



GREAT MASSINGHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Weasenham Road, Great Massingham, King's Lynn. PE32 2EY  
Headteacher: Ann Beardall Tel: 01485 520362

Website: [www.greatmassingham.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.greatmassingham.norfolk.sch.uk)

## NEWSLETTER SPRING 2020

*I will instruct you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. Psalm 32:8*

This is our federation vision statement. We believe it describes what our Federation of schools really stands for—guiding and caring for the children.

Welcome to Pippa into Year 5 and Martha into Year 3. The number on roll is now 59.

We also welcome three new TAs, Mrs Hurcomb, Mrs Brown and Mrs Hoddy to the staff team.

### PATHS

The PATHS programme is running well in school; we have been visited several times by our PATHS coach, Anna, who is very pleased with the PATHS work that is happening in school. There will be another PATHS Parents' Workshop on Friday 5th June — more details later in the year. We are now awarding a PATHS role model of the week certificate in celebration assembly each week. This is awarded for keeping the PATHS golden rule (treat others as you would like to be treated) and showing consistent examples of positive behaviour.



In PATHS, we have been learning that all feelings are ok but all behaviours are not ok. The children have been thinking about all the different feelings we have and whether these are comfortable or uncomfortable feelings. There has been lots of whole class discussion, group and independent work and role play. Pupils have also begun to explore how to keep calm when they are feeling an uncomfortable feeling such as anger or jealousy. The infant children are being taught to 'do turtle' just like Twiggle, one of the PATHS characters; the juniors have been taught to use a traffic light system to stop, think and act.



### ATTENDANCE

Our attendance to the end of January 2020 is **94.67%**.

Our target for this school year is 96%. This is improving — well done and keep up the good work!



### EASTER SERVICE

This year our Easter Service will be held at St Mary's Church on **Monday 30th March at 1.45pm**. The PFA will provide refreshments at school after the service. There will also be an Easter Egg hunt for the children.



## TOPICS THIS TERM



### Key Stage 2: The Mayans

**Literacy** - Explanation texts, recounts, myths and legends, poetry (free verse). Ongoing spelling and grammar work.

**Maths** – Y3/4: Number, multiplication and division, measurement of length, perimeter and area, fractions, mass and capacity, decimals

**Y5/6:** Fractions, ratio, decimals and percentages, algebra, measurement of perimeter, area and volume, statistics.

**Science** – Y3/4: Forces and magnets; Rocks and fossils.

Y5/6: Light; the circulatory system; diet, exercise and nutrition.

**Geography** – Physical and Human geographical features of central America, home of the Mayan civilization.

**History** – Who were the Mayans? What was daily life like for them? What were the important events and achievements of the civilization? When and why did they decline?

**RE** – How do Christians bring about reconciliation? What is the significance of the Eucharist to Christians?

**Art & DT** – Make Mayan masks, jewellery and artefacts.

**PE** – Taught by Amy, Top Sport Coach: Hockey skills and circuit training.



### EYFS and Key Stage 1: Where do people live in the UK?

**Literacy** - The Katie Morag stories. Ongoing phonics, spelling and grammar work.

**Maths** — number and place value to 100, division, statistics, measuring length and height, shape, fractions.

**Science** - Local living things and their habitats.

**Geography** - Compare the Isle of Coll in Scotland to Great Massingham.

**History** - The Great Fire of London.

**RE** - How do Faith leaders inspire the members of their community?

**Art & DT** - regional arts and crafts, drawing and painting landscapes.

**PE** - Taught by Amy, Top Sport Coach: Hockey skills and circuit training.



**As part of their learning about the Great Fire of London, Class 1 will be visiting the Fire Station in Fakenham on 27.02.2020 -TBC**

**This will be a federation visit with Harpley.**



### **CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES**

Parents are invited to join our Celebration Assemblies on Friday mornings at 9.00am.

The PFA are organising a fortnightly cake raffle at this assembly. You will be notified on the weekly bulletin which week is a cake raffle week. If any parent would like to donate a cake to raffle the PFA would be most grateful. Please speak to Mrs Smith if you can help. The next cake raffle will be held on 7th February. Tickets cost 50 pence each and will be on sale in Class 2's cloakroom on Thursday morning.

### **COLLECTIVE WORSHIP**

Our theme for collective worship this half term is **Service**.

Parents are very welcome to join us for collective worship on any day. This takes place at 3.00pm every afternoon in the school hall.

Mrs Frazer will be taking our school assemblies on **Tuesday 11th February and Tuesday 10th March (Ark Club)**.

### **PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT**

Pre-school children may use the climbing frame at the end of a school day prior to the school children leaving the building. This must be with parental supervision. Once the school children come out no children should be on the equipment.

This is due to insurance — not because we don't want the children to have fun! Sorry.

Can we also ask that the small playtime equipment (balls, skipping ropes, etc) not be used by preschoolers at the start and end of school days. We are trying hard to keep it tidy and in good working order for playtime use.

