

What a busy first week we have all had! The children have settled into their new classrooms and have been busy making scarecrows, completing an artist study and making Christmas cards! Our new reception children are making themselves at home and are proving to be an absolute delight. It has been lovely to see some of the Year 7s who have popped in to show off their very smart uniforms. All of a sudden they look extremely grown up!

Stay and Share - 'Meet the teacher'

All parents and families are warmly invited along to our first 'Stay and Share' of the new year from **9.30am to 10am this Friday.** This is an opportunity to meet the adults who work with your children and to find out more about what your child will be learning this year. Please come along if you can.

Scarecrow Festival

Our PTA have been working hard behind the scenes to arrange Great Bardfield's second 'Scarecrow Festival' on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September. You can purchase a map from the school and hunt the scarecrows around the village.

Please do come along to school between 11am and 5pm on Saturday. There will be inflatables, food trucks, bar and lots of stalls to enjoy on the back playground. The event promises to be a great deal of fun and an opportunity for us to raise desperately needed funds for our school. We have everything crossed for some dry weather.

On **Friday 12th September** we are inviting children to come to school in non-uniform in return for a donation of a cake/s for the stall at the Scarecrow Festival. These can be homemade or shop bought – we are grateful for all donations.

Uniform

Last week I reminded parents and children of our expectations around school uniform. Now we have had the week to settle back in, if your child is not wearing the correct uniform, you will receive a message via Parentmail. This will outline what is missing or incorrect and request that it is rectified as soon as possible.

At our school, we take pride in looking smart and following our uniform rules, and we ask for your support in helping us maintain these standards. Please take these reminders in the spirit intended—so that we can work together to set high expectations for our children.

We are, of course, an inclusive school. If there is a genuine reason why your child is unable to wear the correct uniform, I would encourage you to speak to me directly, either in person or by email, so that we can find a solution together.

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Enrichment Studies

For the new parents among our community, every Wednesday afternoon, the children take part in enrichment activities. These sessions broaden our children's learning beyond the National Curriculum. There are opportunities for outdoor learning, gardening and cooking, developing performance skills and team building amongst other activities. The children work in their class groups and alternate activities every half term.

Play Equipment

Unfortunately, over the holiday our wooden play equipment on the top playground was condemned. We are awaiting quotes to remove, replace or redesign the area and we will keep everyone posted on any new developments. Until then, as usual, please ensure your children are not playing in the area before and after school.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Our Prestige Sports Autumn Term extra-curricular sports activities will begin the week beginning 8th September. These are for children in Years 1 to 6. Our Reception children may join a club in the Summer Term. The clubs before school are free. There is a cost to parents for the after school clubs. Please sign up for all sports clubs on the Prestige Sports website or use the link below.

Book a School Club | Prestige Sports Deve (prestigesportsdevelopment.com)

Monday

KS1 Gymnastics KS2 Football 3.15pm – 4.15pm **Wednesday** 8:00am - 8:40am KS1 Football 3:15pm - 4:15pm KS2 Gymnastics A big thank you to Prestige who have agreed to run a KS2 football club on Mondays in place of Mr Cragg's football sessions.

PTA News

I have received some positive feedback about the new arrangements for organising PTA events this coming year. I have also been reminded of a few events which have been left off the list in last week's newsletter.

Everything is up for discussion with this new system and events can be shared out according to the differing knowledge, availability and contacts members have so please come along and share your views at our first meeting of the year on **Tuesday 23**rd **September at 7pm** in the hall.

If you cannot make it to the meeting, you are welcome to drop me an email or catch me on the playground to share your ideas, as some of you already have. Hopefully by the end of the meeting we will have a clear, final plan of how to proceed.

Christmas Cards

On Friday, the artwork your child has completed for our 'Cauliflower Card' project will be sent home. If you wish to purchase any items containing your child's design such as cards, wrapping paper. Mugs, etc, please order by scanning the QR code on the artwork form or visiting their website. If you have placed an order, you will need to return your child's artwork by Friday 20th September at the latest. Thank you to Jo Goldsmith who organises this project every year to raise essential funds for our PTA.

Finchingfield 3-legged Race

On Sunday **14th September** from 1pm to 5pm, Finchingfield's annual race will

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be held on the village green. There will be lots of fun activities to join in with. Please see the attached flyer for more details. Monday 27th Oct – Friday 31st October Half Term Break

We hope you have a fantastic week.

Mrs Crow

Please note some date changes (highlighted in green)

Important Dates for your diary

September

Friday 12th September

Non-uniform Day (Cake donations) Celebration Assembly 9am Stay and Share – 'Meet the Teacher' Sat 13th - Sun 14th September Scarecrow Festival 11am – 5pm

Tuesday 23rd September

PTA Meeting 7pm

Friday 26th September Celebration Assembly 9am Great Bardfield Macmillan Bake Off and Afternoon Coffee and Cake 2.30pm

October

Friday 3rd October

Celebration Assembly

Saturday 4th October

Open Morning 10am -12pm

Wednesday 8th October

Open Afternoon 1.30pm - 2.45pm

Friday 10th October

Celebration Assembly

Mon 13th – Wed 16th October

Y6 Bikeability

Friday 17th October

Harvest Festival

Thursday 23rd October

Halloween Disco TBC

Friday 24th October

Celebration Assembly