Gamlingay Village Primary



Newsletter 17

14th June 2024

<u>Class Reference</u> <u>Information:</u> **Reception** Robin & Wren (EYFS/Foundation Stage)

Key Stage 1 (KS1) Year 1: Swift & Nightingale, Year 2: Woodpecker & Kingfisher

Lower Key Stage 2 (LKS2) Year 3: Osprey &

Falcon, Year 4: Buzzard & Skylark

Upper Key Stage 2 (UKS2) Year 5: Kestrel & Red Kite Year 6: Owl & Eagle



The school calendar is never quiet, and this half-term has been no exception. We started the half-term off with an assembly by the Wildlife Trust. The children loved finding out more about our local nature and asked some excellent questions. They also practised some bird calls that sounded very realistic! The 6th June was Empathy Day and in an assembly this week we thought about trying to imagine what it means to walk in someone else's shoes. Reading a wide range of books with different cultures, characters and family make up is a recommended way to teach empathy.

Our Junior Travel Ambassadors challenged us to think about how we travel to school and this week they have been out and about encouraging those who did *park & stride* (of course some of us have to drive, including many of the staff and so we wanted to encourage those people to park a bit further away and walk some of the journey), *scooting, cycling and walking.*

We also had our Reception Class Assemblies this week. Beaming audiences, a high level of cuteness and a large dose of enthusiasm guarantees enjoyment. The children performed songs and shared their learning. Thank you to staff for your hard work, not just in preparing for the assemblies, but in all you have done this year. There has been lots of **growth**.

The weather was good to us on Wednesday afternoon allowing us to have our Key Stage 2 Sports Day. Thank you to all the parents who came along to support the children. We understand and appreciate that it is not possible for all parents to join us. Miss Dennison has tallied up the points from the EYFS/KS1 and the KS2 sports days to find a winner.

Sports Days Results:

1st: Red House with 3691 points
2nd: Yellow house with 3655 points
3rd: Green House with 3486
4th: Blue House with 3349

We were really proud of the children, not just for their **aspirations** in the sporting competitions, but also of their **respect** and encouragement that they showed.

It was lovely to be passed on a message from a member of the local community about how polite children are when they are out and about. I'm sure as parents you are pleased to hear that. As staff, we really appreciate these encouragements as well, so thank you for sharing them with us.

Phonics Check

This week, Year 1s and some Year 2s have been partaking in the Phonics Screen Check – a national check. These are important for children in their early days of reading. We are really pleased with how the children did. A huge thank you to Miss Slater, our Assistant Head, who has worked incredibly hard to lead the team who deliver phonics. These checks are considered important by the local authority and they came out this morning to do a monitoring visit.

Multiplication Tables Check

Year 4s have also been completing national tests this week: the Multiplication Tables Check. This is 25 timed questions online – so the children need to have knowledge and rapid recall. In education circles we would call this 'number fluency'. A secure knowledge of times tables is really important as it is the basis for fractions, ratios, percentages and of course a helpful lifeskill.



Reading:

We are really lucky to have a lovely space for our library in our school, but it needs a lot of books and lots of time to keep it in order. Over the next few weeks, we will be closing our library so that we can improve the facility. You may want to plan a visit to Gamlingay Eco-Hub library at the beginning of July.

The English team are asking for donations of books **suitable for KS2** your child has read, loved and is now ready to pass on. We are aiming to grow our library allowing children to be immersed in a broader range of high-quality texts – both fiction and non-fiction. To help develop our children's respect for all books we ask that the donations are in a decent condition (not torn or missing pages).

We are sending home some bookplates to KS2 children (stickers to show who has donated them) today and ask that the donations are brought in on Tuesday 18th June. Children should bring the books into class and the teachers will have a box waiting for them.

We will also be having a sponsored read so that we can buy some new books. More information coming soon!

Congratulations!

Over the half-term holidays Miss Gleek got married – so she is now Mrs Burgess. We would like to congratulate her and wish her and her husband a long and happy life together.



School Supplies:

It has been great to see that there has been less lost property this week.

As you begin to think about purchases for September (if you are very organised), you can check that you have the correct uniform using our school website: <u>Uniform - Gamlingay Village</u> <u>Primary (gamlingay vp.org)</u>.

Meet Mrs Elkin



Job title: Kingfisher Class Teacher At 10am on a Tuesday morning you will probably find me enjoying an English lesson with the Kingfishers. My favourite book when I was growing up would have been something from the Famous Five series written by Enid Blyton.

When I was at school my favourite subject was DT as I enjoyed making things!

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns about a child's safety outside of school, you can make an anonymous referral by reporting it to <u>Cambridgeshire &</u> <u>Peterborough</u> <u>Safeguarding Partnership</u> <u>Board</u> (safeguardingcambspeter borough.org.uk)

If you are concerned about children in school, you can speak to a member of staff who will pass it on the Safeguarding Team.

If you are concerned about your own child, please speak to Mrs Redbond, our Family Worker.

Dates for your Diary

18th June: GenR8 assembly 25th June: Year 2 open classroom – 3pm 26th June: Year 1 open classroom – 3pm 28th June: Year 5 & 6 open classrooms-3pm 28th June: FGVP Summer disco 30th June-3rd July: Year 6 Residential 1st July: Year 2 trip 2nd July: Year 3 & 4 trip 4th July: NED assembly 4th July: EYFS open classrooms - 3pm 4th July: Year 3 & 4 open classrooms-3pm 5th July: Year 1 trip 9th July: Year 5 trip 10th-12th July: Year 6 production 15th July: Rocksteady Summer Concert-2.30pm 16th July: Sponsored read 18th July: Year 6 leavers assembly 18th July: Year 6 leavers party - 4pm 19th July: Last day of term. No Roosters after school.

Parking

Thank you to parents who have been parking considerately around the village. It is very kind of you to take into account our neighbours.

No parking in the school car park for pick up and drop off unless you have a disability badge.