### **NON-UNIFORM DAY IN FEBRUARY**

We will be holding a non-uniform day later in the term in support of a local family who are fund-raising for hospital treatment for their very sick child. The children will be discussing this at the school council meeting on 6th February.

### **CRUCIAL CREW**

Y6 will be attending the annual crucial crew event at Kings Lynn Fire Station in April. This will be in school time and further details will be sent when they are finalised.



### **SCHOOL LIBRARY**

Thank you to Nancy Kellogg for her kind donation to school. We have some lovely new books for the children to choose.

### **WEEKLY BULLETIN**

A few parents have said they have difficulty opening the weekly bulletins emailed out on Thursdays. If you have a problem with this please speak to Mrs Smith who will arrange for a paper copy to be sent home.

PLEASE read your weekly bulletins— it is the best way we have of informing parents of the things happening in school but it only works when people remember to read it!



### **PHOTO ORDERS**

Thank you to all parents who ordered photographs in the Autumn Term. The commission received by the school came to £62.87.

### CYCLING TRAINING

Level 1 cycle training will be on the playground on **Friday 27th March** for Years 3 & 4 from 1.00pm to 3.00pm (Year 5 children are welcome to join this training session if they have not completed the on the playground training). We would welcome 2 parent volunteers — please let

Mrs Smith know if you are able to help.

### GUITAR AND DRUM CONCERT

Stef and his pupils will be performing during the Celebrations Assembly on **Friday 14th February**. Assembly will begin at 9.00am and last for approximately half an hour.



### KS2 FEDERATION DAY

We are organising a Mayan Day on **Tuesday 31st March**. The KS2 children will be taking part in lots of different activities related to their topic on the Mayans. More details to follow.

On this date all the federation KS2 children will be at one schools and all YR and KS1 will be at the other. Details to follow ASAP.

### SPRING TERM WOW WRITING

For our writing WOW event this term, the Junior class will be taking part in the BBC 500 Words short story Competition. They will be planning and writing their own short story which will be entered in to the BBC competition and could win a prize — see the BBC website for more details.

The infants will practicing their letter writing skills. We are expecting a letter from Katie Morag which the children will then reply to.

### WORLD BOOK DAY



On **World Book Day, March 5th**, children in the Infant class will have a Scottish theme to fit in with their work on the Katie Morag stories. Pupils in the Junior class will be asked to dress in their World War Two evacuee costumes (or similar) following last term's topic as Mr Watling is still reading the class a wartime story called **Letters from the Lighthouse** which the children are very much enjoying.

Letters to follow.



### PARENTS' EVENINGS

Parents' Evening this term for **Class 2** will be on:-

**Tuesday 10th March 2020.**

**Years 3 and 4**

Mr Holt from 2.15pm

**Years 5 and 6**

Sally Frere-Smith from 1.30pm

Parents' Evening this term for **Class I** will be on:

**Tuesday 17th March 2020**

**Reception** — from 2.15pm with Mrs Hall

**Tuesday 24th March 2020**

**Years 1 & 2** — from 2.15pm with Mrs Hall

Appointment letters to follow.

### EDP PLANT TO PLATE VOUCHERS

We are collecting the EDP vouchers for our Gardening Club. Please send vouchers into school. Thankyou.



### **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

The School Council will hold a meeting on **Thursday 6th February at 2.45pm**. Amongst other items, the children will be discussing their experience of the PATHS programme so far.

### **HEIGHT AND WEIGHT CHECK RECEPTION AND YEAR 6**

Height and weight checks will be carried out by the school nurse on **Monday 10th February 2020**. These checks are carried out by the school nursing team who see pupils individually. You will receive a letter with the results of the check a few weeks later.



### **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS**

Ark Club has been arranged for after school on **Tuesday 11th February 2020** and **Tuesday 10th March 2020 from 3.30pm to 4.30pm**.

Mrs Frazer will take the assembly on these days at 3.00pm.

Craft Club on a Friday from 3.20 to 4.20pm will continue until Friday 27th March. Mrs Stibbon would like to say a HUGE thank you to Maria Martin for volunteering to help with the club.

### **SATS WEEK**

Key Stage 2 SATS week in the week beginning **18th May 2020**. All Year 6 pupils must be in school this week unless they are not well. Year 1 Phonics Screening will take place week commencing 8th June.



### **D & V OUTBREAKS**

Tummy bugs, sickness and flu spread very easily at this time of year. Public Health Advice states “Children who fall ill with sickness and diarrhoea **should not return to school until 48 hours after they were last sick or had diarrhoea.**” Our aim, with this advice, is to prevent illness spreading within schools and causing more families distress. Please also remember if you have a well child with a sick sibling the well child should attend school.

If you have any difficulties getting a child to school when a sibling is ill please let us know and we will do all we can to help.

### **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

School clothing can be ordered through the PFA (Kerri Turner) from [myclothing.com](http://myclothing.com) and Wovina — [www.wovina.com](http://www.wovina.com). Order forms for school uniform from the PFA are available from the school office.

