



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

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope everyone had a good summer and a well-earned rest and are all ready for another busy academic year.

We are very pleased to welcome a big intake of new Reception children - Scarlet, Eden, Alfie, Florence, George, Nancy, Timothy, Henry, Oscar and William. We also welcome Freya who is joining Year 1, Daniel who is joining Year 4 and we welcome Rosie back to Year 5 after she joined Class 2 at the end of the summer term.

We are lucky enough to have two new members of staff—Mrs Kirsten Stibbon and Mrs Susan Rouse who will be working with YR and KS1 in Class 1. Both are very experienced and are very enthusiastic about joining the Massingham Staff team.

With such a big YR intake it is really important that other year groups come into school independently.

Please do not feel that we do not welcome parents and carers in school - we do!

Our open door policy is important to us - we believe parents should be able to access the school as necessary. If you have an urgent issue at the start of the day, e.g. if a child is off colour please speak to Mrs Smith at the cloakroom door or a member of Class 1 staff at the infant classroom door and they will brief appropriate staff or suggest you pop in if necessary.

Any other issues should be brought up at the end of a school day, and we will always respond to a phone call or email (although we are very keen to maintain the personal touch small schools excel at). We **always** want to know about any concerns you or your child may have - we are not able to sort things out if we don't know about them! But we need the time to deal with issues properly and the beginning of a school day is generally VERY busy!

THIS TERM'S TOPICS

CLASS 1:

Mr Men

Ourselves
and Homes



CLASS 2:

Rivers

In RE Class 2 will be looking at Sikhism



ATTENDANCE

Our attendance target for the new school year is 96%.

Attendance for 2016-17 was 96.1%.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

We cannot authorise any holidays in term time. If parents decide to take pupils out of school on school days the absence will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.



HARVEST

We will be collecting for the Food Bank again this year as part of our Harvest celebrations. A member of staff from the Mid-Norfolk Food bank will come into school to talk with the children about the work of the foodbank. Our Harvest Festival will be at St Mary's Church, Great Massingham at 2.00pm on Thursday 12th October. All welcome.

GYMNASTICS AT LYNNSPORT

Class 2 will be taking part in Gymnastics Sessions at LynnSport with Harpley on Monday 11th September, Monday 18th September, Monday 25th September, Monday 2nd October and Monday 16th October. Class 1 will be taking part in Gymnastics at Lynnsport with Harpley from Monday 30th October to Monday 4th December. Children should wear navy or grey tracksuits on gym days please with PE kits underneath to save changing time at the gym.



START OF THE DAY

The school gate will be opened at 8.45am. If you arrive before this time please wait with your child/children on the playground until the gate is opened. If you need to speak to someone urgently before this time please buzz. Teachers really need preparation time at the start of a school day so we ask that you arrive on time but not early. For morning music lessons please press the buzzer as normal.



STAFFING FROM SEPTEMBER 2017



Class 1

Mrs Hall - all week

Mrs Hall will not be in class on Tuesday mornings - PPA time. This will be covered by Mrs Stibbon

Mrs Rouse - Monday, Wednesdays, and Friday all day and Tuesday mornings

Mrs Brown and Mrs Kitney will act as Class 1 Teaching Assistant on Thursdays

Mr Lilley - all week

Class 2

Mrs Cross - all week

Mrs Cross will not be in class on Thursday mornings - PPA time

Mrs Frere-Smith will be in Class 2 on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

Mr Watling - Thursday all day

Mrs Frost - Monday to Friday all week

In addition, Mrs Susan Wood, will continue to work across both classes on Tuesday afternoons as SENDCo support, assisting Mrs Beardall with SEND admin paperwork and intervention groups.

Denise, Liz and Sarah will share the MSA duties across the week.

Mrs Smith will be in the school office on Monday and Thursday all day and on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.

SWIMMING

We will be swimming at the Construction Skills pool on a Thursday afternoon in the Spring Term. If you are available to help please see Mrs Smith. We **REALLY** need regular volunteers to go in the pool with our youngest children.



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

School photographs will be taken by Tempest on Friday 3rd November from 2-3pm. If you would like to include younger siblings in the family photograph please come to school at 2pm.



GREAT MASSINGHAM AND HARPLEY SCHOOL SWAP DAYS

We will be continuing the Science/ Languages Swap Day with Harpley for Key Stage 2 every Wednesday afternoon. Our Year 5/6 children will be transported to and from Harpley by the Houghton minibus. The first swap session will be on Wednesday 13th September.

MUSIC LESSONS

Mr Daniels will be continuing with the Key Stage 2 music lessons on a Friday morning. The children will be learning to play the xylophone this term.



Guitar and drum lessons with Stef Judd will continue from Friday 15th September. Please contact the school office if your child/children are interested in guitar or drum lessons.

