



**LITTLEGARTH**

*A truly independent school & nursery*

23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018

Dear Parents

### **NEWSLETTER 2018/19 – 4**

Today would have been Lizzie Bramall's tenth birthday.

We are all devastated following the loss of the brave and beautiful Lizzie. In recent months, Lizzie, Mark and Sally Bramall have worked tirelessly to do all they can to prevent other children from suffering the same fate as Lizzie in the future. Through her determination, kindness and her boundless enthusiasm, Lizzie has set a wonderful example to us all and her influence has drawn the whole school community together in a way that I have not experienced before.

We have placed a tribute to Lizzie on our website and I also include a link to Lizzie's Fund page on The Brain Tumour website which contains so much information about her outstanding work for the benefit of others:

<http://www.littlegarth.essex.sch.uk/lizzie-bramall-23rd-november-2008-15th-november-2018/>

<https://www.thebraintumourcharity.org/get-involved/our-supporter-groups/supporter-groups/groups/lizzies-fund/>

Final arrangements are being made for Lizzie's funeral but I am delighted that children, staff and parents of Little Garth will be invited to a service to celebrate and commemorate all that Lizzie means to us early next term.

Lizzie, Sally and Mark are in our prayers.

### **Sponsored 'Twilight' Walk**

We had the most fantastic day on the Wednesday we finished for half term with all the children, lots of parents and staff who took part in the Sponsored 'Twilight' Walk for The Brain Tumour Charity.

The event was opened by Lizzie, Mark and Sally Bramall who accompanied 5C (Lizzie's class) as they attempted to complete as many laps of the field as they could within the set time. So far, we have raised £8,138.71!

In addition to the walk parents set up two stalls selling cakes and other items and they raised a further £1,001.

Thank you to all the parents who helped on the day and to Mrs McBeth who organised the event.

### **Garrison Pool Closure**

We have been notified that the pool will be closed for maintenance work on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December. This will mean that 2C, 3T, 4A and 5C will swim the following week and that the last day for 2L, 3R, 4P and 5R will be Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

### **FLS Bonfire and Fireworks Event**

The annual Fireworks display was once again the most spectacular of events. The games and stalls organised for the big event added to the whole atmosphere and were thoroughly enjoyed by all. My thanks go to the FLS for all their hard work at the sell-out event. We will let you know how much was raised when we have a final figure. Lots of our 'old' children returned to join in the fun and it was lovely to see them.

Our Mufti Day which took place on the same day raised £292.60 for The Brain Tumour Charity.

### **Poppy Appeal and an act of remembrance**

The Poppy Appeal was well supported by the children and our Prefects ensured that all our children and visitors were given the opportunity to purchase a poppy. This year the children took red paper plates and a cardboard leaf which each turned into a home-made poppy on which they wrote the name of either a relative who has seen active service or someone they feel has been particularly brave. I was delighted by the response and the result of this can be seen on the wall of the Sports Hall. It has been a lovely way for the children to remember those who have given their lives or acknowledged for their bravery and I was particularly pleased that so many children have been talking to their family about brave relatives from the past.

### **Year 6 Virtual Reality Experience**

On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October the Year 6 children had a wonderful time exploring the virtual world. One of our grandfathers very kindly came in to lead three exciting sessions including 3D printing, 3D pens and virtual reality.

All the children were able to produce a piece of 3D artwork, using the i-Pad to scan each other's heads in preparation for 3D printing and they used the virtual reality headset to explore a ship wreck on the bottom of the ocean. Some even had the chance to become Spider Man!

My thanks to Mr Taylor and Mr Pashby for organising this amazing day for our Year 6 children.

### **Inter House Rugby and Hockey**

Just before half term our Year 5 and 6 boys went head to head in our annual Inter-House Rugby competition. This highly anticipated event is always very competitive and exciting. Following the RFU regulations we ran two separate competitions, one for Year 5 and one for Year 6. In what was an action packed afternoon it came down to the last game in both competitions! Congratulations to all that took part. In the Year 6 competition Constable were the winners, with Gainsborough in second place and Munnings in third. In the Year 5 competition Munnings were the overall winners, Gainsborough in second and Constable in third place.

The U11 girls enjoyed a wonderful afternoon at their annual Inter-House Hockey Tournament with a twist! This year we decided to mix the teams up so that they not only competed as mixed house teams but mixed ability too. The teams were evenly matched and the scores in all the games were very close. The girls really had a chance to showcase their hockey skills and demonstrate that they have all made excellent progress during the term. All the girls won merits for their houses and worked very well together in their teams.

A huge well done for a fantastic afternoon and half term of Hockey.

## **Sporting Results**

### National Under 10 ISA Rugby at Littlegarth

For the second consecutive year Littlegarth School hosted the National ISA Under 10 Rugby Festival. Schools travelled from around the country to compete in either a contact or touch competition. This year we entered three teams and witnessed all the boys in Year 5 putting their skills to the test. We were again joined by Lions Rugby Academy who hosted “master classes”, the event being competitive, educational and above all else, fun.