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

Thank you for supporting our non-uniform day in December. The Great Massingham and Harpley School Federation raised **£321.13** for The King’s Lynn Winter Night Shelter.

### **LYNNSPORT**

Reception and KS1 will continue to take part in gymnastics at Lynnsport on a Monday morning until Monday 23rd March and Key Stage 2 until Friday 27th March. Lunchtime is from 12.15pm to 1.15pm on these days.

### **SUMMER TERM DATES**

**PATHS parent workshop** on calming down and problem solving strategies: Friday 5th June, 2.50pm-3.20pm.

Sports Day—Thursday 18th June  
Summer Production Tuesday 23rd June (TBC)  
Year 6 leave for Litcham High School on Friday 3rd July 2020.

### **BOOTS IN SCHOOL**

In the winter pupils who come into school wearing boots should change into indoor shoes or plimsolls in school. They may, of course, change into their PE trainers to save sending another pair of shoes to school.



### **HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME**

Please remember we cannot authorise ANY holidays in term time and any holiday absence will be recorded as unauthorized.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Our attendance target for the school year is 96%. Any pupil with below 90% attendance will be deemed a Persistent Absentee under DfE guidelines.

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school we will need you to evidence this. Our attendance figures dropped significantly last term and the Local Authority Attendance Officer is keeping a close eye on us! If you email your child's absence with a description of what is wrong we can print a copy. If children need a doctor's appointment or have a hospital appointment a copy of the hospital letter or doctor's appointment card can be used for evidence. If children are on medication the medicine box will be fine as evidence of absence due to illness.

**Please help keep our attendance up both this term and next. Thank you**



### **BOOK BAGS HOME READING & HOMEWORK**

#### **CLASS 1**

Please make sure book bags and reading books are brought to school everyday so we can listen to the children read regularly to ensure good progress in reading. Library books should be returned to school every Wednesday.

#### **CLASS 2**

Please remember that homework is set on a Wednesday and is to be brought back to school every Monday. Spelling dictations (Years 3 and 4) to be practised for Fridays. Merits are awarded for correct punctuation and spelling.



### **HEADTEACHER CONTACT**

If parents need to speak to Mrs Beardall for any reason she will usually be at Great Massingham as follows:-

Monday afternoon, Tuesday morning, part of Wednesday's. Mrs Stibbon, Co-Headteacher is available part of Wednesday's, Thursday mornings and Friday afternoons.

Mrs B or Mrs S can also be contacted on the Headteacher's phone 07825104854 or at Harpley 01485 520274, or Great Massingham 01485 520362. Of course, it is always possible to speak directly to a class teacher or other member of staff and this may result in issues being dealt with more promptly.



### **FEEDBACK FORM**

Please give us your feedback on the PATHS initiative so far. Has your child talked to you about it? Do you think it helping your child at school?

# **DIARY DATES**

## **Monday 10th February**

1.00pm — Height and Weight Check — Reception and Year 6

## **Tuesday 11th February**

3.00pm — Ark Club Assembly

3.30pm—4.30pm —Ark Club

7.00pm- PFA meeting

## **Friday 14th February**

9.00am — Guitar and drum assembly with Stef

**17th February to 21st February — half term**

## **Monday 24th February to Monday 23rd March**

Class 1 to Lynnsport

## **Thursday 27th February**

Class I visit to Fakenham Fire Station—TBC

## **Friday 28th February to Friday 27th March**

Class 2 to Lynnsport

3.20 to 4.20pm—Craft Club

## **Thursday 5th March**

World Book Day

## **Tuesday 10th March**

1.30pm — Year 5 and Year 6 Parents' Evening with Mrs Frere-Smith

2.15pm — Year 3 and Year 4 Parents' Evening with Mr Holt

3.00pm — Ark Club Assembly

3.30pm to 4.30pm — Ark Club

## **Tuesday 17th March**

2.15pm—Reception Parents' Evening with Mrs Hall

## **Tuesday 24th March**

2.15pm— Year 1/Year 2 Parents' Evening with Mrs Hall

## **Friday 27th March**

1.00pm to 3.00pm — Level 1 cycle training (on the playground) for Years 3 and 4

## **Monday 30th March**

1.45pm — Easter Service in St Mary's Church. Refreshments and Easter Egg Hunt for children back at school after the service.

## **Tuesday 31st March**

Mayan Class 2 Day

## **Wednesday 1st April**

School Closes for Easter Holiday at 3.20pm

## **Monday 20th April**

School opens for the Summer Term

## **Summer Term Dates:-**

**Summer Production — Tuesday 23rd June — TBC**

**Sports Day — Thursday 18th June**

**Paths Parents Workshop — Friday 5th June 2.50pm to 3.20pm**





**FEEDBACK**

**FOCUS TOPIC: PATHS**

**What is your experience of PATHS so far?**

Please use this slip to pass on your views - or e-mail to  
[office@greatmassingham.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@greatmassingham.norfolk.sch.uk)

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Print \_\_\_\_\_

OR LEAVE BLANK IF YOU PREFER YOUR VIEWS TO BE ANONYMOUS