



Girton Glebe Newsletter

Issue 2

Friday 21 September 2018

We have had an exciting couple of weeks at Girton Glebe Primary School; the children are now settled into their new classes and fully immersed in their project work. Please read on for a flavour of what has been going on around school...

FOGG

I would like to say an enormous thank you to the FOGG committee for all of the amazing work they did last academic year in raising funds for the school. Through an amazing array of events, FOGG raised an astonishing £10,000, which has been used to enhance curriculum provision and opportunities around school.

This funding has a direct impact on all pupils and staff at Girton Glebe and I would like to take this opportunity to express our collective gratitude to FOGG for their hard work and dedication.

Special thanks go to Anita and Sally who have stepped down from their roles as secretary and treasurer after two fabulous years and are replaced by Annika and Helen.

Parent Consultations

Following Wednesday's ParentMail communication regarding parent consultations, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we have changed procedures for signing up for appointments.

The school office holds folders containing all of the available appointments to see your child's class teacher for parent consultations.

To make an appointment, please visit the office where you can sign your name against any of the available appointment times.

If you are unable to make it to school, please contact the school office via telephone or email. Staff will inform you of available times and reserve consultations for you.

Appointments can be made from **Monday 24 September**.

Car Park & Footpath Work

We have been notified by Girton Town Charity that the installation of a footpath, railings and a replacement bus shelter adjacent to the Girton Parish Council (Rec) car park will take place from October 3 to November 9.

Additional work to the car park is scheduled at a similar time; when we receive these dates from Girton Parish Council and information on the impact on car park users, we will send full details via Parentmail.

Philosophy for Children

This year we have launched P4C (Philosophy for Children) across all classes at Girton Glebe and invite you to support us by taking part in some of these debates with your children at home.

The principle of P4C is for children to experience rational and reasonable dialogue about things that matter to them and their teachers. All participants work together in a 'community of enquiry'. The aim for each child is not to win an argument but to become clearer, less self-contradictory and more aware of other arguments and values before reaching a conclusion.

All children take part in weekly debates facilitated by their class teacher and discussions are centred on a single question which is introduced to the school during Monday's assembly. If you would like to share some of this thinking at home then I have included the following fortnight's lead questions below:

w/c September 24: Can you have excellence without making mistakes?

w/c October 1: Do we have to be sad sometimes to be happy at others?

Further lead questions will be included in subsequent newsletters.

Harvest Festival

Each year we host a Harvest Assembly to which we invite the parents and carers of new EYFS children and other families who are new to Girton Glebe. A reminder that, this year, the assembly will be held on Thursday 12 October at 0900. Please join us if you can.

The children are also encouraged to bring in dried food or tinned goods, which we will be donating to Jimmy's in Cambridge. Any donations will be greatly appreciated.



Supporting Writing at Home Workshop

I would like to invite you to our Supporting Writing at Home session on Friday 28 September (0900 in the school hall), where we will share with you the strategies we are using to develop writing in school and provide you with ideas you can use to support your children at home.

Following a 30-minute presentation in the hall, you will then have the opportunity to visit your child in the classroom and see some of these strategies being put into practice.

E-Safety

A reminder that the E-Safety section of the school website (in 'Parent Information') provides a wealth of information and links for you to supplement the work we do in school in order to support children in being safe online.



The advice on the Childnet website and the NSPCC's Netaware page is invaluable if you haven't already seen it.

Both of these pages are frequently updated as their experts research new and trending apps and sites that are popular with younger audiences.

School Development

Over the last fortnight, staff meetings have focused on the delivery of maths teaching and Lesson Study. Lesson Study is a professional development programme that involves staff working in small focus groups to improve aspects of their teaching around a shared priority.

Diary Dates

Autumn Term Class Assemblies – Fridays (0900 - 0930)

Lime: 19 October

Maple: 2 November

Cherry: 9 November

Birch: 23 November

Supporting Writing at Home Workshop for Parents: Friday 28 September (0900 – 1000)

FOGG Jumble Sale: Saturday 29 September (1100)

Year 6 French Residential: 1 – 5 October

Grafham Residential Parent Information Session: Thursday 4 October (1800 in Cherry Class)

Year 3 Invasion Games Skills at IVC: Thursday 11 October (0900 – 1200)

Inset: Monday 8 October (School closed)

Parent Consultations:

Tuesday 9 October (1530 – 1900)

Thursday 11 October (1530 – 1800)

Harvest Festival: Friday 12 October (0900 – New EYFS parents invited)

Year 5 Grafham Residential: 17 – 19 October

Year 6 SATs Information Meeting: Tuesday 30 October (1800 – 1830)

Half term - 22 - 26 October

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Andrew Simpson

Headteacher