



Friday 12th October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our penultimate newsletter of this half term.

Cheltenham Literature Festival

Thanks to those parents who helped on the whole school visit to the Cheltenham Literature Festival last Friday. Robins and Kingfishers thoroughly enjoyed the entertaining session with Matt Carr, author of 'Superbat' and 'Spyder' and they have all been inspired to write in role as mini secret agents this week! Owls were equally delighted by the talents of Matt Goodfellow, author of 'Chicken on the Roof' and have been enthused to write their own poems in a similar vein. Eagles were thrilled to meet Anthony Horowitz, author of the hugely popular 'Alex Ryder' series. The day surpassed our expectations and there have been requests to go again another year. The Festival continues until Sunday, including free activities for families.

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival Service is going to be held in the Church on Monday 15th October at 9:30 am. Unfortunately there isn't enough space for all parents to join us, so the event will be for staff and children only. Pupils should come to school at the normal time and we will all walk down to the Church together.

Thank you for the donations of non-perishable food items we've received so far. Monday 15th October is the last day any items can be brought in as they're being taken to the local foodbank on Tuesday to help local people in need of some extra support.

Cross-Country

The Tewkesbury District Cross-Country races are up and running again this term on a Thursday afternoon after school. A number of dedicated young athletes have been proudly representing our school - well done to Lewis and Liam Burnett-Hockey, Kit Jameson, Monty Silver, Will Parker, Jesse Howell, Woody Holmes, Lawrence Osborne, Josie Clargo and Eliza Turner.

Mrs Burnett-Hockey has kindly agreed to run a training session on a Monday after school for any children who may be interested in taking part.

Open Classrooms Thursday 18th October

Parents and family members are welcome to visit the classrooms straight after school next Thursday. This is a great opportunity for your child to show you the work they've been doing since the start of term and this may help you when attending the forthcoming parents' evenings. Talking of which

Parents' Evening

These will be held on Thursday 1st November from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm and Tuesday 6th November from 3:30 to 6:00 pm. Appointments will be booked in the usual way and a letter with further details will be sent home on Monday.

Friendship Friday 19th October

For Friendship Friday next week Mrs Netting would like donations of Autumn objects for natural sculptures inspired by artist Andy Goldsworthy. Please bring leaves, conkers, acorns, fir cones etc. to Robins classroom. The children will also be creating art work inspired by other famous artists including Kandinsky, Picasso and Mondrian. It promises to be another fantastic Friendship Friday and we're planning to display the work produced around school. Please have a quick word with your child's class teacher if you're able to help out next Friday morning - many thanks.

Sand provided Free of Charge by David Deacon

We are very grateful to the builders working on the Bugatti for generously donating a large quantity of new play sand to the school. Having organised delivery they then came round to wheelbarrow it to the Robin's outdoor area, much to the excitement of the children.

Playground Project

The outside learning area for Kingfishers is really taking shape now and in particular the children are thoroughly enjoying the artificial grass. Last year we bid for a grant from Green Fields Trust who are keen to support local eco projects. The grant they generously awarded us of £1,900 has bought bird feeders and a mini-beast hotel for the front garden, planters, trellis, compost and plants for the Kingfishers new outdoor area as well as a playground recycling bin and wormery. Mrs Netting recently submitted another bid and if we're successful this will go towards paying for some additional eco-friendly items for the playground.

Love in a Box Christmas Appeal - Repeat Message

The deadline for bringing the boxes into school is Tuesday 6th November, when they will be collected and taken to the area distribution depot. Last year I think we managed to contribute twenty boxes which was a very good total for a school of our size and I hope we can at least match that figure this year. Please remember that you could club together and make up a box between friends or family.

Early Birds and Night Owls - Repeat Message

The children will be given the opportunity of tasting different fruits, vegetables and breads. They are also going to have a go at decorating some cakes and biscuits, so please see Karyn if you would prefer your child not to participate in these activities. Any donations of dry leaves, conkers, acorns and pine cones would be gratefully received.

Class Assemblies

Class assemblies will be in the hall from about 8:55 am on each day - all parents and family members are welcome to join us;

Eagles Class Assembly	Wednesday 10 th October	- well done to Eagles!
Kingfishers Class Assembly	Wednesday 17 th October	
Owls Class Assembly	Wednesday 7 th November	
Robins Class Assembly	Wednesday 14 th November	

Open Mornings - Repeat Message

We will be organising a number of Open Mornings for parents of children who will be starting school next September, so please spread the word if you know of anyone who this applies to. They will run from 9:30 am until about 10:45 am on Wednesday 31st October, Tuesday 6th November and Thursday 15th November. There will be a short presentation from me in the hall about the school in general then Mrs Netting will provide more detailed information about life in Robins. We will then all visit the Robins classroom to gain more of an understanding of the fantastic educational experiences on offer and then finally some of our Y6 children will take the parents on a tour of the school. Before leaving, all our visitors will have the chance to ask any further questions.

