



Girton Glebe Newsletter

Issue 8

Friday 12 January 2018

It was lovely to welcome all of our children back to school last Thursday for the first day of the Spring Term and it is even more exciting to see the wonderful array of engaging work they are taking part in as topics for the New Year get underway. Please read on for a round-up of some of the things which have been taking place in and around school since the start of term...

Staffing News

I would like to offer an official Girton Glebe 'Welcome' to Miss Alex Browne who joins us in Maple class this term. Although Miss Browne spent a lot of time in school before Christmas, she has now joined us full-time and we are very excited to have her as part of our teaching team.

At the very end of the autumn term we appointed Mr Tom Austin to the role of Year 6 class teacher and Assistant Headteacher. Mr Austin is an incredibly experienced Year 6 teacher and senior leader and will be joining us after the Easter break. In the interim, following Mr Kohler's departure at February half-term, Birch class will be taught by Miss Kelly Davidson and supported by the Senior Leadership Team.

Tree-mendous FOGG

Many thanks to FOGG and members of the local community for hosting such a successful Christmas tree shredding event on Sunday 9 January. It was incredibly well-attended and raised a total of £446 for the school. Such wonderful support is always greatly appreciated – well done to all who ran and organised this fundraiser!

The Golden Mile

As you may have read in letters circulated prior to the Christmas break, we will soon be taking part in an initiative known as The Golden Mile led by Premier Sport.

During The Golden Mile, pupils can choose to run, jog, or simply walk and chat to their friends whilst travelling around the Golden Mile track at scheduled times during the school day. Class teachers have 'signed up' for 15-minute slots

throughout the week and Premier Sport will be visiting us next week, ahead of our official launch on Monday 22 January.



Premier Sport will be visiting us on the morning of Wednesday 17 January to deliver an assembly to the whole school and will spend an hour training our Golden Mile Monitors.

For more information about The Golden Mile, please visit <http://www.golden-mile.org>

Science Update

Our children have been working incredibly hard on their science topics across the school and there have been some very exciting developments regarding the Year 6 Antarctica Day project – if you saw our Twitter post before Christmas, you will know that four of the flags that our pupils designed have departed for Deception Island in the care of a German researcher named Carsten. The flags will be arriving in Antarctica later this month!

In this week's science lessons, some of our pupils spent time investigating electricity and circuits, exploring different electrical toys and games and conductivity. Some classes were also exploring the properties of materials and were finding out how glass is made whilst other children spent time investigating sound.



BBC 500 Words

The BBC's 500 Words story-writing competition returns on January 15 for its eighth year, inspiring our young authors to get excited about reading and writing. The competition is open to every 5 – 13 year old in the UK and runs until 1900 on February 22.



For more information and resources for pupils and parents, please see the BBC's 500 Words website.

School Development

Last week, our teaching staff spent the morning of the Inset day analysing pupil data and progress and looking at the progression of teaching in French. The afternoon was put aside for members of the Senior Leadership Team to meet with class teachers in order to hold Pupil Progress Meetings.

At this week's staff meeting we were joined by Becky Moseley from the Cambridgeshire Maths Team who delivered a session on developing mathematical reasoning and provided additional strategies for teaching geometry across the school.

Diary Dates

Spring Term dates to add to your diaries:

Half term: Monday 12 – Friday 16 February

Final day of term: Thursday 29 March

Inset: Monday 16 April

First day of summer term: Tuesday 17 April

Spring Term Class Assemblies – Fridays (0900 - 0930)

Willow: 2 February

Oak: 9 March

Ash: 23 March

Anti-Bullying Week: Monday 22 – Friday 26 January

Golden Mile Launch: Monday 22 January

Year 6 Staffing Meeting: Monday 22 January (1800)

Year 3 Fun-Triton: Thursday 25 January (0900 – 1000)

Mathletics Workshop for Parents: Wednesday 31 January (0900)

Year 6 Parent Consultations: Tuesday 6 February (1530 – 1900), Wednesday 7 February (1530 – 1800)

World Book Day: Thursday 1 March (Dress up as your favourite book character)

French Breakfast Information Session for Year 6 Parents: Friday 2 March (0900)

E-Safety Week: Monday 5 – Friday 9 March

Year 6 Trip to France: Monday 12 – Friday 16 March

Science Week: Monday 19 – Friday 23 March

Parent Consultations (EYFS – Y5): Tuesday 20 March (1530 – 1900), Thursday 22 March (1530 – 1800)

Basic Child Protection Training

Many thanks to all parents, carers and volunteers who joined me for the basic child protection training on Wednesday morning. It is invaluable training to receive if you offer your time to support us in school and I will be running more of these sessions in the future.

If you would like to join us at one of these sessions then please leave your name at the school office and we will be in touch regarding dates later this term.

Mathletics Workshop

I would like to invite you to join us for a 30-minute Mathletics Workshop we will be hosting at 0900 on Wednesday 31 January in the school hall.



At this session we will show you how Mathletics is used in school and the scope for its use at home, detailing how class teachers tailor its functions to individual pupils.

I look forward to welcoming you to this session.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Andrew Simpson

Headteacher