

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



POPPIES AND OTHER MERCHANDISE

Poppies and other merchandise will be on sale in the playground each morning and after school from Monday 6th until Friday 10th November. We ask for a minimum donation of 20p for a poppy and £1 for all other merchandise. All proceeds go to The British Legion - children will be learning about Remembrance Day and the significance of poppies in assemblies.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Our overall attendance so far this school year is 96% which is right on target. There are still 21 children who fall into the persistently absent category (90% or lower) and staff will discuss this with parents at their parent/teacher interview.

There are some children who are not persistently absent from school, but who are persistently late instead. This has a knock on effect for both those who are late and on the rest of the class.

Children need to be in and ready for the register and dinner register at 8.40 and then as soon as they are done, some classes do our new maths programme Mastering Number, and others do phonics, both of which are really important parts of the school day. Children who arrive in the middle of any of these sessions cause disruption to everyone including themselves, so we urge you to be on time for school.

If for any reason you cannot help being late one day, please make sure you sign your child in properly on the screen and select the correct lunch to avoid any upset with the kitchen staff.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

If you haven't yet signed up for a Parent/Teaching meeting via the Google form sent out by Kelly just before Half-Term, please do so. If you cannot attend on either of the days given, please ask your child's teacher if they can see you at another time. All meetings on 6th and 7th November will be in the hall, so come to the front door but you do not need to sign in on the screen.

If you need to bring your child/ren with you, they should wait in the library while you meet the teacher.

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

Because of our day-to day contact with the children we are particularly well placed to observe outward signs of abuse, changes in behaviour or failure to develop. We have a duty to protect children from abuse; however, our role is in recognition and referral, not investigation or

intervention. We are required by law to follow procedures laid down by the Norfolk Safeguarding Children Partnership if we see signs which suggest that one of our pupils may have been the victim of abuse. Use of the procedures in this way is an obligation placed on the school by legislation and in no way infers that any parent/carer is being accused of wrong-doing.

Garrick Green is registered with Operation Encompass. This means that Norfolk Police will contact the school concerning any domestic incidents which involve the families of our children the day after the incident occurred. Following this, we would always check in with the child by doing a 'wishes and feelings' document with them.

CLASS BLOGS

Please make sure you read the class blogs each week so that you know what your child is learning about and how you can support this learning at home.

You can find the blogs, following the link below:

<https://www.wensumtrust.org.uk/garrickgreen/learning/class-blogs-1>

MASTERING NUMBER

As a whole school we have started a new programme called Mastering Number which is aimed at improving fluency with number, developing a positive mindset to math's and increasing children's ability to reason about number.

Sessions are only 10-15 minutes long each day and are not linked to their main math's sessions.

In Y1 and Y2, children will use a practical resource called a Rekenrek, to help them develop a better understanding of numbers and the relationships between them.



Although it looks like a counting frame/abacus, it is not used like this. Initial lessons will help children to be able to push a certain number of beads to one side, without actually counting them, to recognise the number of dots on a dice without having to count them and to recognise how many fingers are being held up without counting them. Once they can do that, they will use the Rekenrek to help them visualise addition and subtraction strategies.

WISE ABOUT WORDS

Together with some of the other Infant Schools within the Wensum Trust, we are delighted once again to be part of a project called Wise About Words, run by one of the Trust's partners, Norwich Theatre. This year the project is aimed at involving Teaching Assistants to increase their understanding and confidence with Wise About Words. Three TAs from Olive and Jade classes will be working with an artist from the theatre called Jo, who is leading sessions for them aimed at bringing the curriculum to life through drama techniques and games. We are also focusing on helping to overcome or remove barriers to learning through the use of these techniques, for example, working memory, following instructions and emotional regulation.

Staff will be sharing different techniques in staff meetings and planning sessions so that adults in all classes will benefit from this project.

FOOD ALLERGIES

Please remember that packed lunches from home must not contain any nuts or nut products. This includes some brands of chocolate spread, so please check the ingredients first.

We also have a child with a severe allergy to eggs, not just if she eats an egg product, but also if she touches it unknowingly and then puts her fingers anywhere near her mouth.

For this reason, none of our meals provided by Norse have mayonnaise and we ask that you do not send anything with mayonnaise or eggs in packed lunches from home.

Of course, some lunch items such as cakes contain eggs and that is fine.

STAY AND PLAY

Hannah Moore, one of our Teaching Assistants, has started to run Stay and Play on a Tuesday morning in the school hall. Sessions run from 8.45-10 and cost £1.50 per family.

This is not just for Garrick Green families, but for anyone with children from birth to school age. Please spread the word to friends, family and other groups you belong to, so that more and more people become aware of our school.

We have recently shown a lot of people round the school who said they didn't know we existed because we are tucked away!

Stay and Play also runs at Lodge Lane Infant School on a Wednesday from 9 -10.15 and costs £1.50 per family.

HELP WITH LIVING COSTS - WINTER 23-24

[HELP WITH LIVING COSTS](#) can help you get support and financial assistance for food, energy, water and other household essentials including white goods. Follow the link for details.



We will be raising money for Children In Need on Friday 17th November - children can wear spots to school for a suggested donation of £1. Taking part in this is entirely optional but if children do not take part, they need to wear their school uniform as normal.

END OF TERM

School closes for the Christmas Holidays on Wednesday 20th December and school starts again on Thursday 4th January 2024

DIARY DATES FOR THIS TERM please note that no new dates have been added since October's newsletter.

NOVEMBER			
6TH	PARENT/TEACHER MTGS		2-5
7TH	PARENT/TEACHER MTGS		4-6
10TH	FOGG FILM CLUB	Y1 AND Y2 ONLY	3-5
WB 13TH	OLD CATTON JUNIOR SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL TOURS FOR Y2 CHILDREN AND PARENTS		
17TH	CHILDREN IN NEED		
21ST	FLU IMMUNISATIONS		
DECEMBER			
4TH	OPEN MORNING	ALL CLASSES	8.50-9.20
5TH	Y2 CHILDREN TO OLD CATTON JUNIOR		1.30-2.30

7TH	OPEN MORNING FOR ALL CLASSES		8.50-9.20
8TH	CHRISTMAS FAIR		AFTER SCHOOL
8TH	CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY		
11TH	OPEN MORNING SAGE/TEAL/EMERALD		8.50-9.20
13TH	OLIVE and JADE CLASS NATIVITY	JADE CLASS PARENTS	9.10
14TH	OLIVE and JADE CLASS NATIVITY	OLIVE CLASS PARENTS	9.10
15TH	DEADLINE FOR FOGG COLOURING COMPETITION		
19TH	CHRISTMAS DINNER		
20TH	LAST DAY OF TERM		