

Graveley Primary School Newsletter

Newsletter 1 - Summer Term 1 2023

Dear Parents,

As you know, last week we had some 'special visitors' in school. The inspectors took time to speak to staff, pupils and governors. They visited lessons and looked at children's learning. At this point, we are unable to share any outcome from the visit. The official report will be shared with you as soon as we receive it. This may take up about a month. Thank you for the positive comments and little treats that came our way last week. The inspection process was an extremely intense time for all staff and these were appreciated by all.

Sports Update

This half term, we have been able to continue to enjoy events hosted by Stevenage Sporting Futures. Some pupils from Squirrels went to Barnwell School and took part in a Rapid Fire Cricket tournament. Year 6 pupils attended a Tag Rugby festival at Stevenage Rugby Club and last week members of the Sporting Futures Team came into school to run an Active Maths session with Year 1 and 2.

Our Fun Run raised a grand total of £1537.50 shared between Comic Relief and Action Aid. As always, thank you so much for your generosity and support.

Sports Day will take place on Friday 16th June. Events will begin at 11:00am. Parents are welcome to then join us for a picnic on the field (weather permitting).

School Dinners

We have made some changes to the school menu after half-term.

Week 1 Thursdays will now be: beef burger in a bun; cheese and broccoli bake; jacket potato; ham sandwich.

Week 2 Thursdays will now be: Quorn hot dog; vegetable curry; jacket potato; cheese sandwich.

TT Rockstars

Well done to all of the children that have taken part in this half-term's tournament.

Year 2 - Elodie, Caitlyn, Bohemia
Year 3 - Louie, Tom, Luke
Year 4 - Oli, Eliot, Roxanne
Year 5 - Rachael, Isla-Jayne, Jack
Year 6 - Phoebe, Beatrix, Charlotte

Roadworks

We have been informed of significant roadworks that will begin 12th June 2023 ending in February 2024 that could affect your journey to and from school. There will be no through-route along North Road during all phases of the work. The works will start at the southern end of North Road and will shift northwards in sections throughout each phase. Please do allow extra time for your journey as we are anticipating the diversion routes will become extremely busy.

FOG news

We are pleased to announce that our Summer Fete will be returning on Thursday 6th July. More details of how you could get involved will be released after half term.

This Friday will see the end of Sweet Treat Friday for this year, however that means the start of 'Ice Cream Friday.' Let's hope that we get the weather to go with it.

Next half term, we will be joining other schools in the Great Stevenage School Bake Sale. Students from Stevenage School Parliament have chosen to support two great causes - Feed up Warm Up and Herts Young Homeless. Our cake sale will be after school on Wednesday 14th June. We would love the staff, children and parents to bring in cake donations for the sale. These can be dropped off on Tuesday 13th or Wednesday 14th June during morning drop-off.

Just remember that school will be closed for all pupils next week. I hope you all have a lovely half term break and we will see everyone on Monday 5th June.

Nicky Hand (Headteacher)



Class News

Hedgehog Class

This half term Hedgehog Class have been enjoying learning all about Kings and Queens and castles. Reception have learnt about what life was like in the past before televisions, the Internet and toilets in houses! We were lucky enough to have Stevenage Museum come into school to run a workshop called 'Peep into the Past' where we got the chance to play with old toys and dress up in clothes from the past. Year 1 have learnt about six significant monarchs and how to put them in chronological order on a timeline. In Science, we have started to learn about mini beasts and how to classify animals. In P.S.H.E. we have been thinking about relationships and how to be a good friend. In Computing, Year 1 have started to learn how to use a word processor and Receptions have explored using paint programs for Art and programming beebots.

Squirrel Class

This half term we have started out new topic Magnificent Monarchs. We have learnt about different British Monarchs through history and thought about how powerful they were. In Science we have been learning about micro habitats where we focused on the pond and creatures and plants that live there. During R.E. we have focused on Judaism where we learnt about Moses, the Torah, the Ten Commandments and Shabbat. In P.E. we have developed our ball skills and used these to play a variety of games including cricket and bench ball. In English, our book focus was 'The Dragon Machine' and 'Pug the Pig' where we have developed our skills on conjunctions, prefixes and extending sentences. We have also been developing our extended writing skills by writing longer narratives. In Maths we have focused on our multiplication skills and how we can use these in different contexts to solve a range of problems.

Foxes Class

This half term has been a busy one in Foxes. In English, we have explored the text 'Flotsam' and the children have created their own fantastic sequels called 'Jetsam' incorporating all the features we have been learning about. Their published books have been on display and it has been lovely to see how proud they are of their work. In Maths, we have recently been focusing on formal methods of multiplication. We have also looked at statistics, area and perimeter this term. As part of our History learning we studied Ancient Sumer. We have learnt about civilisations, inventions, hierarchy, farming and Sargon the Great. In PSHE we have looked at relationships discussing stereotypes, equality and Fairtrade as well as discussing strategies to help resolve conflicts. Audio production has been our focus in Computing and the children have made a start to put together their section for a class podcast - we will be working on this next half term.

Badger Class

This half term, Badger Class has enjoyed learning about abstract art, specifically 'orphanism' and how artists use simple line, shape and brilliant colours to replicate complex images - this was a tricky concept as there were many discussions about it was 'real art' or not because it was not realistic. We have also begun our 'Britain at War' History topic, looking at poetry of the time, Anne Frank and the factors and events that led to World War 1 beginning. In Science, we have learnt all about how light travels as well as how the eye sees colour (handy for our Art lessons) and in French, learn how to order food and drink in a café - many are looking forward to using their skills when they go to Paris (apparently). In R.E. we have explored Buddhism, lots of children felt it is a very peaceful religion. In P.S.H.E. we have focused on online relationships - how to stay safe with friends online and how to know what to do if there are any friendship issues through social media or games played on online platforms.

"With God, all things are possible."

Matthew 19:26

Dates for Summer Term 2 2023

Date	Event
Monday 29 th May - Friday 2 nd June (inclusive).	Half Term.
Monday 5 th June	Children return to school.
Monday 5 th June - Friday 9 th June	Y5 and Y6 Bikeability lessons at school (selected pupils).
From Tuesday 6 th June	Swimming at Hitchin Swimming Pool for Y3 and selected pupils from Y4, Y5 and Y6 (letters sent out).
Wednesday 14 th June	From 3:15pm - Great Stevenage School Bake Sale.
Thursday 15 th June	Primary Athletics at Ridlins (selected pupils).
Friday 16 th June	11:00am - Sports Day. Followed by picnic on the school field (weather permitting).
Friday 23 rd June	ECO Day.
Thursday 6 th July	FOG Summer Fete (more details nearer the time).
Tuesday 11 th July	Badgers End of Year performance (matinee)
Wednesday 12 th July	Badgers End of Year performance (evening)
Thursday 13 th July	Transition Day.
Friday 21 st July	Break up for summer holidays (1:15pm early finish).

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