Diary Dates

Mon 15.10 (9:30 am)	Harvest Festival Service in Church
Wed 17.10.	Kingfishers Class Assembly
Thu 18.10.	Robins dress-up day "When I Grow Up!" (3:00 pm) Open Classrooms - parents welcome!
Fri 19.10.	Friendship Friday End of Term 1
Mon 22.10.	Start of half term week
Mon 29.10.	Start of Term 2
Tue 30.10	Owls Viking Day in school
Tue 30.10	Robins Pumpkin Party (after school)
Wed 31.10	Open Morning for prospective 2019 YR Parents Deadline for secondary school applications FOGs Halloween Disco
Thu 01.11.	Individual school photographs (4:30 pm to 7:00 pm) Parents evening
Mon 05.11 (from 5:30 pm)	FOGs Bonfire and Fireworks at the Royal Oak
Tue 06.11	Deadline for Shoe Box Appeal contributions
Tue 06.11	Open Morning for prospective 2019 YR Parents (3:30 pm to 6:00 pm) Parents evening
Wed 07.11	Owls Class Assembly
Fri 09.11.	Flu vaccinations (YR to Y5)
Wed 14.11.	Robins Class Assembly
Thu 15.11	Open Morning for prospective 2019 YR Parents
Wed 21.11	Owls visit to Sandfield Farm
Thu 22.11 (am)	Y6 children to French play at Winchcombe School
Mon 17.12	Dress Rehearsal of Christmas Performance (Robins and Kingfishers)
Tue 18.12 (2:00 pm)	Christmas Performance (Robins and Kingfishers)
Wed 19.12 (5:30 pm)	Christmas Performance (Robins and Kingfishers)
Fri 21.12.	(9:30 am) Christmas Carol Concert in Church (Owls) End of Term 2

If necessary further dates will be added and details regarding specific events will be sent out to you.

FOGS Update

Christmas Cards

Please can all orders for Christmas cards be handed into the office by 12/10/18 along with payment. Any cheques are to be made payable to Friends of Gretton School.

Tuesday 30th October

Pumpkin Party (Robins and Year 1 Only) 3.05-4.05pm £3 to include snack and crafts relating to dressing up! Further details to follow.

Halloween Disco (**Note the date has changed**)- 5.45-7pm £5 to include tickets for snacks and drink as well lots of dancing - prizes for best outfits!

Monday 5th November

Fireworks at The Royal Oak from 5.30pm. If you feel that you are able to assist on the night in any way please let us know. We need help with car park, guarding the bonfire, running stalls, collecting donations etc.

We are always in need of volunteers to help at the events or behind the scenes... so watch this space as details to follow!

Thank you!

News from around the classes

Robins

Robins met Mr Woolston's dog Mousse this week and thought of lots of interesting questions to ask. We found out that he is a very fast runner, loves a bit of cheese and likes to give you a lick to say hello! Robins have also been enjoying reading 'Spyder' by Matt Carr, the author we met at the Literature Festival and making their spy ID badges and undertaking secret missions. On Wednesday our Big Friends organised a 'Mini-Olympics' on the playground and in the MUGA. There were 8 events for the Robins to try and the Eagles were brilliant at supporting their Little Friends in learning some new skills.

Kingfishers

Yet another busy week in Kingfishers! The children have been really enthused by their trip to the Literature Festival, and have been writing descriptions with exciting adjectives and learning to use exclamation marks. We have been creating head bands for our Assembly next week (please come if you can) and have been learning about Christenings. On Tuesday we had a very popular visitor, he was very pleased to meet us, showing his enthusiasm by greeting the children with licks and lying down so his tummy could be tickled. The children had many things to ask Mr Woolston....and Mousse, his dog! You will have noticed we are making progress with our outdoor area, now comes the time to resource it. We wondered if anyone has access to guttering and or pipe-work for the children to use? If so, please see Mrs Eliot.

Owls

Owls have been thoroughly inspired by their trip to see Matt Goodfellow at the literacy festival last week and have produced some fantastic poems which we will be putting on display shortly. In our topic work, we looked at different jobs people would have had and discovered that many of our parents' own jobs wouldn't have existed in Saxon times!

Eagles

Anthony Horowitz told us many interesting and funny tales of his time at school and his writing. He encouraged us all to keep writing and stay positive. He read us his only poem, which was terrible! Horowitz gave lots of good advice. We have been inspired by his difficulty in writing female villains to try to write our own this week; from Vivienne Curse to Ivy Rose the Terrible, we are seeing some dastardly female deeds!

Birthday Bulletin



Birthdays coming up.....

None this week!

But Congratulations anyway!

School Lunches

To help your child choose their school dinners, here's next week's menu;

NEXT WEEK'S MENU (15.10.18)				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Cottage Pie	Roast Gammon, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Chicken Curry	Fish fingers with chips
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
Vegetable Hotpot	Vegetable Fajita	Quorn Roast with Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Macaroni Cheese	Vegetable Pasty with Chips
OR	OR	OR	OR	OR
Jacket Potato with Tuna	Tomato Soup with half Filled Baguette	Jacket Potato with Beans	Vegetable Soup with half Filled Baguette with	Jacket Potato with Cheese
Sweetcorn & Peas	Green Beans & Carrots	Carrot & Cauliflower	Sweetcorn & Broccoli	Baked Beans & Garden Peas
Apple Crumble with Custard Yoghurt/ Fruit Platter	Chocolate Cocoa Cookie Yoghurt/Fruit Salad	Chocolate Banana Oaty Square, Yoghurt/Fruit Platter	Fruit Strudel with Custard/Yoghurt/ Fruit Salad	Cheese, Biscuits & Apple/ Yoghurt, Fruit Station

This week's 'Golden Children' (12.10.18)

Robins

Ivy Dawson for always being keen to answer questions.

Kingfishers

Thomas Brown for making accurate repeating patterns in maths and Jack Wright for writing a great character description of 'Superbat'.

Owls

Jennifer Andrew for showing kindness to others and Matilda Finney for an excellent 'Going to School' poem.

Eagles

All the Y6 children for being so brilliant at the Big Friends/Little Friends Mini-Olympics!

Best wishes to all members of the school community and I hope you enjoy the weekend.

Mr R Woolston

Headteacher