



LITTLE GARTH

A truly independent school & nursery

29th September 2017

Dear Parents

NEWSLETTER 2017/18 – 2

The children have entered the first stage of the school year with gusto and seem to be enjoying every minute which is how it should be!

Mr Fidler has asked me to remind parents that there is no Saturday Soccer tomorrow; there is a staff wedding this weekend which I am sure you will all get to hear about as we welcome back Mrs Atherton on Tuesday.

New Build - Update

The new building is coming along well and we look forward to all that it has to offer. Whilst we hoped that the majority of the move would take place during half term, unfortunately there has been a slight delay so it may be a few weeks into the second half of this term before we see the children enjoying the new facilities.

Teddy Bears' Picnic

On Friday 15th September, Nursery had a lovely picnic in the sunshine, with many parents joining in. The children made teddy biscuits which they enjoyed along with a selection of cakes and treats which they shared with their parents.

It was a busy morning as the children went on a 'bear hunt' and using a variety of craft materials, created their own bears using lots of glue! The weather was glorious and there were many "tired teddies" by the end of the morning.

A huge thank you to all the parents for attending and helping to make the occasion such fun.

Reception Outing

The children had a wonderful time at Boydell's Farm where they got the opportunity to milk the cow – 'Mootilda', feed the lamas, goats and horses and pet the rooster, rabbit and chickens. The children had a great day and staff were impressed at how well the children responded to their exciting day out.

Year 1 Outing to Hedingham Castle

Year 1 had a wonderful trip to Hedingham Castle on Wednesday. The children looked delightful in tabards they had decorated during their Art lessons. They participated in a range of interactive activities which helped them to find out about life in a medieval castle. Jousting and medieval dancing were particularly popular activities. The children were also fascinated to find out about cures for headaches and coughs and enjoyed seeing and touching the variety of weapons on show. The enthusiastic 'Hands on the Past' team really brought history to life and the weather was perfect.

Online Safety

All children from years 1 to 6 have started their computing lessons this term with some sessions on Online Safety. This is to remind them of this valuable life skill in our increasingly digital society. They have covered topics such as the importance of keeping passwords secure and who to talk to if they have any concerns whilst using the internet thus staying safe while having fun. As you know, during the academic year, we offer two parent information sessions regarding Online Safety. In the meantime, if you have any queries or concerns, please get in touch with your child's form teacher.

Open Morning

Our Year 6 prefects showed around our visitors this morning during Open Morning. As always, the visitors praised the children for their quiet confidence, ability to communicate and their engaging personalities. Well done Year 6!

Registering for Lower Nursery

Lower Nursery for September 2018 is already filling up quickly. If you have younger children you have not yet registered, it may be worth doing so, and Mrs Morey in the School Office will be able to help you with this.

Littlegarth School Day of Languages

Our annual day of languages takes place on Thursday 5th October. We will celebrate the day with a special assembly followed by croissants and pain au chocolat for the children.

To celebrate this day, please could your child come to school dressed in red, white and blue or national dress.

The children really throw themselves into the day and it is a great way for them to use their language skills.

Harvest Festival

Pupils are kindly asked to bring in non-perishable food products to help celebrate Harvest Festival in our special assembly on Thursday 12th October.

These goods will be donated to the local Salvation Army.

Ballet and Music Exam Results

A number of our children sat their exams last term and were successful. The results are attached to this Newsletter. Well done to you all.

If your child learns an instrument outside of school, please let the School Office know if they have passed an exam. We can then include their results too and celebrate their achievements.

Nut Policy

This is just to remind parents that our school has a 'no nut policy'. We have some children in our school who have a serious nut allergy which could lead to a severe reaction if they even touch something that has previously been touched by someone who has handled nuts. As ever, we appreciate your support with this issue.

Sickness

We have noticed a pattern of children being absent this week with a tummy bug. Please may I remind parents that a period of 48 hours should elapse from the last episode before they come back into school. This is for the benefit of your child but also for the other children and staff. Thank you.

Half Term Activity

Mr Fidler and Mr Halsey will be running a half term soccer course for boys and girls from Years 2 to 6. The dates are Wednesday 18th – Friday 20th October. The day will start at

9.00 am and finish at 2.00 pm and costs £75 for the three days. A leaflet and booking form can be found at the School Office.

Golf Day

For the past two years, Mr Fidler has organised a golf day for parents and staff during the October half term week. This year's takes place on Thursday 26th October at Hintlesham Golf Club. If you feel unable to get a team of 4 together, we are putting individuals or couples together so please get in touch if you are interested. Forms were emailed but if you would like a printed copy, please contact the School Office.

Parent Workshops

The core subject workshops have begun with Year 4 and 3 this week. All other year groups have been scheduled and you should have received a letter inviting you along. We believe that encouraging a good working relationship between school and home can only be to everyone's benefit. You will not only gain an insight into methods used but you will also learn some useful ideas for supporting your child's learning. We look forward to welcoming you.

Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings also take place soon and appointments can be made through the School Office.

Year 4 evening is on Tuesday 10th October

Pre Prep and Year 3 on Tuesday 31st October or Wednesday 8th November

Year 6 on Wednesday 1st November

Year 5 on Thursday 9th November

Lower Nursery on Wednesday 8th November

Upper Nursery on Wednesday 8th or Thursday 9th November

The evenings for Reception to Year 3 involve a fifteen minute appointment with the Form Teacher to discuss how your child has settled into the new year and how they are progressing. The Learning Support teachers are also available should you wish to see them. Years 4 to 6 will involve 5 minute appointments with the core subject teachers. Parents also have the chance to meet with the other specialist subject teachers and Learning Support staff during the evening. We look forward to seeing you there.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



Peter H Jones