



**GREAT MASSINGHAM C of E 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 NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2014



The Great Massingham and Harpley Schools have been in partnership for just over a year now and the time has just flown by. Sometimes it still feels a little new and unfamiliar whereas, at other times it feels as if we have been in partnership for a much longer time. It has become increasingly 'normal' and 'comfortable' as routines have developed and staff, children and parents from both schools have got used to the changes the partnership has brought.

When the partnership was first suggested the Governors and I said we would consult parents along the way and so we will be holding a Parents Forum on the 18th November where people can come along and have their say and hear how and why the schools are working together. Please see attached letter for further details.

This newsletter contains a list of as many dates for this half term as we have at the moment (there may be some additions during the next six weeks) but all the important Christmas events are listed so parents can make arrangements in plenty of time. Pin the list on your noticeboards to make sure you don't miss anything!

Thank you to the PFA for organising and running the Halloween Disco - I know the children all had a great time. The PFA will be running several fund raisers in the run up to Christmas including a 100 square Christmas raffle, to help fund the children's pantomime visit. The PFA is a vital part of the school - they work tirelessly to provide funds for curriculum enrichment activities, visits, learning resources, transport, social events and much more for all the children. We are very grateful for all they do - please continue to support them in any way you can.

### ATTENDANCE



Our attendance was 96.7% for the first half of the Autumn Term. Well done everyone — we are well within our target of 95%. Keep it up!

### MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



Thank you to all who supported this event. We raised £32. This money was added to the Village Hall Macmillan Coffee Morning total.

## HARVEST

Thank you for your donations to the Food Bank. The certificate from the Food Bank is displayed in the school hall.

## INDEPENDENCE

Thank you to parents for supporting our independence initiative. Please continue to encourage your child/children to come into school by themselves. We really want to develop independence skills but please remember you are always welcome to come in to school to speak to a member of staff if necessary.



## ADMISSION TO SCHOOL—SCHOOL YEAR 2015-16

Parents of children born between 1st September 2010 and 31st August 2011 should automatically receive a booklet and application form through the post. Parents can apply online at [www.admissions.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.admissions.norfolk.gov.uk) (website open between 30th September 2014 and 15th January 2015). Or parents/carers can contact admissions on 0344 8008020. Applications received after 15th January 2015 will be treated as late and will not be considered until places for all on time applications have been allocated.

## SWIMMING

Our last swimming session this term will be on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Swimming sessions in the Spring Term will begin on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015.



## MORRISONS VOUCHERS

We are still collecting the Morrison's Lets Grow vouchers. If you have any vouchers at home please send them into school

## 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. 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,
- 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, brown or dark blue 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. with the exceptions of small stud earrings, wristwatches and attendance award wristbands. If wristwatches 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.

## OUTDOOR WINTER CLOTHING



During the winter months we intend to continue PE outside as much as possible. Please ensure children have warm tracksuits and fleeces in their PE kit. We are not worried about the colours as long as they are warm! PE kits need to be in school ALL WEEK as we often have to adapt the timetable to fit around the weather.

Please also make sure coats, hats and gloves are brought to school everyday now that the weather is getting colder and please remember to put names in them!



## HEADTEACHER CONTACT

If parents feel they need to see Mrs B for any reason she will usually be at Great Massingham as follows:-

MONDAY— Afternoon

TUESDAY— Morning

THURSDAY— All Day

FRIDAY— Morning

She can also be contacted on the Head's phone 0825104854 or at Harpley 520274.

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.

## SCHOOL PICK UP

We must know if your child/ren are going home with anyone other than the adult who regularly collects. Please have a word with Mrs Smith, Mrs Brown or Mrs Griffin in the morning if there is a change to the norm or telephone school if there is a change of plan for pick up during the day.



## SALT ON PLAYGROUND



On icy days a pathway from the school gate to the pupil's entrance will be treated with salt. Treating the whole playground is not possible or cost effective so we ask that everyone keeps to the treated areas to ensure safety.



## SCHOOL CLOSURE

In the event of severe bad weather please listen to KLFM or Radio Norfolk for school closure details. Alternatively you can log on to [www.schoolclosures.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.schoolclosures.norfolk.gov.uk)



## SCHOOL MEALS

As you will now be aware the government have introduced free school meals for all YR and KS1 children (Universal Infant Free School Meals or UIFSM) This means that Class 1 children may have a free hot meal every lunchtime if they wish. The kitchen will provide a choice of hot meal, vegetarian meal or jacket potato with fillings.

