



**LITTLEGARTH**  
*A truly independent school & nursery*

25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Dear Parents

### **NEWSLETTER 2017/18 – 13**

Today has been a lovely end to this half term with the official opening of the New Classroom Building followed by the FLS Summer Fete. Last week I was delighted to host a day of training in our Library for around 40 IAPS Head's from the Eastern Region. They were extremely impressed with the building and with the Year 6 children who met them.

As always, the children have been incredibly busy and here is a brief roundup of the past few weeks.

#### **Lizzy's Cake Sale**

Following our last newsletter, I am delighted to report that Lizzie has now raised over £4,000. The majority was raised through a raffle and the cake sale which took place on the afternoon of Grandparents' Day. Lizzie has subsequently set up a Justgiving page taking her total to over £4,300. The money will be split between three of Lizzie's chosen charities which are Great Ormond Street Hospital, The Brain Tumour Charity and Cancer Research UK.

I would like to thank everyone who helped make the event such a success but a special thank you to Lizzie for the initiative, organisation, enthusiasm and hard work she put into making it such a success.

#### **New Build Official Opening and Summer Fete**

This afternoon we welcomed almost 60 special guests including past pupils, current and former-governors, architects, quantity surveyors, builders and special friends as well as all our parents who were here to attend the official opening our new building. Mr Robert Erith and Revd Christopher Woods, two of the earliest Littlegarth pupils spoke beautifully about what Littlegarth used to be like. After cutting the ribbon they announced the building officially open. Our Year 6 children took tours for anyone who has been unable to visit before, proudly showing off the new facilities.

The opening was quickly followed by the Summer Fete organised by the FLS. Sponging the teacher seems to be quite a popular event and not just by the children!

The sun shone (eventually) to make this a perfect ending to half term. Thank you to all for your support and in particular to Mrs Sam Parsons who has been an outstanding Chair of FLS for a number of years. This was her last event in charge and it proved a fitting finale to her very successful tenure.

### **Olkimitare School**

The children have worked hard to raise money for Olkimitare School through their Sponsored Readathon and so far we have over £1,300 collected. Please would those families that have not yet collected all their sponsor money aim to bring the money into school directly after half term. We can then inform you of the final total and send the money off to those children in Kenya who will benefit so much from your hard work and kindness.

### **Year 1 Visit to Pizza Express**

This term the children in Year 1 are learning about various countries in Europe. One of the countries they will be visiting on their imaginary journey is Italy. Last Wednesday the lucky classes went to two Pizza Express restaurants to learn how to make pizzas. They were allowed to make their own pizzas to take home, but they also sampled some at the restaurant. The children enjoyed learning about Queen Margherita and the legend of the pizza with the same name, which was invented for her. I am sure they will never forget the colours of the Italian flag after munching on those delicious pizzas.

### **Year 1 Afternoon Tea**

Year 1's have also been busy finding out about the four countries which make up the United Kingdom. As part of learning about England, they enjoyed their own afternoon tea. There were gasps of delight as they returned from break to a classroom which had been transformed into a tea room, complete with cucumber sandwiches and scones. They all drank tea from cups and saucers and showed off their very best table manners.

### **1S Assembly**

The children of class 1S performed a class assembly all about the Royal Wedding. With their very own Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, they convinced us that they had turned into fashion designers, florists and wedding planners in order to arrange the entire ceremony. Everyone enjoyed the 'friendship vows' that the members of the class had written to each other, which reminded us of what caring for each other is all about.

### **Year 2 Outing to Shrubs Farm**

Year 2 had a fantastic time at Shrubs Farm last Thursday. The children were greeted by Mr and Mrs Erith, Bumble Bee and Roxy. The children walked through the vast forest and were taught how to identify various trees which included some very rare species. The children also had the opportunity to visit the badger sett but unfortunately, there were no sightings of the sleeping badgers! They had a delicious picnic lunch in the barn and finished with some of Mrs Erith's homemade Bumble Biscuits. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed exploring the maze and finding their

way to the end. They also learnt what a 'ha ha' was and played in it. Mr Erith even allowed to children access to view some Bronze Age artefacts. A truly magnificent day was had by all!

