



Newsletter No:10

Friday 17th July 2015

Thank you for another brilliant year. We have enjoyed a very exciting time with lots of events and visits. Thank you to all parents who have helped in school in any capacity, your help is very much appreciated and without you we wouldn't be able to offer all the extra activities that we do.



We bid a fond farewell this term to Mrs Heather Legg who is leaving to go on her travels before setting up her own business.

Friends

A huge thank you goes to the Friends of Great Barford Lower School for organising the Summer Fete and an extremely successful programme of events and fundraising this year. The Summer Fete raise a fantastic £1350.65.

This brings the total funds raised this year to a brilliant £6568.02

The money raised has paid for DT days, resources for the classrooms, books for the library and one of the clever touch boards as part of the replacement of smart boards across the school. Every penny that the Friends raise goes back to the children and helps to enrich their experiences and learning.

The first Friends meeting and AGM for the new school year will be held on Tuesday 22nd September at 7.30pm in the school staff room, light refreshments will be provided, everyone welcome.



Sporting Achievements



Sports Day saw the Blue team finally taking the lead and winning the sports team of the year with 345 points. Well done to all the children and thank you to all parents who came to support them.

We have had a very successful year participating in the following local schools sports events: Tag Rugby, Athletics, Kwik Cricket and Inter mural sports with the Alban Sports leaders.

INUKSHUK

Inukshuk is part of the Vision and Values Ethos of Great Barford Lower School . The children have been learning the meaning of Inukshuk which is:

You are on the right path

This half term we have been looking at **Responsibility** and our value champions are show on the Inukshuk below.

Well done to all our Value's Champions



As part of the Vision and Values in our school it is very important that we take pride in our school uniform therefore please can you make sure your child is wearing the correct uniform to school as follows :

Girls	White Polo Shirt	Grey Skirt or Trousers Blue and white check dress in the summer	School sweatshirt or cardigan
Boys	White Polo Shirt	Grey shorts or trousers	School sweatshirt

All children should wear dark coloured shoes or sandals(not opened toed) and NOT trainers. PE kit for all children is black shorts and a tee shirt in your team colour. Sweatshirts, cardigans, fleeces, book bags, PE bags and baseball caps can be bought from the school office.

Please name all items of clothing bought into school

100% Attendance

Congratulations to the following children who have achieved a fantastic 100% Attendance: Mia Bailey, Joseph Farr, Lauren Ward, Emma Cowan, Courtney Curtis, Harry McCartney, Matthew Latham, Saihou Bojang, Harvey Curtis, Finlay Brown, Ella Louise Morton, Finley Shuttleworth and Archie Thomas.

A special congratulations to Ella Morton who has not been absent and Finley Shuttleworth who has only been absent from school for one afternoon since joining us in reception.

Pupil Premium Audit

This term we invited Mr Adrian Jolly, an assessor from Achievement for All, to carry out an audit of the way we spend our pupil premium funding across the school.

Mr Jolly spent two days with us in total and was very impressed with what he observed. He spoke to teachers, teaching assistants, parents and spent time with the children in and out of the classrooms. The final report was excellent and the closing statement of the report sums up the time with us and is a real cause for celebration for everyone at Great Barford Lower.

The high quality of teaching and learning in this school is truly inspiring. It is well planned, active, fast paced and adaptive to the needs of the pupils. This capitalises on the intrinsic love of learning of all children and most particularly that of disadvantaged pupils.

Sing up



The Kingfishers made us all proud when they performed as part of the massed school choir at the Bedford Corn Exchange. It was a fantastic event that we know the children will always remember. We look forward to the new Kingfishers and Woodpeckers taking part next year.

More Events....

We were lucky once again this year with the weather during the week we visited Jordans Close. The children experienced more outdoor and adventurous activities and I know that they are all looking forward to the Autumn Term when we will be visiting again. Thank you to all our parent volunteers, we couldn't have done it without you.

