

Great Heath Academy Newsletter



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Recent Events

Indoor Athletics: Well done to all of the children who took part in this event. Whilst there were one or two results still to come in at the time of writing our children were in an excellent 2nd place – well done to all of them!

Christmas Fayre: A massive THANK YOU to absolutely everyone that helped in any way to plan and run the Christmas Fayre. It certainly seemed to me that the children who came were having a good time (as well as Mr Jeffery who I believe even took to dancing!) and thanks to you spending your money we raised over £1400 to add to the pot for our planned outdoor improvements. Thank You.

Class Assemblies: It was lovely to see all of you at the recent class assemblies I hope you enjoyed them. We will have more next term. Thanks to all staff for planning and carrying them out.

COMING SOON

- **Christmas Performances (YN to Y2)**
- **More class assemblies**
- **Y4 Trip to Sea Life Centre**
- **Christmas Decorations/Post Box!**
- **Christmas Dinner**



Christmas!

With so many different things taking place in school at this time of year I thought it would be helpful to send this newsletter out a few days early so that I can try to cover everything in good time!

Academy Improvement

As you will know from previous letters and other communication sent home as well as publicly available on the Internet, we have the ambition to be judged as an outstanding provider of primary education and that currently we hold a Good rating from Ofsted. You will probably also know that our main priority is to raise the standards achieved by the children by the time they leave to go to high school. This is currently too far below the national average and whilst we are pleased that KS1 pupils are attaining at or close to the national average and that our pupils make steady progress overall we need more of our pupils to make accelerated progress to be in line with the 'average' across the country.

It is because of this that the local authority (and indeed ourselves) consider our current rating based on an analysis of some publicly available data to be red as raising standards at the end of KS2 is of paramount importance when grading schools and academies. The EADT may be publishing next week a list of all primary schools in Suffolk showing their colour rating. This rating known as the RAG rating (Red, Amber, Green) was devised to aid the LA in allocating their resources and support. Whilst a useful signpost on terms of attainment priorities the RAG rating does not take into account the normal array of factors that external organisations such as Ofsted take into account such as; year group size and characteristics, or individual children's starting points on entry. Therefore it is vital that the rating is not seen in isolation as it can be open to misinterpretation without the broad body of information and data that every school also has. Nevertheless we do not wish to be red and have a very clear plan in place to improve our provision and thus raise the standards we wish to which we are currently working hard to implement with our governors and Improvement Directors from our sponsor Academy Transformation Trust.

If you would like any further information on how the RAG ratings were calculated or how we are working to raise standards please do not hesitate to contact me as I can direct you to the relevant (and very complex/thorough) information! If you would like to know how you can get more involved with the education of your child through supporting their learning at home please do contact the class teacher as the home school partnership is one essential element of high quality learning.

Events Information

Despite wishing to give you an overview of everything that is going on in this newsletter I think that actually there is too much for me to fit it all in! Therefore please do see all the other letters and notes that have been sent out to specific year groups and/or classes and of course please do not hesitate to ask the class teacher or the office if there is anything you are not certain about during this extremely busy period.

Book Fair

Thank you to all who visited our recent travelling book fair and made a purchase. As you know we receive a percentage of the overall sales to spend on books for the academy and thanks to you we had over £500 for this purpose! I would like to thank all the staff who helped with the organisation and running of this event especially Mrs Ward who leads it. Finally in case I don't have the opportunity to do so before next Friday may I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New year.

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.greathathacademy.atrust.org.uk for further information about us.

2015

Friday 18th December ~ School closes for the Christmas holiday

2016

Monday 4th January ~ INSET day for staff – school closed to pupils

Tuesday 5th January ~ School reopens for pupils after the Christmas holiday

Thursday 11th February ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday

Friday 12th February ~ INSET day for staff – school closed to pupils

Monday 22nd February ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday

Tuesday 22nd March ~ Parent / Teacher Meetings – 15:30 – 18:30

Wednesday 23rd March ~ Parent / Teacher Meetings – 15:30 – 18:30

Thursday 24th March ~ Last day for pupils before the Easter holiday

Monday 11th April ~ School reopens for pupils after the Easter holiday

Monday 2nd May ~ May Day – school closed

Monday 9th May ~ Probable Date Y6 Statutory Test week (Y6 pupils **MUST** attend school all week – **VERY IMPORTANT**)

Friday 27th May ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday

Monday 6th June ~ INSET day for staff – school closed to pupils

Tuesday 7th June ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday

Monday 13th June ~ Probable Y1 and some Y2 Statutory Phonics screening week – all Y1 and Y2 pupils in school this week please - **IMPORTANT**

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

Below – INSET days and testing week for Y6 pupils and phonics screening week for Y1/some Y2 pupils not yet confirmed and therefore provisional at this time.

Thursday 1st September ~ INSET day for staff – School closed to pupils

Friday 2nd September ~ INSET day for staff – School closed to pupils

Monday 5th September ~ School reopens for pupils after the summer holiday

Friday 21st October ~ School closes for the half term holiday

Monday 31st October ~ INSET day for staff – School closed to pupils

Tuesday 1st November ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday

Tuesday 20th December ~ School closes for the Christmas holiday

2017

Wednesday 4th January ~ INSET day for staff – School closed to pupils

Thursday 5th January ~ School reopens for pupils after the Christmas holiday

Friday 10th February ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday

Monday 20th February ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday

Friday 31st March ~ Last day for pupils before the Easter holiday

Tuesday 18th April ~ School reopens for pupils after the Easter holiday

Monday 1st May ~ May Day – school closed

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

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