Following an exciting afternoon of rugby, I am delighted to report that our Under 10 A team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> and our Under 10 B team finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the contact competition. Our other Under 10 team represented us in the touch competition and also finished 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. All the boys involved played extremely well and we are very proud of their achievements in this National event.

### National Under 11 ISA Rugby

Like their Year 5 counterparts, our Year 6 pupils had their own National Rugby final last week in Bedford. This tournament was run on similar lines to the Under 10s competition and the day included an educational focus with “master classes” from Northampton Saints. Historically we have always done well in this event and I am pleased to say that we finished 4<sup>th</sup> overall, losing only two games all day. The boys should be very proud of their achievement to finish as one of the four best ISA Under 11 rugby teams in the country.

### Littlegarth Under 9 “A” Football Tournament success

Having won the National ISA Under 9 football tournament earlier this term it was now time for our Under 9 A team to try and win our own annual event. In total 7 teams were competing for the prize and each game was fiercely contested. Our A team played a total of 7 games and were unbeaten in all of them. The boys won the tournament and their fantastic season continues.

## **5R Assembly**

5R started the assembly season with their assembly on Space. The children performed their own Star Trek play script which was acted out in costume with great enthusiasm (and much adlibbing)! The children had spent a considerable amount of time researching the stars and planets and they acted out how the planets revolve around the Sun. Mrs Rogers wrote a song which the whole class sang to her ukulele accompaniment as the finale. Well done 5R!

## **Year 3 Visit to Colchester Castle**

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November Year 3 marched into Colchester Castle full of excitement for the day ahead. The classes were split into groups with visits to the underground vaults and the museum galleries. After watching an instructional video, the children had to build a Celtic Hut and a Roman Villa and, to make it competitive, the girls went head to head with the boys – the girls were victorious! They were also treated to stories of battles, beheadings and Boudicca followed by an enjoyable and relaxing play in the Castle Park.

Many thanks to all the parents who assisted us on this trip!

## **Christmas Events**

We have a considerable number of really exciting events happening in the run up to Christmas. We have listed these below, but please read through your calendar to make sure you have a note of everything that involves your child and, if you are not sure, the School Office will be happy to help you.

### Request for help for the Friends of Littlegarth School (FLS) Christmas Bazaar

The FLS would really appreciate any help you might be able to offer for the Christmas Bazaar. They require help to run stalls or clear away at the end of the event in particular, and I know they would appreciate any time you can give to help run this wonderful event.

They have also sent out information requesting the ever popular Jazzy Jar donations as well as donations for the Chocolate Tombola and House Hampers. If you need further information on this, please contact your class representative or Mrs Boorman. Thank you in advance for any donations which will be gratefully received.

#### Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November

FLS Christmas Bazaar 3.30 to 6.00 pm.

Please come along and support the stalls and activities that will be taking place. There will be plenty of external stalls and numerous games and activities for the children to enjoy. The raffle is full of exciting prizes and there will be lots of food to keep you going! I've even heard a rumour that we might be joined by a very special guest dressed in red, as long as he is up to date making presents for Christmas morning! I look forward to seeing you all enjoy this very special occasion.

#### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December

Prep outing to the Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds to see Sleeping Beauty. A letter has been sent home requesting permission for your child to go but if you have not seen this, please let us know.

#### Christmas Productions

Nursery and Reception at 10.00 am in the Sports Hall.

Year 1 and 2 at 2.00 pm in the Sports Hall.

As the Nursery production takes place first, please could we request that the front two rows are for the Nursery parents and that they then move back to allow Reception parents to move forwards (there will be a short break to allow time for this change). Thank you for your cooperation with this.

#### Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Concert for Prep children (Years 3 – 6) starting at 2.30 pm. Parents are warmly invited to attend and will be rewarded with a mince pie and a drink at the end of the Concert!

#### Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December

Nursery Christmas Party from 8.40 am to 12.15 pm.

Pre-Prep Christmas Party from 2.00 pm to 3.15 pm.

The children are encouraged to come to school in play/party clothes on this occasion, bearing in mind that they will be going out to play and that it is likely to be cold outside!

#### Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Reception, Years 1 and 2 outing to the Mercury Theatre to see Jack and the Beanstalk. A letter giving further information will be sent home next week. This year we are attending the morning performance and Reception will be coming as well.

Prep Christmas Party from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.

Prep children come to School in play clothes in preparation for their party in the afternoon.

#### Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Lunch

All children are invited to join us for our special Christmas Lunch (including children who normally have a packed lunch). If your child does not wish to have this lunch, please kindly notify the School Office and send your child in with their own meal.

Carol Service

Our Carol Service will be held at St James' Church in Nayland for all pupils from Years 3 to 6 starting at 6.30 pm. All Prep children are expected to attend and parents are warmly invited to join us for this lovely celebration.

As parking in the village is very limited and it is important that we do all that we can not to block access to properties in Nayland, we are once again providing shuttle buses which will run from the School and back. We will give you further information on timings closer to the event.

Prep children wear their school uniform, including blazers.

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Term ends at 4.00 pm. There will be no clubs or After School Care on this day.  
8.00 pm FLS Christmas Party.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

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