

Great Heath Academy Newsletter



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Recent Events

Pupil Responsibilities: Thank you to all the children who wished to be considered for school leaders and school council. Everyone put a lot of thought and effort into their 'pitches' – those selected the work starts now! You have a lot to do on behalf of your fellow pupils.

Assemblies, Trips and Visits: No trips or visits as yet although our visits lead (Mrs Fowler-Simpson) has been discussing how best to make sure all trips are safe, relevant, memorable and affordable - more information to come soon. We have had some lovely Friday celebration assemblies already this term. Look out for invites - it is lovely to see parents there.

Sport: We strongly believe that giving our pupils the chance to take part in organised competitive sports events is very important and already our PE lead teacher Mr Hicks ably supported by Mr Barker has arranged for pupils to participate in both cluster football matches and a cross-country tournament. I believe we are doing well in the football and had some great results in the cross-country. We are aiming to create a sports specific page on the web site to publish results - confirmation of it to follow.

COMING SOON

- **Parent/Teacher Evenings**
- **More cluster football matches on our field**
- **FOGHS disco (contact office to join/help)**
- **Half Term ☺ but dark nights ☹**



Academy Staffing

As you will know we did have some change to our staffing team over the summer although I am sure by now everyone who works at the academy is a familiar face; especially of course those who work the most with your child/ren. As is the norm for Great Heath we have also seen a significant change to the pupils with some leaving and many more joining. Welcome therefore, to everyone new - be they pupils, staff or you as parents!

Academy Improvement

Being the lead people in the academy and tasked with improving it year on year is I hope you will agree a significant challenge. A very large primary academy such as this with 550 pupils, 20+ teachers, even more support staff and an annual budget in line with a large lottery win to manage keeps us both very busy! Of course there are also very many ways in which others judge how well we are doing from looking at.....

- The happiness, health and safety of the children
- Their general conduct, pride in themselves and the organisation
- How well they attend each day and arrive in good time
- How many extra experiences are provided for them
- How well parents are kept informed about and involved with what is going on

.....to list but a few and that is before anyone even asks about learning and ultimately the quality of teaching. As you will know, Ofsted recently asked all these questions of us and many, many more besides and in conjunction with seeing everything first hand deemed us to be a Good academy in all their areas. Job done then? No of course not - we are both as committed as ever to working with all our staff to make sure Great Heath really is the best it can be for your child/ren and have already established priorities for this year and beyond. Where we absolutely still do need to improve is with the progress all our pupils make throughout their time here – especially in reading. We are doing OK but that is not good enough - we want everyone to realise the complete limits of their potential. To that end we would ask please that you continue to take an active interest in what your child is learning in school to help foster and promote a love of learning and most certainly encourage and sit with your child/ren to **read, read, read and read some more!** We have parent/teacher meetings coming in the next couple of weeks where we would be thrilled to see 100% attendance from you and have put many resources on our web site at:

<http://www.greathathacademy.atrust.org.uk/about-us/parent-guides/>

Here for example, you can get a good insight into what we do in each year group. We really do value your support and help with our key task of improving the academy as with all of us aiming for great things for the children in our care that improvement will continue at great pace.

Academy Premises

Over the summer we had our dining hall redecorated which means it is now a much nicer place to eat and we have also replaced some older dark wood interior doors in our continued effort to further brighten up the academy.

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

2018

Friday 19th October ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 29th October ~ **INSET day** (2 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Tuesday 30th 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** (3 of 5) 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 ~ **INSET day** (4 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Tuesday 26th 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 ~ **INSET day** (5 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Tuesday 4th 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

New Academic Year - INSET days shown below have yet to be formally set and as such may change.

Monday 2nd September ~ **INSET day** (1 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Tuesday 3rd September ~ **INSET day** (2 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Wednesday 4th September ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday
Friday 18th October ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 28th October ~ **INSET day** (3 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Tuesday 29th October ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday
Thursday 19th December ~ Last day for pupils before the Christmas holiday

2020

Monday 6th January ~ **INSET day** (4 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Tuesday 7th January ~ School reopens for pupils after the Christmas holiday
Friday 14th February ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 24th February ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday
Friday 2nd April ~ Last day for pupils before the Easter holiday
Monday 20th April ~ School reopens for pupils after the Easter holiday
Monday 4th May ~ May Day – **School closed**
Monday 11th May ~ Y6 Statutory Test week (Y6 pupils **MUST** attend school all week – **VERY IMPORTANT**)
Friday 22nd ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 1st June ~ **INSET day** (5 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Tuesday 2nd June ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday
Monday 8th June ~ Y1 plus some Y2 Phonics screening (All Y1 and Y2 pupils in school this week please - **IMPORTANT**)
Wednesday 22nd July ~ Last day for pupils before the summer holiday