staff

### P.T.F.A.

**POND CLEARANCE:** Thank you to all the volunteers who turned up to help clear and tidy the pond area again this week. After half-term break the safety cover/grate will be installed. So watch this space!



**P.E. class:** Please note that the P.E. day with Chloe has been changed from Thursday and will now be every Monday afternoon. Dance with Vanessa continues on Tuesdays.

**Spanish:** Spanish classes will continue next term on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

**Bird Watch:** The children will take part in their own garden bird watch activities on Friday 23 February. It would be helpful if children could bring their own named binoculars.

**CUFC Multisports:** Please confirm to the office if your child will be continuing Friday multi-sports for this next few weeks before Easter holidays.

### St Mary's Guilden Morden

#### Pancake Party



Come and enjoy a Pancake on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February at St Mary's Church, 12.30pm-2.00pm

Everyone Welcome!

### AWARDS

This week our awards have been made to :-

	Progress	Conduct & Values
Pre-School	None	All children for coping with the changes this week.
Class 1	Ellie Green Amy Doherty	Ophelia Hall Freddie Barnes
Class 2	Jake Lans Scott Davis Roach	Andrew Speed Bobby Green
Class 3	Max Davis Roach Ben Chapman	Fred Appleby Hannah Thompson

### Thought for the week:

"Always remember that you are absolutely unique. Just like everyone else."

Margaret Mead

### Collective Worship Theme for the week

Take time to reflect and pray.

### Diary Updates and Reminders

<b>12-16 February</b>	<b>Half-Term Holiday</b>
February -Monday	P.E. - new day
23 February, pm	Garden Bird Watch at school
1 March	KS2 Cross Country event
6 March, 3.30-5pm	Parent Teacher Meeting
7 March, 5-7pm	Parent Teacher Meeting
26th March (Monday)	P.E. 'Sports Relief' - 1 mile run
23 March	'Sports Relief' Activity
29 March (Thursday)	Easter Holidays

**Guilden Morden C of E Primary School**

Part of the Diocese of Ely  
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