SCHOOL PICK UP

We must know if your child/children are going home with anyone other than the adult who regularly collects. Please speak to Mrs Smith or another member of staff in the morning if there is a change to the norm or phone school if there is a change of plan for pick up during the day.

Mrs Frost checks the answer phone before the end of each day.

SCHOOL MEALS

Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 are eligible for Universal Infant Free School Meals or UIFSM. This means that Class 1 children may have a free hot meal or packed lunch every lunchtime. The kitchen will provide a choice of hot meal, a vegetarian option or a jacket potato with fillings.

Class 2 — please hand hot dinner orders and payment in a named envelope to Mrs Smith on a Monday morning. School dinners remain at £2.20 per meal.



HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT

The children will be bringing home our annual Home School Agreement for signature. This outlines what parents can expect from the school and what we expect from you and your child/children.

Please talk with your child about the 'promise' they will sign explaining in simple terms to younger children what they are agreeing to. You should sign a copy to return to school, which we will keep on file, and please also keep a copy for yourself.

PARKING

If you drive to school PLEASE park away from school if you can - and walk the remaining part of the journey. Park near the Pub and see your children safely across the road or walk them to school from there. If you can, avoid parking completely by dropping older pupils safely along Weasenham Road allowing them to walk the short, final part of the journey themselves. We know it is convenient to drive right up to school to drop children off, especially in bad weather, but we must ensure that the local community are not inconvenienced and, more importantly, that all our children are safe on their way to and from school.

ALWAYS park considerately without blocking entrances to homes and gardens. Be aware of children and adults cycling/walking to school and be vigilant throughout your whole journey.

Do not park on the yellow zigzags outside the school at any time.

Please also remember that by law cars **must park 10 metres away from a junction** and a fixed penalty fine could be incurred by a driver not parked safely.



FEDERATION DAY

Great Massingham and Harpley KS2 pupils will visit the Cathedral in Norwich on Monday 9th October. The focus of the cathedral day theme this year is 'People of God'. Activities will include art, dance, craft, drama and storytelling.

This date will also be a Federation Day for YR and KS1 pupils. Further details to follow.

UNIFORM

The Governing Body request that all children attending Great Massingham School support its positive image in the community by wearing school uniform and having appropriately coloured/styled hair. The wearing of nail polish and tattoo transfers is discouraged as it can be distracting for pupils. Girls and Boys must have long hair tied and/or clipped back for health and safety reasons.

Great Massingham uniform consists of

- navy sweatshirt/cardigan or jumper with or without logo,
- navy polo shirt,
- black or grey trousers/skirts/pinafore dresses or shorts,
- Girls may wear a blue and white checked dress in warm weather.

School shoes (**not trainers**) should be black or brown and, for safety reasons, strappy or high-heeled sandals/shoes must not be worn.

In winter/wet weather pupils who come to school wearing boots should change into indoor shoes or plimsolls in school.

Jewellery should not be worn - this includes loom bands, wristbands etc. Pupils may wear small stud earrings, wristwatches and attendance award wristbands. If earrings and watches are worn, it is at the wearer's own risk. The school is not responsible for their damage or loss. For safety reasons children must remove watches and earrings for PE. Children should remove and be responsible for their own earrings. If your child is unable to do this please remove earrings at home before school on PE days.

Please ensure all clothing and belongings are clearly named so that lost property can be identified and returned.



PHONICS WORKSHOP

There will be a Phonics Workshop in Class 1 for all Class 1 parents on Wednesday 20th September at 9.00am. Please attend if you can – it is really helpful for parents and school when everyone has an understanding of phonics teaching and its importance.

KEY STAGE 2 VISIT TO THE RIVER NAR

As part of this term's topic on Rivers, Mr Watling has organised a visit to the River Nar for Class 2 on Thursday 28th September 2017. Letter to follow.

APPLE STORE AND GRAVITY—YEAR 6

Mr Heazel, from Harpley, has arranged a Year 6 computing workshop at the Apple Store in Norwich on Friday 22nd September. A visit to the Gravity Trampoline Park has been organized for the afternoon.



BIRTH CERTIFICATES

We need to see birth certificates for all new Reception children. Please ensure a copy is taken to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you.

SCHOOL GARDEN

Julian will continue to help Class 1 to maintain the school garden on a Friday afternoon. This term the children will be collecting the autumn vegetables sown earlier this year.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Multisports — Andrea Glover from Finish Line Sports will be running an after school Multisports Club on a Tuesday after school from 3.30-4.30pm for Years 1-6. This will be paid for from the Schools PE Grant. The first session will be on Tuesday 12th September and the final session on Tuesday 17th October. See letter sent home on 6th September.