Key Stage One had a visit from the Birds Of Prey in June and had a brilliant time seeing, touching and learning about these beautiful birds.



The Eagles had a fantastic time at Duxford Museum taking part in a wide variety of World War II activities while dressed in their war time costumes.

Nursery Consultations – Thank you to all parents who attended the Nursery Consultations to see how their children were progressing in the Nursery.



Swimming



We have had another successful summer term of swimming and we have had many hours of fun in the pool. The children have developed their skills and confidence. Without the help of parents we would not be able to offer their valuable experience. Thank you so much for giving your time and energy.



Dates

Please find the dates for the first half of the new autumn term on the back of the newsletter. In September we will send a separate dates list for the school year. Please note the change of INSET date in October. We have changed our dates in order to be in line with Alban Academy hopefully making childcare at this time easier for families.

Two Tier



Following the letter you received from Councillor Henry Vann about the Borough's move towards a two tier education system, Stuart Andrews, our Chair of Governors. and I have attended meetings with local schools with the intention of developing a plan for our cluster. Further meetings are planned early in the new school year. Applications to change the school age range need to be submitted to Bedford Borough by the end of September, I will write again in early September outlining our plans.

And Finally

I would like to wish the Year 4 Eagles every success at their new schools. They have been great fun and have been super workers, musicians, scientists and sportsmen this year. I am sure that they will all continue from strength to strength in Year 5. I look forward to hearing about all their future achievements. We also say goodbye to Sophie Wood, Ella Harvey and Romilly Grove and we wish them all the best in the new schools. We are also looking forward to welcoming the new children that will be joining us in September. We will have new children joining across the school.

I wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 7th September.

Term Dates For 2015/2016

Please find following the term dates for the next academic year. Please note that holidays should be booked in the school holidays as term time holidays cannot be authorised.

AUTUMN TERM 2015

Term Starts	Monday 7 th September
Teacher training Day	Friday 23 rd October (<i>school closed</i>)
Half term	26 th October to 30 th October
Term Finishes	Friday 18 th December

SPRING TERM 2016

Term Starts	Tuesday 5 th January
Half Term	15 th February to 19 th February
Term Finishes	Thursday 24 th March

SUMMER TERM 2016

Term Starts	Tuesday 12 th April
May Day	Monday 2 nd May
Half Term	30 th May to 3 rd June
Term Finishes	Friday 22 nd July

If your details have changed please complete the form below and return it to the school office.

Name of child: _____ Class: _____

Detail
change: _____

DATES FOR NEXT HALF TERM

Date	Event	Year Group
Mon 7 th Sept	First day of term	Whole School
Wed 16 ^h Sept 2.45pm	First “drop in” of the year - parents invited to meet teachers	Robins, Owls, Puffins, Kingfishers, Woodpeckers , Eagles
Thurs 17 th Sept	West Stow – Anglo Saxon village visit (Letter to come out beginning school term)	Eagles
Tues 22 nd Sept	Friends AGM 7.30pm in school staff room	All welcome
Mon 21 st Sept	Science week	Whole School
Mon 21 st Sept	Y3/4 - Jordan’s Close day	Kingfishers, Woodpeckers, Eagles
Tues 22 nd Sept	Y1/2 – Jordan’s Close day	Owls, Puffins
Tues 22 nd Sept 2.15pm	Phonics workshop - School Hall 2.15pm – 3.15pm	Robins parents
Fri 25 th Sept	Macmillan coffee morning in hall 8.45 - 10.00	All Welcome
Mon 28 th Sept	Harvest – 10.00 o’clock in church	Owls, Puffins, Kingfishers, Woodpeckers, Eagles
Thurs 1 st Oct	FS Harvest – 9.15 (hall required)	Wrens, Robins
Fri 9 th Oct	Disco 5.45 – 6.00 Reception children must be accompanied by an adult	All years from Reception and above



Blue	345
Red	314
Yellow	207
Green	206