In order to make the administration of this manageable for the school office and the kitchen we ask that parents provide a note on Monday saying which days their child/ren require a free lunch and the choice of lunch.

Obviously there will be times when this may need to be changed and we will always be willing to try to accommodate this.

Class 2 lunches should continue to be ordered in the usual way. Hot dinner orders in a named envelope with money handed in to the school office on a Monday.

School dinners remain at £2.10 per meal.

## 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 **UNAUTHORISED HOLIDAY**.



### DECORATION DAY

After last year's success, we want to repeat Decoration Day when the children spend the day, with adult helpers, in a glitter fest of activities, preparing for the season! This year, Decoration Day will be on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December and we are asking for helpers, for all or half a day, to come and join in and help, either by running their own decorating activity (which can be given if you don't know what to do) or to support one of the other groups. Please could you let us know as soon as possible so that the rotas can be drawn and materials ordered. We had a great time last year and are looking forward to another this December. If you would like to help on this day please see Mrs Smith or Mrs Brown.



### VISIT TO THE PRINCESS

### THEATRE IN HUNSTANTON FOR RUDOLPH'S CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE

Our whole school Christmas treat is on the morning of Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December to see the show - Rudolph's Christmas Adventure. We will travel to and from the Princess Theatre in Hunstanton by coach and will leave school at 9.00am. We will not be back at school in time for hot lunches so can the children bring a packed lunch to eat on our return to school. The PTA have generously agreed to fund the coach and ticket costs. Please sign and return the permission slip attached to this newsletter to school to allow your child to take part in this school trip. Children entitled to free school meals/universal free school meals are able to order a packed lunch from the school kitchen. Please indicate this on the attached reply slip.

### CHRISTMAS SERVICE



Our Christmas Service will be held at St Mary's Church on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm. All the children will be taking part in the Nativity Story. Ducklings will be joining us and will sing The Snowman Song.

Everyone is welcome to attend the service and come back to school afterwards for refreshments.



### CHRISTMAS LUNCH

School Christmas Lunch will be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. As ever it will be a very festive affair with crackers and all the trimmings. We hope that **ALL** pupils will have a hot meal on this date so they can join in the festivities. Obviously we will not refuse anyone the chance to bring a packed lunch but we ask that you encourage your child to take part in this important school event. There will not be a sprout in sight and no-one will be made to eat anything they don't like!

### The menu is as follows:-

Roast Turkey with chipolata, stuffing and gravy  
Roast potatoes  
Carrots  
Christmas Shaped Biscuit with Ice Cream  
£2.10 per meal, payable on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you.

### CHRISTMAS PARTIES



The Christmas Parties for both classes will be on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December in the afternoon. Class 1 children can come to school in their party clothes. Class 2 should bring their party clothes to school in a bag so they can change after lunch. We would like parents to supply party food items such as squash/juice, nibbles, mini cakes, fruit and salad vegetables. Please let us know what you will be sending into school by completing and returning the attached slip.

## DIARY DATES - NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2014

### Tuesday 18th November 2014

6.00pm—Parents' Partnership Forum



### Wednesday 19th November 2014

Class 1's visit to Sandringham (am only).

Letter to follow from Mrs Heazel.

### Wednesday 3rd December 2014

Decoration Day



### Wednesday 10th December 2014

Rudolf's Christmas Adventure at Princess Theatre in Hunstanton

### Monday 15th December 2014

2pm Nativity and Carol Service in Church



### Tuesday 16th December 2014

Christmas Lunch at school for children and staff

### Wednesday 17th December 2014

PM: Christmas Parties for Class 1 and Class 2

### Friday 19th December 2014

School closes for Christmas Holiday

### Tuesday 6th January 2015

School reopens for the Spring Term

## TERM DATES 2014 – 2015



### **2014 AUTUMN TERM**

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December**



### **2015 SPRING TERM**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**  
**(Half term - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February)**



### **2015 SUMMER TERM**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April - Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July**  
**(Half term - Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May)**

**Permission slip - Please return to school before**

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014**



**Visit to the Princess Theatre in Hunstanton to see Rudolph's**

**Christmas Adventure**

I give permission for ..... to travel to the Princess Theatre in Hunstanton by coach on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014 to see Rudolph's Christmas Adventure.

\*I confirm the details on the Education Visits Consent form previously completed remains correct.

\*Please update the details on the Educational Visits Consent form previously completed as follows:-

I would like to order a packed lunch from school Yes/No

Signed ..... Date .....

Parent/Carer

**Christmas Parties - Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

I will send ..... into school for the Christmas Parties on 17<sup>th</sup> December.

Signed ..... Date .....

Parent/Carer