



Girton Glebe Newsletter

Issue 16

Friday 25 May 2018

Over the final fortnight, Girton Glebe Primary School has hosted a range of amazing activities. Please read on to see what our pupils and staff have been doing...

Grafham Residential

Between 14 and 16 May, our Year 5 pupils visited Grafham Water Centre for three days of action-packed outdoor adventuring! Accompanied by three members of school staff, the children took part in a range of challenging activities designed to push them outside of their comfort zones and develop their teamwork skills.



During their visit, children and staff completed high-wire climbing activities, kayaked across the lake, built rafts, enjoyed a morning of stand-up paddle boarding and completed a 6-mile bike ride.



The children had a fabulous time at Grafham and worked incredibly well together to complete such demanding tasks! Many thanks to Miss Pyle, Mr Smart and Mrs Harman for accompanying the group on this residential.

EYFS Wild Challenges

Our Foundation Stage classroom has been home to a few guests this week as the eggs they had been keeping warm in their incubator have begun to hatch!



The chicks are now at home with Ms Cansdale working on their feathers and will be back in school once they have fluffed up!

Our EYFS children have also been working on a series of Wild Challenges set by the RSPB. This is a free scheme that encourages children to connect with, and learn about, nature through fun and engaging activities. The first task that they completed was producing butterfly feeders using mashed up bananas!



Museum of Zoology Visits

On 15 and 16 of May, Girton Glebe Primary sent two year groups to the Museum of Zoology in Cambridge to explore the lower galleries. During their visit, the Year 3 and Year 4 children spent time comparing different skeletons and finding out facts about a range of animals. They also completed a treasure hunt where they had to find and name the stuffed animals on display.

The blue whale skeleton was a hit with all of the pupils and they had a fabulous time travelling by public transport en masse from Girton.

Many thanks go to the museum for hosting our pupils and to the staff and parent volunteers for accompanying both sets of pupils on their visit!

Eddington Flags Project

Children from Maple class have been working collaboratively with three other local primary schools and local artists to produce a range of silk flags that will be paraded through Eddington later in July.

On Friday 18 May, the artists visited Girton Glebe to help our pupils with their designs and, later that day, their sketches were marked out so they could be transferred to silk back in the studio.

Our pupils visited the artists at UCPS on May 24 and spent the day painting their flags which had been placed on silk and bordered with wax. They had a fabulous time producing work for this project and the artists themselves were incredibly complimentary about the enthusiasm and behaviour of our children, describing them as "a credit to the school." Well done, all, you were fabulous!

School Development

Over the last fortnight, staff meeting sessions have been focussed on improving writing through the development of grammar and punctuation and we have also spent time looking at fluency and reasoning strategies for maths.

Key Stage 2 SATs

Congratulations to all of our Year 6 pupils for working so hard during SATs week between 14 & 17 May.

The children worked incredibly hard in the long lead up to SATs and approached the tests with determination and a wonderful air of calm!

Many thanks to Mr Austin for preparing the children so well and to all staff who supported the pupils throughout the four days of testing!

E-Safety & Online Gaming

You will be familiar with the e-safety features that I include on the school newsletter and the posts that I make on the Twitter feed, @GirtonGlebePS.

Ensuring that home and school have a co-ordinated approach to e-safety is vital if we are to support our children in staying safe online. The links I share contain great advice for parents and carers in assisting young people in creating a sensible digital footprint.

These links can also be found on our school website under Parent Info > E-Safety.

The NSPCC's Netaware link features on this page and is an invaluable tool for highlighting ways in which we can support children online through improving privacy settings and understanding the content that certain platforms (the majority, which appear to be popular with primary-aged children carry 13+ age-restrictions) expose our pupils to.

One recent game, Fortnite, has drawn much media attention due to its popularity with younger gamers. The Netaware link, along with the Childnet guide posted on the website and Twitter, provide information on the concerns that have been raised about this 13+ platform. They also share information about the game and safety features which can be applied.



A parents guide to Fortnite: Battle Royale

Diary Dates

Half term: Monday 28 May – Friday 1 June

Inset: Monday 4 June (School closed)

Final day of term: Tuesday 24 July

Pool Resus Training for Parents: Wednesday 6 June (0900 & 1800)

Sports Day: Thursday 7 June (afternoon)

Phonics Screening Tests: Monday 11 June – Friday 15 June

Year 4 Mini-Olympics: Tuesday 19 June (morning)

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Andrew Simpson

Headteacher