

Great Heath Academy Newsletter



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Recent Events

PE Workshop: Well done to all of the children selected to represent our school at a recent PE workshop. Despite all having already excellent skills in this area I know that they learned a lot and enjoyed working with pupils from other schools.

Assemblies: So far this term we have had class assemblies from Galaxy and Strawberry classes. Well done to all the children and thank you for such interesting and enjoyable assemblies. We continue to invite parents and carers to our special Friday assemblies – it is lovely to see you all there. We also are very lucky to have the Open the Book group lead some of our assemblies – I know the children enjoy their stories and especially being included as a character!

Basketball: Well done to our basketball team who took many skills, lots of enthusiasm and heaps of positive attitude to the recent local area basketball tournament. They played very well but were disadvantaged against some pupils from Newmarket who seemed to be much taller than them!

COMING SOON

- **Internet Safety Week** – 5th to 9th February
- **Internet Safety Open Session** – 9th Feb 9-9.45
- **World Book Day** – Thursday 1st March ([Come dressed as your favourite book character!](#))
- **Oftsed** – we are expecting this soon – please see academy improvement section



Academy Staffing

We are pleased to report that there have been no changes to the staffing since our last newsletter. We can confirm now that Miss Clarke who teaches in our nursery is about to begin her maternity leave and that Mrs Cole who has been on maternity leave is about to return. Continuing the theme, Mrs Mitchinson will also be leaving us in a few weeks to begin her maternity too – we wish them all well.

Academy Improvement

As we near the mid-way point of the year (Where on Earth did the time go?!) We would like to recommend again that you give your views on the school through the Ofsted Parent View website. We are expecting Ofsted to inspect our school very soon and often during that period many parents do register with and use the system but it is always helpful if this is done before so wherever possible. We appreciate that most of you will wish to use this service when you feel something has gone wrong but it is equally as valuable to us to be reassured if we are getting things right – therefore please do upload your thoughts particularly if they are positive. To do so just visit <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> then click on 'Give Your Views' after which you will be asked to register yourself as a parent and then be given a series of questions to answer. The larger the number of responses the better so please if you think we are doing OK, very well or even if you think we are not, register and complete the survey. Don't forget that next week is Safer Internet Week and that we will be opening our doors until 09:45 for you to see some of that work in classes on the last day – Friday 9th. If you want to come and look round, please sign in at the office and go to the main hall to view an information film before heading off to class. Thank You.

Academy Premises

ATT our academy sponsor have used some of their capital budget to replace our boiler and heating system. The old one had been here since the school was built in the 1970's and as such was beginning to show real signs of age. The new system will be much more efficient and hopefully more controllable – the school always felt too hot or too cold before! We have had ongoing issues with a rather disgusting smell coming from somewhere below the school – you may even have had the misfortune to smell it yourselves; but again with money from ATT we have been looking into the problem and have work ongoing at the moment which includes improving the toilets for boys in KS1. Finally, we are looking to install blinds in some of the new rooms, a new telephone system for ease of communication around the building (which now being the size it is means to deliver messages by walking around can takes ages!) and will be replacing the dining hall floor. We are not aware that we need any more building works other than this which after all the things we have had done in recent years from the roof to the car park to the extension is very nice to know!

Thank you for your ongoing help and support – we very much appreciate it. 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.greathacademy.trust.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.

2018

Friday 9th February ~ 09:00 to 09:45 – come and learn about Internet Safety – we have an information film in the hall and then you can visit your child in class

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

Thursday 1st March – World Book Day – please come dressed as your favourite book character – more details to follow

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

Monday 6th May ~ May Day – **School closed**

Monday 13th May ~ Y6 Statutory Test week (Y6 pupils **MUST** attend school all week – **VERY IMPORTANT**)

Friday 24th May ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday

Monday 3rd June ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday

Monday 10th June ~ Y1 and some Y2 Statutory Phonics screening week – all Y1 and Y2 pupils in school this week please - **IMPORTANT**

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