### **Littlegarth Maths Challenge Day**

On Thursday 24th May, 7 mixed teams of brilliant Maths brains came together in the Mallett Room for the annual Littlegarth Prep Schools Maths Challenge. We welcomed pupils and teachers from New Hall and St Cedd's in Chelmsford, Alleyn Court in Southend, St Joseph's Prep and Ipswich Prep and first-time participants, Holmwood House. Each team of 4 pupils competed over seven rounds of intense mathematical problem solving that ranged from a devilish crossnumber puzzle to a 20-question speed test. There was a padlock to open with clues to the 3-digit combination, a set of angle questions designed to stretch the best geometers and an investigation into happy numbers! It was a great opportunity for some pupils to be introduced to prospective Year 7 school mates and all pupils threw themselves into the challenging but fun-filled activities. Well done to all the participants and many thanks to all the willing helpers. Special congratulations go to Ipswich Prep School who take home the prestigious shield for the year.

### **Nursery Pirate Day**

The Nursery had a fabulous time on Pirate Day with everyone dressing up in full costume complete with eye patches! Mrs Chapman (or Miss Dawn as the Nursery children call her) and Mrs Boorman were cleverly disguised in their superb costumes and the children really believed they were visiting pirates!

The weather was glorious, the picnic lunch was delicious and treasure was found after an exciting adventure trail around the stunning school grounds. Our thanks to everyone who helped to make the day memorable and fun for the children.

### **Year 4 Activity Day at Mersea**

Last Friday, Year 4 set off very early for a fun packed day at East Mersea Activity Centre. The children were split into four groups and participated in two activities (climbing and assault course) during the morning session. The Adventure assault course consisted of 11 activities in which the children had to work as a team to complete each task. The children were very excited to enter the mud pit too, wading through the muddy, freezing water!

The other activity in the morning session was climbing which consisted of scaling the wall and also be-laying for the climber. Many of the Year 4 children successfully climbed to the very top! After these activities they had lunch followed by a particularly exciting activity for all the children!

The Ultimate Challenge consisted of a series of inflatables where the children had to challenge each other to score points for their team. These inflatables included a bungee run, a variety of assault courses and a gladiator style game (Duel) where the Gladiator has to knock the opposing player off of a platform using a pugil stick. The children had a wonderful day and were exceptionally well behaved.

## **Eco School**

Following the introduction of the Eco Council to School Council meetings at the beginning of this term, the children from Years 1 to 6 have met regularly to undertake a review of the school in order to assess how eco-friendly we are at Littlegarth. The School Council highlighted many areas of strength including our recycling scheme in which all of our rubbish is taken to be sorted, ensuring we recycle 100% of recyclable materials.

The group have also highlighted several areas which we will continue to develop in pursuit of becoming even more eco-friendly. I was delighted to be able to present the Eco Schools Bronze Award in assembly this week, which the school has been awarded in recognition of our work this term. Well done to all involved!

## **GDPR: Updates to our Privacy Notices**

As you may be aware, the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into effect across the EU today.

In light of this we have updated our Privacy Policy to provide more detail and transparency regarding how we use your data, including information about your rights to retain control of your personal information.

Your trust is important to us and protecting both your and your child's personal information is a priority. If you would like to find out more about how we collect and use data, please take a look at our updated Privacy Policy on our website:

<http://www.littlegarth.essex.sch.uk/privacy/>.

If you have any queries related to the use of your personal data, please contact our Data Protection Officer, Mr Fountain ([dfountain@littlegarth.essex.sch.uk](mailto:dfountain@littlegarth.essex.sch.uk), 01206 262 360).

## **Whole School Panoramic Photograph**

Every two years we have a whole school panoramic photograph taken which is available for all to purchase. It can be viewed at the school office after half term, or on line at Bentley Photographic with the following information:

Bentleypics.com

Username: eGx8oje2

Password: CnB49RxW

## **Fire Door in the New Build**

Children have noticed that parents are using the Fire Door on the ground floor of the new build. Please could parents refrain from doing so and only use the main doors into and out of the building. This is for the safety of everyone. Thank you.

## **Summer!**

As the sun has finally arrived please could we remind you to send your child in with sun cream, a school sun hat and plenty of water after half term. Please make sure all items are named!

The forecast for today was terrible and plans were in place to postpone the fete but the weather was kind and it has been a roaring success! My thanks to the FLS and staff for all their efforts. Do enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend and have a restful half term break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter H Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Peter H Jones