



Great Barford Lower School Newsletter— March 2017

This half term has been a very busy one with lots of additional activities for the children to take part in. We say farewell to Mr Custance who has been working in the Eagles class and welcome back to Miss McKay.

We would like to welcome Mrs Cuccurullo to the Early years team.

Polite Reminder

Morning Procedure - In order to ensure that we know exactly who is on the premises and when, could I remind all those dropping children off in the morning, that if they have a message for the teacher, to pass it on through the person on the door or visit the main reception. If you need to talk to a member of staff, please contact the office and an appointment will be made for either a phone call or a meeting as appropriate. Please use the drop in sessions on a Wednesday afternoon if you need a quick update on how your child is progressing, the teachers are always pleased to see you at this time.

Robins

Cora, Ethan, Lydia,
Nathan, Charlie C,
Lily

Owls

Charlie, Kai, Oliwier, Matthew, Myles,
Lola H

Puffins

Lucy, Leah, Kye,
Jessica, Gracie, Will

Woodpeckers

Emma, Ryan, George, Mia, Bobby,
Nashiya

Osprey's

Connie, Aiva,
Scot, Nathan,
Finley,
Toby

Eagles

Mabel, Ben,
Liam, Jasmine,
Chloe, Marley

As part of our vision and values for this half term the values champions have received a golden ticket.

This ticket is for our Values Champion's Tea Party on **Monday 24th April** in the school hall, 2.45-3.15pm. If your child has been awarded a golden ticket they are invited to attend the tea party with a special guest (for example, grandparent or parent). Unfortunately other school age children are unable to attend.





Important Information

Swimming

We would like to say thank you to both the friends committee and a very generous donation of £1500 from a parent, which has gone towards the development of the swimming pool for this year.

We are planning to start swimming from **2nd May** (subject to the weather. To enable us to do this we will need parent volunteers. Below are listed the requirements by each class.

Class	Volunteers required in the pool	Volunteers not in the pool
Wrens/Robins	2	2
Owls	1	1
Puffins	1	1
Woodepeckers	1	1
Eagles	0	1
Osprey's	0	1

All swimming helpers must be DBS cleared, so if you would if you would like to help with swimming, but do not yet have DBS clearance, please ask at the school office for a DBS form.

If you are able to help, please contact the school office, letting us know when you are available. We will need help in all classes and would appreciate it if you could help with other classes that your child might not be in.

Reminders

- Where possible please make all medical/dental appointments out of school time and ensure arrangements are made so that any siblings remain in school.
- Thank you to all parents who attended the Behaviour workshop on the 9th March. Please see the school website for the behaviour report.
- All responses for the consultation on Education in Great Barford must be returned either by email publicconsultation@unitycemat.org or to the school office by Friday 28th April.
- Look out for the Parent Forum Meeting coming up in the new term.
- We are collecting the **ACTIVE KIDS** vouchers and would appreciate it if you have any to donate to the school for school equipment.



What have we been up to?

EYFS

Robins and Wrens have been doing some very exciting activities in their 'Let's pretend Topic'. They have designed and made their own superveggies as well as wanted posters.

The children also dressed up for World book day and shared their book with the rest of the class.



Key Stage 1

Year 2 enjoyed a fun filled DT day with Nick King. This year they were making fairytale carriages to fit in with our new topic 'Huff and Puff'. There was a real sense of working together to help each other apply the new skills they were taught. At the end of the day the children evaluated their work and discussed how they could continue to work on their projects at home.



Key Stage 2

On Wednesday 15th March 14 Year 4 pupils got the opportunity to take part in a STEM (Science, Technology, engineering and Maths) activity organised by the sixth form students of Mark Rutherford Upper school. The group attended three different sessions during which they extracted DNA from a banana (yes really!) made fruit into working batteries and tested different liquids to see if they were acid or alkaline. All the children did Great Barford proud, they were extremely well behaved and enthusiastic. We were very lucky as our transport was arranged and paid for by Villiers Park Educational Trust. Thank you to all the staff and Sixth form students at Mark Rutherford and to Sarah Chick at Villiers Park. Let's hope it will inspire some of our pupils to become the science innovators of the future!



Friends

The friends committee have been very busy raising money towards the up keep of the swimming pool. They have held some very successful activities and raised the following:

Mufti Day—£220.31
Movie night—Feb—£207.34
Movie Night—March—£132.76
Disco—£121.00

Thank you to our committee and everyone who helps to make all of these events a success



Dates for the 1st half of Summer Term

Date	Event	Year Group
Tues 18th April	1 st day of Summer Term	Whole School
Mon 24th April	Values Tea Party	Guests of children with a golden ticket
Fri 28th April	Sponsored bounce	Whole School
Mon 1st May	Bank Holiday – School closed	Whole School
Tues 2nd May	First day of swimming	As per timetable
Tues 2nd May	Y2 Multi Skills Festival Mark Rutherford	Selected team Puffins
Tues 2nd May	Kwik Cricket Tournament KS2	Selected team Woodpeckers/Ospreys/Eagles
Wed 4th May	EYFS DT Day	Robins
Mon 8th – Wed 10th May	KS2 Bikeability – details will come out nearer the time	Woodpeckers/Ospreys / Eagles
Friday 12th May	School Disco 5.30 – 6.45	Robins – Eagles (reception children must be accompanied by an adult)
15th – 19th May	Walk to school week	Whole School
Tues 16th May	Y3 – Verulamium	Woodpeckers
Wed 17th May	Kwik Cricket Finals (If qualified)	Selected Team
Sat 20th May	Bingo Night – Adults only	
Mon 22nd May	KS2 - Jordan's Close	Woodpeckers/Eagles/ Ospreys
Tues 23rd May	EYFS – Jordan's Close	Wrens/Robins
Wed 24th May	KS1 – Jordan's Close	Owls/ Puffins
Thurs 25th May	Nursery Open Morning	Information to be sent out
Fri 26th May	Last Day of Half Term	Whole School
29th May – 5th June		
Monday 5th June	First Day of new Half Term	Whole School

Important Dates coming Up
Sports Day— Fri day 30th June
EYFS—am Y1-4—pm
Summer Fete—Saturday 8th July