HEADTEACHER CONTACT

If you have a problem or school issue relating to your child please always remember to speak directly to the class teacher.

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

Monday	Afternoon
Tuesday	Afternoon
Wednesday	All day
Friday	Morning

Mrs B can also be contacted on the headteacher's phone 07825104854 or at Harpley 01485 520274.



NO DOGS ON THE PLAYGROUND

Please remember dogs are not allowed on the playground.

**GRESHAM'S PREP SCHOOL CROSS
COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIP FOR YEARS
3 to 6 – 29th September 2017**

GM and Harpley Federation of Schools are sending a team of children to compete in the Cross Country Championship on 29th September. Julie Austin and Emma Pearson will be training the children before the event during PE lessons on Tuesdays.



**RECEPTION AND KEY STAGE 1 OPEN
CLASSROOM**

2.30pm on Friday 29th September.

This will be an early opportunity for Class 1 parents to see how the children have settled in to the new school year, to ask any questions and to see what the children are doing in school.

CLASS 1 AND 2 PARENTS' EVENINGS

Monday 13th November – Parents' Evening for all parents to look at children's work and discuss progress.

Appointments from 3.30pm to 6.00pm.

KS2 Parents' Meeting

Mrs Cross will be holding a brief meeting for all KS2 parents on Monday 11th September at 3.30pm. She will outline the expectations for KS2 pupils. It will also be an opportunity for parents to ask questions about KS2 school life.

PFA – FUNDRAISING ONLINE

If you go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk everytime you shop online this will raise money for the PFA.

WEEKLY BULLETINS AND T2Parents

All parents should receive a weekly bulletin by email on a Thursday and texts from the school to a mobile phone. Please let Mrs Smith know if you are not receiving emails or texts from school. It is possible to reply to T2Parents.- these come through to the office@ email account.



ASSEMBLY / COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Parents are very welcome to join us for collective worship on any day. This takes place at 10.20am each morning.

TERM DATES 2017/2018

TERM SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON CLOSES ON

AUTUMN 6th September 2017 19th December 2017

SPRING 4th January 2018 28th March 2018

SUMMER 16th April 2018 24th July 2018

HALF TERM BREAKS

SCHOOL CLOSSES (at 3.20pm) RE-OPENS (at 8.45am)

As follows

AUTUMN 19th October 2017 30th October 2017

SPRING 9th February 2018 19th February 2018

SUMMER 25th May 2018 4th June 2018

Autumn Term 2017

Monday 6th September

School Opens

Monday 11th September

Key Stage 2 Gymnastics at LynnSport
Parents' Meeting for Class 2 - 3.30pm

Tuesday 12th September

PE with Andrea in afternoon
After school Multisports Club

Wednesday 13th September

First swap day with Harpley Primary School. Years 5/6 to
Harpley and Years 3/4 at Great Massing-
ham.

Wednesday 20th September

9.00am Phonics Workshop — Class 1

Friday 22nd September

Year 6 visit to Norwich Apple Store and
Trampolining

Thursday 28th September

Class 2 visit to River Nar

Friday 29th September

Macmillan Coffee Morning at school at playtime for children.
Gresham's Prep Cross-Country Championship
2.30pm Reception and Key Stage 1 Open Classroom

Wednesday 4th October

Parents' Evening at Litcham School for Year 6 from 6.30pm

Monday 9th October

Cathedral Day for Class 2
Federation Day for Class 1

Thursday 12th October

2.00pm Harvest in Church

Monday 16th October

Last Gymnastics session for Class 2

Tuesday 17th October

Last After School Multisports Club this term.

Thursday 19th October

School Closes for half term

Monday 30th October

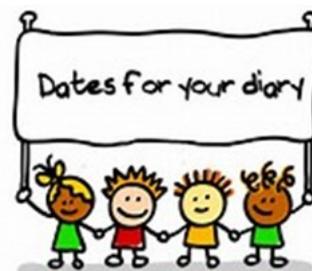
School reopens after the
half term holiday
Gymnastics at Lynnsport for Class 1.

Friday 3rd November

2-3pm School Photographs

Monday 13th November

Parents Evening for all parents to
Look at children's work and discuss
Progress. Appointments from
3.30pm to 6.00pm. Letter to follow.



Wear something green for Macmillan

Children are invited to leave their uniform
at home and wear something green on Fri-
day 29th September. We ask for a dona-
tion of £1.00 to join in with this event.

All proceeds will go to Macmillan.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We will be holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning
for the children at morning break on Friday
29th September.

£1 will buy a drink, a cake and a raffle ticket.
Our Year 6 children will take our
donation to the coffee morning at the Village
Hall with Mrs Frost before lunch. Donations of
small raffle prizes (for children) would be very
welcome.