



# LITTLEGARTH

*A truly independent school & nursery*

9<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Dear Parents

## **NEWSLETTER 2018/19 – 8**

The Year 6 children have been working particularly hard since their return to school in January and they are delighted that all the Senior School entrance exams have now finished. We have already heard of some superb results – well done to all the children!

You will not be surprised that all the children have continued to be incredibly busy and here is a snapshot of the past few weeks as well as other useful information.

### **Reports**

Your children will be bringing home their reports this evening. If your child is not in school today for any reason, your child's report will be ready to collect on your return.

### **Internet Safety**

Over 40 parents attended the Internet Safety Information Meeting yesterday to learn more about the potential dangers and pitfalls of the internet and gaming world for their children. The instructor was able to give useful material on how to protect your child from these as far as possible.

The staff then had the same information meeting so that their knowledge is up to date and that the message from school and home is consistent.

Parents find this so useful and I would urge you to attend one of these in future years.

### **Trust for sustainable living International essay competition**

Many congratulations to three children, Zak Troman (6S), Erin Kearney (6S) and Olly Pashby (5R) who received an 'Honourable Mention' for their essays in which they addressed ways to protect and manage our oceans, seas and marine resources. This is a fantastic achievement by the children and places their entries in the top third of all entries throughout the world!

### **Mufti Day**

Thank you for supporting Mufti Day today in aid of Breast Cancer Now. I am delighted that £349.47 has been donated so far. If you forgot to send your donation in today, we will be waiting until the end of the first week back before we send it off so there will still be time for your child to bring in their contribution.

### **Year 4 Drama Workshop**

The Year 4 Drama workshop took place over two days culminating in a wonderful assembly performance. The children worked on an adaptation of scenes from the BFG by Roald Dahl and truly captured the magic of the story. With 20 pairs of giant ears, the children began by working through the audience to sniff out the 'chidllers' and 'human beans'..... The children worked incredibly hard over the two day workshop and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Pashby for all their work with the children over the two days. Also to Mr Pashby and to Mrs Bailey for helping to create the ears!

I think the whole audience thought it was so impressive that such a high standard could have been achieved in only two days!

### **Year 6 Victorian Day**

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February, Year 6 turned back the clock to Victorian times and experienced life in a classroom of the 1890s.

“Mr Grey” instructed the children in the monarchs of England, books of the Bible and countries of the Empire, all by rote. The children wrote with pen and ink or slate pencil according to their station in life and their gender. Many of the children thought their handwriting was better than normal due to the concentration needed to use the dip pen.

The girls were horrified to hear that they would need very little education as their place was in the home. On the anniversary of votes for women, this did not sit well with the Y6 girls. The children acted brilliantly and were commended on their ability to stay in role despite being accused of stealing flowers from the garden, and other very naughty things, (all made up of course!).

The afternoon brought mysteries into the classroom. Year 6 became detectives, trying to piece together the stories of Victorian lives using a range of clues from different artefacts left in suitcases. Several mums came along to help with the puzzles and the children were excited to discover facts about maids who had stolen from their masters and Louis Carroll's adventures.

The day was a fascinating glimpse into the past and helped Year 6 to experience the life of a Victorian school child; bringing history to life for all involved.

### **Rocks, Fossils and Dinosaurs Workshop**

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February, a palaeontologist, Mr Graham Woollard, presented a fascinating workshop to Year 5 and 6 children. He was accompanied by a varied collection of sizeable fossils as well as models and other exhibits. The children learned about the early earth, rocks and minerals, dinosaurs and how fossils are formed.

The children thoroughly enjoyed this bi-annual event and we look forward to welcoming Mr Wollard back soon.

### **History off The Page**

A reminder that History off the Page will be returning on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February to organise Year 4 Greek Day, on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March for Year 3 Roman Day, on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March for Year 2 Egyptian Day and on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March for Year 1 Coronation Day.

### **Year 3 Production**

Please could we ask you to encourage your children to spend time learning their lines over the half term holiday. This will help them with rehearsals on their return.

### **World Book Day**

Just a reminder that Thursday 1st March is World Book Day. This year the theme is all about sharing the joy of books and stories. As in previous years we ask that children come dressed up as a character from a book and they can bring in the book that their character is from if they wish.

This year, to coincide with World Book Day we will be holding a book fair which will run from Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February through to Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March. We will send further information about this nearer the time.

### **Parents' Evenings**

If you have not yet signed up for your child's Parents' Evening appointments and wish to discuss your child's report and any targets for the remainder of the year, kindly contact the School Office at your convenience.

### **BBC Radio 2 500 Word Story Competition**

BBC Radio 2 500 words has returned for the seventh year and all Year 5 and 6 children have entered a story and are keeping their fingers crossed. For anyone else that would like to enter, please visit the 500 words website to find out more details. The closing date for entries is not until 7.00 pm on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February so Mrs Shropshire is happy to read and submit any stories written by any child in the Prep or Pre-Prep school when they return after half term.

### **Sporting News**

On Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January, our U11A Netball team travelled to Alleyn Court Prep School, Southend for the ISA Regional Netball Tournament.

There were 11 schools competing and Littlegarth won 4 out of the 5 pool games placing them 2<sup>nd</sup> in the pool at the end of the first round.

Littlegarth met Brentwood Ursuline in the semi – final and although they played their best netball to date they lost the match which meant they had to play Alleyn Court in the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> play-off. The top 3 schools of the Regional tournament qualify for the ISA National Netball Tournament held in York on March 17<sup>th</sup>. It was a nail biting, deciding game and at full time after 12 minutes of some fantastic netball, the score was 5-5. Three minutes extra time were given. Alleyn Court scored first to make the score 6-5, then Littlegarth scored to make the score 6-6 and with approximately 20 seconds of extra time left to play, Alleyn Court scored to make the final score 7-6. Littlegarth missed qualifying for the ISA Nationals by 1 goal!

All the girls should be extremely proud of themselves. They were a very determined, enthusiastic, hard-working and committed team. Well done to all of the girls!

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, our U11 boys took a trip to Stoke College. This marked the start of the annual Eastern Regional ISA football competition. In all there were 22 teams competing and as in previous years, Littlegarth entered two teams to take on the best our region. The Under 11 A team made an impressive start, playing their way into the quarter finals, by topping their group in an impressive unbeaten run.

The team needed to finish in the top four to qualify and following a final match against Finbrough, Littlegarth finished third resulting in a place at the National finals.

The Under 11 B team had a tough start to their day, and following a defeat, played the next match like a different team. With a win, draw and loss in games two, three and four they ended with a win in their fifth match. Because of the goal difference, the boys did not qualify for the finals but they ended the day on a high and should be proud of their achievements.

### **Easter Holiday Activity Course**

There is an Easter Cricket Course for both boys and girls in Years 2 to 6 from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March between 9.00 am and 3.00 pm. If you have not received a form, there are some available from outside the school office. The closing date is Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

### **FLS**

The first meeting of the term will take place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 8.40 am in the Dining Room. All parents are invited to attend as you automatically become a member of the FLS on joining Littlegarth School. We hope to see you there.

For those families heading off to the ski slopes, please take care and I wish you all a restful half term.

Yours sincerely



Peter H Jones