



Great Bardfield News

Newsletter No 15- Friday 5th February 2016

The newsletter will be circulated to all parents every Friday. Newsletters are also held centrally at the School Office and are on the website.

Another busy week!

What another busy week we have had in school this week. The children may have shared with you that we had some 'people' in school on Thursday. As one little Unicorn exclaimed loudly whilst the most important member of the group was in the room, 'oh no not more visitors!' The gentleman saw the funny side and thought **all** of our children were absolutely fantastic.. Although there was a tricky moment when 4 Unicorn boys decided to role play and tried to take his blood and give him a 'massive' injection! All good learning fun. As always the children made us very proud. They were given the opportunity to share their feelings about our school and it was good to hear that they love coming to school and feel safe.

Essex schools sometimes have visits from the Local Authority in an advisory capacity to carry out an Ofsted Ready Review. We really welcomed this opportunity to show our wonderful school at its best. We all (children, staff and parents) have been working very hard over the last year to raise standards and help our children to reach their full potential.

I am absolutely delighted to share with you that the team felt that if the school were to be inspected in the next six months that we would be likely to achieve a **Good Grade**. We still have some work to do to make things even better and they were clear that we must keep our standards high. We really do appreciate all of your support

with helping us to do this especially in light of the demands of the new curriculum and the way we are now assessing children.

Return of the Cake Sales

These will start again after half term. We will start with Phoenix class and the dates will run as follows:

Phoenix Class Friday 26th February
Pegasus Class Friday 4th March
Griffin Class Friday 11th March
Dragon Class Friday 18th March
Unicorn Class **Thursday** 24th March

We really appreciate parents taking the time to make the cakes to sell. All of the money raised goes directly to the class and not into the general budget. We have used the money this term to improve the Reading Corners in each classroom. So every penny raised makes a huge difference. When it is the turn of your class we would be grateful if parents could work together to organise the sale.

Sports Relief

We will be supporting this event on Friday 18th March with a Non Uniform Day. Children can come dressed in their favourite sports gear. We will have a Sports themed day too. We would ask that children bring in £1.00 in exchange for wearing their own clothes.

Severe Weather

So far we have managed to get away without snow! If we do have a sudden cold snap and need to close the school then we will send you a text message as early as possible. We will also put a message on the school website.

Do please make sure that we have your most up to date contact details so that you don't miss out on any important information. Also we are still going outside when the weather is cold for PE and Play so it is very important that your child is wrapped up well against the elements. There can be a biting wind that blows across the playground and we don't like to see children shivering with the cold.

Parents Evenings

You will be receiving a letter this week inviting you to come along to your half year Parent Update Meeting. This meeting is very important as we want to share with you how well your child is progressing and discuss how we can work together with you to support your child to do even better.

Please note that with the exception of Year 6 that children should **not** attend these meetings.

You will also receive a half year progress check report early in the first week after half term. This will let you know how your child is attaining and will scaffold the discussion that you have with your child's teacher.

Attendance

As parents will know following recent legislation, I can only authorise absence from school in very exceptional circumstances. I do realise that this must prove frustrating for parents for a number of reasons.

Please make sure that you call the office on the first day of your child's

sickness. We would also encourage parents to make medical appointments outside of the school day. If your child does have a medical appointment in the school day then we would ask you to bring the appointment card/ letter to the office so that it can be photocopied and put in your child's school record file.

I understand that there may be a temptation to phone your child in sick, to have holiday for a day or longer, when your child is not unwell. I must ask you to consider the impact of this on your child. They miss vital learning time which often they cannot catch up on. It also places your child in an embarrassing situation when people ask them if they are feeling better when they know that they have not been poorly.

Uniform

We would ask parents to please make sure that their child's school uniform is clean and smart and that they are well presented for school. Girls should have long hair tied back to prevent the arrival of unwelcome guests! Your child must also have a full PE kit in school to take part in Sports activities which may be outside or indoor.

Please make sure that all uniform including footwear is clearly labelled.

We have also noticed lots of girls wearing nail varnish. Nail varnish is not part of school uniform and we will ask your child to remove it for the next day. If they still have it on then they will have to remove it in school.

Upcoming FOBs Events

Please keep an eye out this week for a flyer from FOBS detailing all of the upcoming events including the **Nearly New Sale** (being organised by Mel Simms) that is happening **on Tuesday 1st March** after school. Also the annual Pamper Day (being organised

by Megan Burgess) on **Saturday 19th March 1pm-5pm.**

There are lots of new and exciting events happening. If you have time do please come along to the next FOBs meeting on Wednesday 10th February, straight after school in Pegasus Class. Children are welcome to stay in the Library. If you can't make the meeting but do want to help out at an event, even for just an hour, it makes all the difference, then please have a chat with Sally Beanland.

Friday 12th February

Please remember that this Friday is a Non Pupil Day and that school will be closed for staff training.

Awards this week go to:

Special awards go to:

George Needham, Oliver Mutimer, Louise Clark, Charlie Wells, Charlotte Crow, Rosie Wells, Henry Quinn, Holly Ballantyne, Luke Paulyn and Thomas Jarman

Bookworm awards go to:

Luca Rowe, Henry Collins, Tamsin Aston, Emily Chapman and Izzy White.

Presentation Awards:

Benjamin Yarrow, Harry Needham, Ben Paulyn, William Brandl and Nicholas Jones.

Well done to all of the children this week.

On behalf of all of the staff at Great Bardfield Primary school, I would like to wish you all a nice weekend.

Mrs Kerrell