



Friday 10th November 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week has flown by and this newsletter contains a summary of some of the highlights. I would like to say a big thank you to all the parents who helped to organise a very successful Fireworks party at The Royal Oak last Sunday evening. The event was very well supported and a fantastic amount of money was raised for the benefit of all the children at the school. A number of assemblies this week have focussed on the theme of Remembrance and yesterday the children participated in a very respectful 2 minutes silence whilst watching a themed slide show.

Parking and Road Safety

Following on from my later dated 17th October, I just wanted to let you know about the progress we've made with some of the ideas.

Thank you to any families who've been able to car share, or who drop their children off by the gates and let them walk into school from 8:30 am. We appreciate that not all families are keen to do this and that's absolutely fine - it was just a suggestion. We've looked into the possibility of allowing children to be dropped off even earlier at 8:20 am but this idea would have a negative impact on Early Birds and create more problems than it would solve, so we're not going to proceed with this. I have written to local residents about allowing a member of staff to park on their driveway during the day and I received two potentially favourable responses for three cars - better than nothing, thank you! I approached The Royal Oak about using their car park but this was declined for completely understandable reasons and in running Fireworks Night on our behalf, they remain a fantastic supporter of the school. We continue to harry the local highways department about changing the timings of the wig wag lights and I can only apologise for the delay. Sadly incidents of dangerous driving are reported to us on a regular basis, including problems involving one of our pupils when she cycles to and from home with her Mum or Dad. I understand that the registration numbers of the cars involved were recorded and the incidents reported to the Police. Last night I attended the Parish Council meeting to raise the subject of road safety and parking in the village. Various suggestions were discussed again at some length and it's clearly a subject of significant concern.

I've noticed that on most days there are usually parking places on the school side of the railway bridge - a two minute walk away. Again, I would like to thank all the parents who always park safely and courteously - if everybody did, then this really would be much less of a problem.

Parents' Evenings

Many thanks to all the parents who came along to one of our recent parents' evenings. If you were unable to attend but would still like an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher, please contact them directly and I'm sure something could be arranged.

Poppy Appeal

Today was the last day that Poppies, snap bands and wrist bands were available in school. The children were involved in a number of assemblies on the theme of Remembrance and so hopefully they will have developed some understanding of the importance of this tradition. Thank you again for your support with this very worthwhile cause.

Shoe Box Appeal

Our 19 boxes were collected earlier this week - a very good effort for a school of our size - thank you to everyone who provided a box.

Cross-Country Running

Mrs Burnett-Hockey has asked me to remind you that there will be no more Monday afternoon sessions this term. However, they will get going again after Christmas to coincide with the remaining championship races - more details in the Spring Term.

School Football Team

Our team were in action again earlier this week in our local round of the English Schools Football Association tournament held at Tewkesbury Secondary School. I really enjoyed being in charge of the team who performed superbly. We ended up as comfortable winners and so we'll now go forward to the county finals. Well done to Fred, Monty, Lewis, Liam, Tom, Marley, Jesse and Charlie.



Class Assemblies

All starting as close to 8:50 am as possible!

Friday 10 th November	Well done - Eagles!
Friday 17 th November	Owls
Friday 1 st December	Robins
Wednesday 6 th December	Kingfishers

Anti-bullying Week

Next week is National Anti-Bullying week and the children will be supporting this initiative by participating in assemblies and lessons planned around related themes.

Dates for your diary, including forthcoming Christmas events

Fri 17 th November	Owl's Assembly
Fri 24 th November	INSET Day (school closed to children)
Tue 28 th November	YR and Y6 Height and Weight checks
Wed 29 th November	School Council "Wear your pyjamas to school" day!
Fri 1 st December	Flu vaccinations for YR, Y1,Y2,Y3 and Y4
Tue 5 th December	Robins to Pantomime at Roses Theatre
Thu 7 th December	Robins dress-up day as a character from a traditional story
Thu 7 th December	Eagles visit to The Black Country Museum
Fri 8 th December	Christingle Services in Church
Tue 12 th December (2:00 pm)	Christmas Concert in Village Hall
Wed 13 th December	School Christmas Dinner followed by FOGs Christmas crafts afternoon
Wed 13 th December (5:00 pm)	Christmas Concert in Village Hall
Fri 15 th December (9:00 am)	Christmas Carol Service in Church
Fri 15 th December (pm)	Christmas class parties
Fri 15 th December	End of Term 2

(Further details about all events will be sent out in due course)

Tue 2 nd January	INSET Day (school closed to children)
Wed 3 rd January	Start of Term 3

Night Owls

The children are being given a free choice of art and craft activities, as well as access to traditional games. Karyn is happy for the children to also bring in any favourite "U" rated films to watch.

