



Friday 4th May 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you've had a good week and that you're looking forward to the Bank Holiday weekend - let's hope we get some half decent weather! Our thoughts are again with the Turner family as friends and family will be gathering this afternoon for Mr Turner's memorial service.

Playground Improvements

The project is moving in the right direction! We hope to finalise the details very soon and then we'll be able to provide you with further details - thank you for your patience.

Class Photographs

The class and Year 6 leavers' photographs were taken this morning and further information as to how you can purchase a copy will be sent home soon.

ParentPay

I have been asked to remind parents that ParentPay should be used to pay in advance for school meals, trips, Early Birds and Night Owls. There are currently about twenty sessions in arrears and the office staff are having to spend too long in chasing up outstanding debts - many thanks to the many parents who always keep their account in credit. If you are having any difficulties in paying for anything please speak in confidence to the office staff and we will do our best to help.

Stranger Danger

Following the report of an incident in a nearby village, all our pupils have been reminded about the fundamentals of "Stranger Danger" this week. We obviously try to deal with issues of this nature as carefully and sensitively as possible, so as not to unduly alarm or frighten the children.

Dogs on the Playground

As a dog owner myself and the fact that we have Nell, our much loved school dog sometimes roaming around, I have turned a blind eye to the growing number of cute pooches appearing on the playground, before and after school. However, we do have a sign on the gate that says "Please do not bring animals onto the school premises unless by prior arrangement" and so perhaps it's no surprise that some people have taken exception to dogs being on the playground and think that we should enforce this rule, especially when dogs have been seen weeing on playground equipment and performing other inappropriate acts! I think we need to make a compromise, so I suggest we agree that small or very young dogs be carried all the time and that the waiting area continues to be used for bigger dogs - thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Before School and Lining Up

It's great to see the children having fun and being so active before school. However, we've noticed a decline in the way the children line up and walk into school in the mornings, as they're often quite noisy and unruly - perhaps they're more concerned about saying goodbye to their siblings, Mums, Dads, Grandparents anddogs? This then makes it harder for them to settle quickly into their learning tasks once in the classroom. Therefore we've decided to trial a different system for lining up and we'd ask again for your assistance by saying goodbye before the bells goes - thank you.

SATs

Our Y2 and Y6 children have been working hard in preparation for their Statutory Assessment Tests, which will be taking place before the end of this half term. We obviously wish them all the very best of luck and we hope that they achieve the results they deserve.

We found out recently that a small number of randomly selected Year 6 children will also be taking the Science sample test sometime in June. Once we have it, further information will be given to the parents of the lucky children involved!

Gretton Playgroup (www.grettonplaygroup.co.uk) A repeat of last week's message

We are very keen to support the work of our local playgroup, which currently has spaces available for children of 2 years old and upwards. It's a small family-friendly playgroup which offers the full Early Years Curriculum with optional "Little Explorers" sessions when the children are taken out into the nearby countryside. For more information or to arrange a visit contact them on 07530 823049 or email grettonplaygroup@eygloucestershire.co.uk

Cheltenham Science Festival (Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th June)

This fantastic event is coming up soon with numerous events for families and young children, some of which are free but for others you will require a ticket. For further information go to www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/science

Diary Dates

Mon 7 th May	Bank Holiday - school closed
Tue 8 th May	YR hearing and vision checks
Thu 10 th May	Kingfishers trip to Slimbridge
Mon 14 th May	Start of KS2 SATs week
Thu 17 th May	Big Friends, Little Friends Teddy Bears' Picnic
Mon 21 st May	Start of KS1 SATs week
Fri 25 th May	Friendship Friday
Fri 25 th May	End of Term 5
Mon 28 th May	Start of half term week
Mon 4 th June	INSET Day (school closed to children)
Tue 5 th June	Start of Term 6
Tue 5 th June	Final swimming session for Y2, 3 and 4
Mon 11 th June	Start of Phonics Screening Check week
Wed 13 th June	Life Education Bus in Gretton
Fri 15 th June	Owls & Eagles Bell Boating practise
Wed 20 th June	Sports Day with Mini Summer Fete afterwards
Thu 28 th June	Owls and Eagles to Bell Boating Regatta
Thu 28 th June	Robins to Sandfield Farm
Fri 29 th June	Annual Pupil Reports out to parents
Thu 5 th July (pm)	SEN Reviews and Open Classrooms
Sat 7 th July	Gretton Science day
Fri 13 th July	Owls to Royal International Air Tattoo
Fri 13 th July	Eagles to Tewkesbury Medieval Festival
Wed 18 th July (early evening)	Eagles end of year production
Thu 19 th July	Whole school trip to Nature in Art
Thu 19 th July (early evening)	Eagles end of year production
Fri 20 th July	Thank You Tea for volunteer helpers (by invitation)
Mon 23 rd July	Whole- school Winchcombe Walk
Tue 24 th July	Last day of the academic year
Mon 3 rd September	INSET Day (school closed to children)
Tue 4 th September	Start of Term 1 (2018 to 2019)

As you can see it promises to be a very busy but enjoyable few months and I'm sure further activities will be added to this list as the term progresses. If necessary details about all forthcoming events will be sent out nearer the time.

Class Assemblies

Class assemblies will start at about 8:55 am - please come along if you can.

