

Great Heath Academy Newsletter



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Recent Events

Easter Bingo – Well done to all of you who braved the rain that came down just before our Easter Bingo event was due to start and still came along. I know everyone had a good time and with reduced numbers came more prizes! Thank you to Mr Jeffery for calling the numbers and dressing up – I think he rather likes it!

PCSO Visit: Our very youngest children in nursery and reception enjoyed their visit from PCSO Bob Bailey. They loved his police car in particular!

Assemblies: Thank you to the children and staff of Loganberry class for their recent super assembly and beautiful singing. I will definitely be asking Miss Clough for the song so we can adopt it for the whole school! Thanks again to our friends from 'Open the Book' for their recent assembly which teaches the children important Bible stories in an interesting way.

Trips & Visits: Our Y4 pupils enjoyed a super day out to the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge as part of their history topic. Thank you to parents for kind donations – without these trips out would not be possible. Thanks to all involved in the organisation and running of it too.

COMING SOON

- **YR trip to Banham Zoo!**
- **More class assemblies**
- **Class Photos**



Academy Staffing – As you know we said goodbye at Easter to Mr. Cuff and Mrs. Macfarlane. We have since welcomed Mrs. Firek and Mrs. Carton to our teaching team and they have settled in very well. Mrs. Carton is now teaching in year 4 and Mrs. Firek has been supporting Mr. Jeffery with our very large year 6 class. I am very pleased to say that Miss O'Shea one of our teaching assistants has returned from her travels around Italy and is working with us once again. Welcome to all three of them. Whilst it is very sad to see staff go (no doubt this will continue as we break up for the summer term – we already know Mr. Jeffery is leaving for example) it does open up new opportunities to bring new people in. As such I have been busy working with Mrs. Brown in particular to recruit new staff ready for September. We are part way through that process and so far we have had the pleasure of meeting many excellent and experienced people and putting them through a range of selection processes and we are looking forward to meeting and selecting more. I will of course explain the complete staffing structure to you all for September once this process is complete. We want the very best for your children and as such we take a lot of time and care in recruiting the very best people we possibly can.

Academy Improvement – As you will appreciate, within the vast range of things we do at school from keeping your children safe, to taking them on trips, to enabling them to do plays and assemblies etc. etc. our main priority is to prepare them well – in partnership with yourselves - for the next stage of their education and beyond. Essentially this means giving them an excellent base of core knowledge and skills on which to build (especially in reading, writing and mathematics) and encouraging them to develop personally and socially too. Persistence, resilience, optimism, curiosity, self-control and social intelligence are all likely to be extremely important in the future and as such we try very hard to develop all of these in our children. Ultimately though, our effectiveness as a school is judged by how well our children achieve in statutory tests and assessments and how much progress they have made in between. In view of this we do work very hard to prepare our children and as such our year 6 pupils, who have been doing their final primary tests this week, have really been worked hard. In view of this I would like to thank every single one of them for their efforts – they really have tried their very best. I would also like to remind them that they haven't left school yet!! Next up are tests for year 2 children and a phonics check for those in year 1. If you have any questions or queries about the work we do with your children in school please do not hesitate to contact us – we really do value your interest, involvement and support.

Academy Improvement – As you will have probably noticed (it is hard not to!) our building work is proceeding very well. The 6 class block is really taking shape with the roof now on and the 2 class extension not far behind. It has been really interesting meeting with the builders and architects – I think I know more about building materials than I ever thought was possible! We are now looking forward to seeing the internal improvements and moving in in September. I will let you all know which classes will be in which rooms towards the end of term.

Thank You – Steven Vincent - Principal

Dates For Your Diary

Please find general dates for the coming year/s below and details of events that have already been finalised. **We will send out additional diary dates for other events during the year once they have been confirmed.**

Also please check our web site www.greatheathacademy.attrust.org.uk for further information about us. You will also find useful links to such sites as our uniform supplier and of course our Twitter Feed!

2017

Monday 22nd May ~ Y2 Statutory Test Week (Y2 pupils **MUST** attend school all week – **VERY IMPORTANT**)

Friday 26th May ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday

Monday 5th June ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**

Tuesday 6th June ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday

Monday 12th June ~ Y1 and some Y2 Statutory Phonics screening week – all Y1 and Y2 pupils in school this week please – **IMPORTANT**

Monday 3rd July ~ Y6 residential trip to Kingswood Activity Centre in North Norfolk

Friday 21st July ~ Last day for pupils before the summer holiday

New Academic Year – Please note that all 5 INSET days have now been allocated – the main change to earlier newsletters is that we have set one for the 5th September so pupils will now return on the 6th and not the 5th as originally published. This gives us additional time to prepare the school for pupils in the new parts of the building should we need it i.e. if there is any delay to the project. The other new day is Monday the 4th June. Thank You.

Monday 4th September ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**

Tuesday 5th September ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**

Wednesday 6th September ~ School reopens for pupils after the summer holiday

Friday 20th October ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday

Monday 30th October ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**

Tuesday 19th December ~ Last day for pupils before the Christmas holiday

2018

Wednesday 3rd January ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**

Thursday 4th January ~ School reopens for pupils after the Christmas holiday

Friday 9th February ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday

Monday 19th February ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday

Thursday 29th March ~ Last day for pupils before the Easter holiday

Monday 16th April ~ School reopens for pupils after the Easter holiday

Monday 7th May ~ May Day – **school closed**

Monday 14th May ~ Y6 Statutory Test week (Y6 pupils **MUST** attend school all week – **VERY IMPORTANT**)

Friday 25th May ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday

Monday 4th June ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**

Tuesday 5th June ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday

Monday 11th June ~ Y1 and some Y2 Statutory Phonics screening week – all Y1 and Y2 pupils in school this week please - **IMPORTANT**

Tuesday 24th July ~ Last day for pupils before the summer holiday