Friends of Gretton School (FOGS)

Bonfire Night

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our school at The Royal Oak bonfire - we raised a record breaking amount, mostly due to the large group of fantastic volunteers who helped on the night! Everyone had a fun evening and your support is really appreciated, thank you!

Christmas Hampers

Thank you for all the donations received so far and please speak to your Class Rep if you have any queries.

News from around the classes

Robins

At Forest School this week, Robins acted out the story of 'The Enormous Turnip' and had a tug-of-war to find out how strong their muscles were. We have also made vegetable soup and the children did a brilliant job of peeling and cutting the carrots, potatoes and parsnips themselves. In maths we have been playing dice games and dominoes - snakes and ladders has been particularly popular and many of the children keep asking to play it.

Kingfishers

Kingfishers have been busy creating fireworks in a jar! We have also been finishing off our beautiful firework pictures, as well as using hundreds and thousands to make lovely colourful sparkler pictures. Additionally, the children were fascinated to learn the true story of Guy Fawkes. At the end of the week the children will be learning about Remembrance Sunday and creating beautiful artwork to commemorate the event.

Owls

Owls have been learning all about states of matter this week in our science and categorising things as either a solid, liquid or gas. There was some debate about salt and sand as they can be poured but we discovered that these substances are made up of lots of small solids! We also had a demonstration of boiling some water in a pan and learnt that the water was not actually disappearing but turning to water vapour and we could actually turn this back into a liquid by condensing it.

Eagles

At this time of year it is important to understand why people wear poppies, especially since some Year 6 children take on the role of selling poppies and poppy related items. We read a poem called 'In Flanders' Fields' by John McRae and discussed why poppies were chosen as a symbol, how the first poppies were worn in 1919 and why it might still be relevant to do so today. The children were very respectful and thoughtful in their contributions to the lesson.



Birthdays this week.....
Josie Clargo and Fleur Docker-Drysdale
Congratulations!

School Lunches

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

NEXT WEEK'S MENU (13.11.17)				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Sausages with Mash & Gravy	Chicken Tikka & Rice	Roast Gammon with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Organic Beef Mince Cottage Pie	MSC Salmon Fish Cake with Chips
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
Vegetable Cottage Pie with Mash topping	Sweet & Sour Vegetale with Rice	Vegetable Pasty with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Quorn Sausage with Mash & Gravy	Roasted Vegetable fajita wrap
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
Jacket Potato with Beans	Tomato Soup & Filled Baguette	Jacket Potato with Salmon Mayo	Vegetable Soup & Filled Baguette	Jacket Potato with Cheese
Cauliflower & Peas	Carrots & Green Beans	Savoy Cabbage & Swede	Sweetcorn & Carrots	Baked Beans & Garden Peas
Plum & Vanilla Oaty Crumble with Custard/ Yoghurt/ Fresh Fruit Platter	Banana Cake & Custard/ Yoghurt/ Fresh Fruit Salad	Chocolate sponge with chocolate icing/ Yoghurt/ Fresh Fruit Platter	Apple Pie & Custard/ Yoghurt, Fresh Fruit Salad	Flapjack/ Yoghurt, Fresh Fruit Chunks

This week's 'Golden Children' (10.11.17)

Robins

Jack Wright for trying really hard to write a caption to go with his holiday picture.

Kingfishers

Hugo Millar for concentrating really well during addition activities in Maths and Beauford Weatherley-Kaye for designing a super symmetrical Rangoli pattern.

Owls

Lola Shakespeare and Issy Rayfield for their hard work in learning how to multiply three numbers together. Joseph Pringle for his hard work in Maths. George Brazier for setting his work out neatly and using paragraphs.

Eagles

Kit Jameson for his sewing and Monty Silver for his Highwayman diary entry.

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

Mr R Woolston
Headteacher