

Great Bookham School Newsletter

Welcome to Issue 8 - 3rd November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term. It's great to have our families back with us. We have a lot in store for you over the next six weeks, so get ready for a busy and exciting time ahead!

Today, Kestrel Class treated us to a fabulous assembly in which they showcased the breadth and depth of the learning in Year 6 last half term. It was very impressive to see the vast range of topics that they had covered and they were very proud to share all that they have achieved. Thank you to Mrs Johnston and the Year 6 team for teaching and supporting the children so well and for delivering such an excellent curriculum.

We are excited to report that our building works are well underway to totally refurbish our pupils' toilets and redevelop the outdoor areas behind Key Stage 1 and the Forest School. I look forward to updating you with progress over the coming weeks.

Safeguarding our pupil's is the highest priority and we continually try to find ways to educate our community in how to stay safe online. WhatsApp is a popular app that many families use. Despite having a recommended age range of 16+, we know that many of our children have access to this platform. Attached to this email is an online safety advice sheet which contains important information regarding the safety measures that users should take while using the platform. Please do take the time to read this carefully as it provides some excellent top tips.

We have also attached a Parent Wellbeing Service document which we hope will be of some help for those of you who would like to explore further support in your role as parents and carers. Within this document you will find sign posts to a range of different agencies that offer further information.

I have the pleasure of being in the lunch hall on most days, where it is clear that children are enjoying the new system that we now have in place, however, myself and the lunch staff have noticed that children are still being sent to school with sweets, chocolate and chocolate covered items in their packed lunches. Whilst we understand that children enjoy these as an occasional special treat, they are not considered as a healthy lunch item. Going forward, any sweets or chocolate related items will be sent home unopened.

The portal for booking parent evening appointments will open via School Cloud on Tuesday 7th November at 12:00 noon. Appointments will take place here at Great Bookham School in the main

hall. We look forward to meeting you all and sharing the progress that your child has made so far this term.

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss J. Allen

Headteacher

Upcoming Key Dates

Thursday 9th November - Y4 trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace

Friday 10th November - Remembrance Day

Wednesday 15th November - Y3 trip to Butser Farm

Friday 17th November - Children in Need

Tuesday 21st November - Parents Evening

Wednesday 22nd November - Parents Evening

Friday 1st December - Christmas Fair



The Friends of GBS - Christmas Fair

The Friends of GBS are excitedly getting ready for the upcoming Christmas Fair on Friday 1st December. They are busy making preparations to ensure that the event is a huge success and they are committed to making this year's Christmas Fair a memorable experience for all attendees. To support the fair, we will be asking for Jolly Jars and we will also have two non-uniform days, where children can come to school dressed in their own clothes. The first non-uniform day will be on Tuesday 7th November and in exchange for participating, we kindly request that each child brings a chocolate bar (please make sure it does not contain nuts). This will contribute to the treats and goodies that will be available at the fair. The second non-uniform day will be on Friday 1st December and on this day, we kindly ask each child to bring a bottle. Also, please start saving your jars ready for decoration and filling! Jolly Jars are filled with goodies like sweets, chocolates, small toys, stickers, etc. Please fill a jar and bring to school week commencing 20th November. All jars will then be sold at the Christmas Fair by raffle ticket, they make wonderful surprises for the winner! The funds raised at the Christmas Fair will be used to support purchasing new gardening equipment, setting up the forest school area, and enhancing our school library environments. These improvements will benefit

all children and enhance their learning experiences. We appreciate your generosity and support in making our Christmas Fair a great success!



Non Uniform Days

No nuts please

Tuesday 7th November
any chocolate donations

Friday 1st December
Bring a bottle donation

Christmas Fair preparations are underway!
Infants please donate to the black box by the green gate
Juniors to the office (box outside)

(Any bottle, shampoo, sauce, wine, surprise us!)

Friends of GBB



Jolly Jars

What is a Jolly Jar?

Why do we need them?
These jars are to be sold at the school Christmas fair by raffle ticket and are a wonderful surprise for their winner.

What can we put in them?
Sweets, toys, hot chocolate
+Marshmallows, cake mixture, get creative these are just a suggestion.

Bring into school between 20th -28th November

Start saving your jars!
Ready to decorate.

The class with the most jars wins an extra 30 mins of golden time.

Friends of GBB

Children in Need

Children in Need is back for 2023 and we have lots of fundraising ideas that we want to share with you.

On Friday 17th November, children are invited to wear something 'SPOTacular'. This can be something as simple as a spotty headband or they can get really creative and dress head-to-toe in spots!

Also, the 'Great Bookham School Bake-Off' competition is coming! We will be hosting a cake sale on Friday 17th November after school in the junior hall. It's a wonderful opportunity for children to showcase their creativity and baking skills by preparing delicious 'SPOTacular' themed cakes for others to buy and enjoy!

Please click the link below to make a suggested donation of £1 per child. Thank you.

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=11752>



School Admissions

At the beginning of this week, primary, infant and junior school admissions opened for school places in 2024. Parents and carers will need to submit a school application if their child:

- was born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020
- is leaving Year 2 of an infant school in July 2024

To help parents and carers with the process of choosing a school for their child, Surrey County Council has put together some guidance and top tips on researching schools and completing the admissions process: [Primary school admissions are now open](#). Parents and carers can apply for their child's place on the Surrey County Council website: [Apply for a place at a primary, infant or junior school](#). Admissions close on the 15 January 2024.

Headteacher Award

Some of our youngest children in the school have shown me their incredible independent work this week. Well done to Amayah, Cora, George and Jess from Ladybirds who have identified a number of sounds in each word and then used their phonic knowledge to write the names of the characters from Room on the Broom.

Isobel in Year 4 also received a headteacher award for her draft edit of a playscript this week. Well done, Isobel, for the amount of hard work you put into this lovely piece of writing.

Learning Objective: To label the of Characters from the Room on the Broom Story
30/10/2023

cat



dog



frog



dragon

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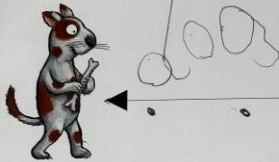


frog



dragon

cat



6

frog



dragon

What beautiful writing Jessica + sounding out!

Ladybirds	Roseanne
Bumblebees	Jane
Dragonflies	Isla
Foxes	Gabriel
Squirrels	Ned
Hedgehogs	Liza
Rabbits	Izabelle
Eagles	Florence
Hawks	Marnie
Falcons	Stephanie
Kestrels	Amelie

STARS OF THE WEEK

Attendance

Congratulations to **Hedgehogs** for winning the attendance certificate this week!

MAC the attendance bear will live in **Hedgehogs** classroom for the next week.

