

Great Heath Academy Newsletter



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Recent Events

Football: Huge congratulations to our U11 football team who came 3rd in the Mildenhall and Newmarket league.

Disco: We had an extremely successful Monster Ball. The children were impeccably behaved and had a great evening. There were some fantastic costumes and some very arty face paint designs! Thank you to the FOGHs and parent volunteers who helped with the smooth running of the event. Thank you also to all of you for supporting the changes to the Disco that the FOGHs team put in place.

Assemblies: This half term we held our first class assembly of the year – thank you Osprey class. Next week we have Typhoon's class assembly. Each class will have one class assembly this year and you will receive an invitation when it is your child's turn.

Anti-bullying week: This week we have been revisiting work on Anti-bullying with the theme of all different, all equal. We have reminded the children of using STOP: several times on purpose, as a way of identifying bullying and the importance of telling someone.

Children in Need: Today we supported Children in Need. As always the children looked incredible. Don't forget to check the website Twitter feed to find out the total amount raised.

COMING SOON

➤ **Book Fair and Christmas!**



Academy Staffing

I am pleased to report that there has been very little change to the staffing team since the last newsletter. Miss O'Shea left us at half term to work with older learners at West Suffolk College. Miss Macrow will be leaving us on Friday 24th November to start a new role working with teenagers. I am sure you will join me in wishing them lots of success in their new adventures.

Academy Improvement

It was fantastic to see a large number of parents attended parent teacher meetings before and after half term. These are an excellent opportunity to find out about the progress your child has made and ways in which you can support their learning. Before Christmas Year 1 will have the opportunity to have a practice run at the phonics screening that they complete in June. You can support your child by reading with them regularly and helping them to sound out words when they are reading to you. Year 2 and Year 6 will also be taking practice SATs tests before Christmas. This is an opportunity for children to experience the procedure of taking tests and to identify areas of the curriculum we need to focus on. If your child is in Year 6 you will have received an invitation for them to attend SATs booster sessions after school. These are all led by teachers and in the past the children have got a lot out of them as well as enjoying the sessions. It is a great opportunity for the children to work through areas of the curriculum they are finding tricky. As you will know from other newsletters and information sent to you, we really do encourage your involvement in the learning process as it is proven to lead to higher outcomes for children.

We are currently looking at how we teach subjects other than literacy and maths. These are mainly covered by the IPC curriculum. Throughout the year we are looking at opportunities for parents to be involved. This might be through a homework challenge which will form the starting point of a new topic or inviting parents in to share the learning that has happened at the end of the topic. You can check the topic your child's class is learning about on the class page of the website. Every Friday afternoon we have enrichment activities at the end of the day. Children have the opportunity to take part in a variety of activities including sports, arts and crafts, philosophy, Latin, French, yoga and many more. The children are really enjoying the activities on offer and have hopefully shared with you what they have been doing.

Academy Premises

You may or may not have realised but this week we have had work undertaken in the hall. We are installing a new lighting and sound system which we will be able to use for performances, assemblies and parent meetings.

**Thank you – please do not hesitate to contact the school with any questions or comments.
Steven Vincent (Executive Principal) and Naomi Brown (Head of School)**

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.atrust.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 as well as have access to our calendar.

2017

Wednesday 22nd November ~ Book Fair in dining hall after school for 1 week
Tuesday 28th November ~ Y5 visit to Colchester Castle
Sunday 3rd December ~ Our choir singing at St Mary's Church Tree Lighting Service at 3:30 – all welcome
Monday 4th December ~ Reception Christmas performance (PM)
Tuesday 5th December ~ Reception Christmas performance (AM)
Saturday 9th December ~ Christmas Fair organised by the FOGHS at the school 12:00 to 3:00 – all welcome
Tuesday 12th December ~ KS1 Christmas performances (AM and PM)
Wednesday 13th December ~ KS1 Christmas performances (AM and PM)
Thursday 14th December ~ School Christmas Lunch
Monday 18th December ~ Our choir singing at Sainsbury's (AM) and the Lodge care home (PM)
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

New Academic Year – Please note an additional 3 INSET days have yet to be confirmed

Wednesday 5th September ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Thursday 6th September ~ School reopens for pupils after the summer holiday
Friday 19th October ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 29th October ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday
Wednesday 19th December ~ Last day for pupils before the Christmas holiday

2019

Wednesday 2nd January ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Thursday 3rd January ~ School reopens for pupils after the Christmas holiday
Friday 15th February ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 25th February ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday
Friday 5th April ~ Last day for pupils before the Easter holiday
Tuesday 23rd April ~ School reopens for pupils after the Easter holiday
Friday 24th May ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 3rd June ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday
Wednesday 24th July ~ Last day for pupils before the summer holiday