Wednesday 9 th May	Robins
Wednesday 23 rd May	Owls
Wednesday 20 th June	Eagles
Wednesday 27 th June	Kingfishers

Night Owls and Early Birds

We have vacancies for all sessions. The children will continue to be given a choice of activities and will begin to spend more time outside after school if the weather improves.

News from around the classes

Robins

Robins read 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' this week in English and French! We learnt about the life cycle of a butterfly and practised retelling the story by drawing story maps. We made wiggly worms with clay to create coil pots in Art and created shape bug collages in Maths.

Kingfishers

Kingfishers have made gorgeous owls using clay this week. We have also made 'What Am I?' flap-up books using our knowledge of facts we have learnt about British Wildlife thus far. We have also been reading the delights of Beatrix Potter's 'The Tale of Peter Rabbit'. The children have drawn wonderful maps of Mr McGregor's garden, showing the route Peter Rabbit took and detailing them with a key.

Owls

Owls have followed up their work on the digestive system this week by looking at our teeth. We discovered that there are four different types, although some people get a fifth type which don't actually have a function. We also carried out an investigation to see the effects of different drinks on our teeth- we await the results with interest!

Eagles

In our quest to learn more about rainforests we discovered that they are mainly located close to the equator. We also used our search engine skills to complete a fact sheet about rainforests. Year 6 have been busy multiplying and dividing fractions with impressive efficiency!

Term Dates

The Local Authority encourages schools to set their term dates two years in advance. Therefore, following the recent publication of the recommended dates for the 2019 to 2020 academic year, our Gretton term dates are attached to the end of this newsletter.



Birthdays coming up.....
Felix Bray and Jesse Howell
Congratulations!

School Meals

To help your child choose their meals, here's the menu for next week:

NEXT WEEK'S MENU (07.05.18)				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza	Spaghetti Bolognaise (made with organic mince)	Roast Gammon, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Sausage & Mash	Fish fingers with chips
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
Vegetable Bolognaise	Vegetable Pasta Bake	Quorn Roast with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Vegetable Casserole with Cous Cous	Cheese & Onion Quiche with Chips
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayo	Filled Baguette with Ham/Cheese/Tuna or Egg	Jacket Potato with Beans	Filled Baguette with Ham/Cheese/Tuna or Egg	Jacket Potato with Cheese
Carrots, Garden Peas	Sweetcorn, Broccoli	Seasonal Vegetables	Carrots, Green Beans	Baked Beans & Garden Peas
Fruit Crumble with Custard Yoghurt/ Fruit Platter	Chocolate & Beetroot Brownie/ Yoghurt/Fruit Salad	Lemon Drizzle Cake, Cheese & Biscuits, Fruit Salad	Apple Sponge with Custard/Yoghurt/ Fruit Salad	Iced Shortbread Finger/ Yoghurt, Fruit Salad

This week's 'Golden Children' (04.05.18)

Robins

Beatrice Panthin for some super describing words about the Very Hungry Caterpillar and Fleur Dockar-Drysdale for her excellent reading.

Kingfishers

Ollie Cooke for settling in so well and being a great new member of the class. Hugo Millar and Oscar Hollingsworth for excellent calculations in Maths. Oliver Baker-Williams for super swimming and Oscar Tustin for his detailed drawings of British birds.

Owls

Ava Buttle for her determination to answer a problem which Mr Bridges had made a mistake on turning it into a much harder problem!! Her persistence saw her answer it correctly anyway!! Jack Williams for his enthusiasm in our learning about Tudor houses.

Eagles

Will Tingle for a great percentages explanation and Izzy Shakespeare for good listening in PE.

Best wishes to all members of the school community and I hope you enjoy the long week-end.

Mr R Woolston
Headteacher

Gretton Primary School

Term Dates and INSET Days 2019 - 2020 (190 school days + 5 INSET days)

Autumn Term

<i>Term 1</i> (38 days) (+2 INSETs)	INSET: Pupils return: Break-up: INSET:	Monday 2nd September 2019 Tuesday 4 th September 2019 Thursday 24 th October 2019 Friday 25th October 2019
	Half-term break:	Mon 28th October to Fri 1st November 2019
<i>Term 2</i> (35 days)	Pupils and staff return: Break-up: Christmas holidays:	Monday 4th November 2019 Friday 20th December 2019 Mon 23rd Dec 2019 to Fri 3rd January 2020

Spring Term

<i>Term 3</i> (29 days) (+1 INSET)	INSET: Pupils return: Break-up: Half-term break:	Monday 6th January 2020 Tuesday 7 th January 2020 Friday 14 th February 2020 Mon 17th February to Friday 21st February 2020
<i>Term 4</i> (29 days) (+1 INSET)	Pupils and staff return: Break-up: INSET: Easter holidays:	Monday 24th February 2020 Thursday 2nd April 2020 Friday 3rd April 2020 Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April 2020

Summer Term

<i>Term 5</i> (24 days)	Pupils and staff return: Break-up: Half term break:	Monday 20th April 2020 Friday 22nd May 2020 (Bank Holiday Mon 4th May) Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2020
<i>Term 6</i> (35 days) (+1 INSET)	Pupils and staff return: Pupils break-up: INSET: Summer holidays:	Monday 1st June 2020 Friday 17 th July 2020 Monday 20th July 2020 Tue 22nd July to Monday 31st August 2020

(We will probably have an INSET day on Tuesday 1st September 2020 and the children will return on Wed 2nd September 2020.)

