



Girton Glebe Primary School

# Newsletter



8<sup>th</sup> December 2023



**What a festive week we have to share with you!** This week, Maple & Birch classes pulled off an entertaining production of **"The Angel Who Nearly Missed It All!"**.



## Guess The Teacher!

Did you guess? Last week's teacher was **Mrs Knowler**, our Year 3 teacher who has a son named after one of the Beatles and has driven 3,500 miles across America!

Thank you to all family members who attended these two performances; **£144.64** was raised from these productions and all donations go towards future productions and performing arts opportunities for our children. We are looking forward to Ash Class' performance next Thursday!

That's it for Guess The Teacher; you have guessed all of our teaching staff and hopefully have gotten to know a little more about all of us. **What three facts would you share about yourself...?**

Elsewhere in school this week, we have travelled back in time to the Stone Age in Year 3; explored why each of us are special in our own ways in Year 4; reflected on what makes us good buddies and how we can continue to improve in our **"Be A Buddy"** scheme in Year 6 and we have started to see some decorations on our Christmas Trees around school! These were delivered overnight last week by Edwin The Elf, who has left the children a competition to see which class can decorate their tree the best! Keep an eye on our social media pages to see how these trees begin to sparkle and shine in the final weeks of term.

## Christmas Events – Get Involved!

Not in the Christmas spirit just yet? Join us for some festive carols and songs to put you in the Christmas mood as we perform some of our favourites in our two upcoming Christmas events:

### Read on for lots of Christmassy news...

**Chris Butler**  
Headteacher

## Celebration Assembly

Well done to all of the children below who earned a certificate in this week's celebration assembly!

- Ash:** Charlie & Katherine
- Maple:** All of Maple Class!
- Birch:** Honey & Moez
- Lime:** Eddie & Ruby
- Cherry:** Harriet & Peter S
- Willow:** Kikki & Ruben
- Oak:** Cristina & Paloma



### Christmas Service at St Andrews' Church:

Join us at the local church on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December for a short service, delivered by Reverend Bigg, as well as readings from the children and songs performed by our whole-school choir. Key Stage One will be at the church from 9.30 and Key Stage Two from 10.50. We look forward to seeing lots of you there!

### Christmas Concert @ School:

We are thrilled to invite all parents & family members to a festive concert on the evening of Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Join us in the school hall to share Christmas songs performed on the piano, violin, recorder and ukulele and sung by both our student body and the school choir. Festive refreshments will be on sale, with all proceeds going to FOGG, who help to fund opportunities for our children such as workshops, trips & visits, school resources and our end of term productions. Please note the change of time for this event - this will now begin at 5.30 pm. We can't wait to see you there!

■ Find out about **The Angel Who Nearly Missed It All** on page 2!

## Birch Class Update

In Birch class, we have had a busy half term preparing for our play **'The Angel Who Nearly Missed It All'**. The play follows the Late Angel who tries her best to do her job but is never at the right place at the right time. Teamed up with Maple class, we have been rehearsing everyday for the last few weeks to put on a brilliant performance! Last Friday, we had our dress rehearsal during which we performed to the whole school. This was an exciting opportunity to share our hard work with the rest of the school community. This week, it was time for our families to see us in action. Everybody performed fantastically well and we are all very proud of how we got into character, projected our voices and even injected some humour into our delivery!

This week we have also enjoyed a very special visit from Sinterklaas! Victoria (Sophia's mum) came in to talk about this Dutch tradition where Sinterklaas leaves presents in children's shoes. We were treated to a performance of 'Sinterklaas Kapoentje' which asks for something to be put in our little shoes and we got to try some delicious pepernoten cookies specially delivered to us by Piet (Sinterklaas' helper).

In our Guided Reading and English lessons, we have been reading 'Claude at the Palace' (a new favourite for many of us in Birch)! The hilarious adventures of snappy-dressing dog Claude and his companion Sir Bobblysock have been great fun to read and have served as inspiration for our writing over the last half-term. Meanwhile, in Science, we have been learning about animals and their habitats. This involved visits to forest school where we learnt about what sort of environment insects might be best suited to and used this knowledge when building our own bug hotels.

We've had a great half-term jam-packed with lots of exciting learning and there is more to come! Next week, we will be exploring our 'Magnificent Monarchs' theme by painting our own royal portraits. Look out for these on social media!

**Until next time,  
Birch Class**



## Wonderful Wreaths in Willow!

Willow Class were given an exciting lesson in Christmas wreath making last Thursday and the classroom was awash with greenery and wonderful smells as they created some fantastic festive decorations. The end results were very impressive and, after an afternoon of Christmas creativity, jumpers and music, Willow all felt ready to welcome in the festive season! A huge thanks goes to Mrs Sargent who donated her time and lots of resources to this tree-mendous event, as well as Marshalls Garden and Oakington Garden Centre for some very generous donations.



## Lime Class Update

We have had a busy Autumn term in Lime Class and have all very much enjoyed our Stone Age day this week, where we have all made fire amongst other things, but more details about this will follow next week!



Over this term, we have been learning about the Stone Age we read the story 'How to Wash a Wolly Mammoth' and wrote our own detailed and comical instructions. We then looked in detail at the story 'A Stone Age Boy', which follows the journey of boy who finds himself in the middle of the Stone Age and learns about their way of life. As part of our learning, we completed lots of writing including using prepositional phrases, a variety of verbs and adverbs and expanded noun phrases which all culminated in us writing our own versions of 'A Stone Age Boy'.

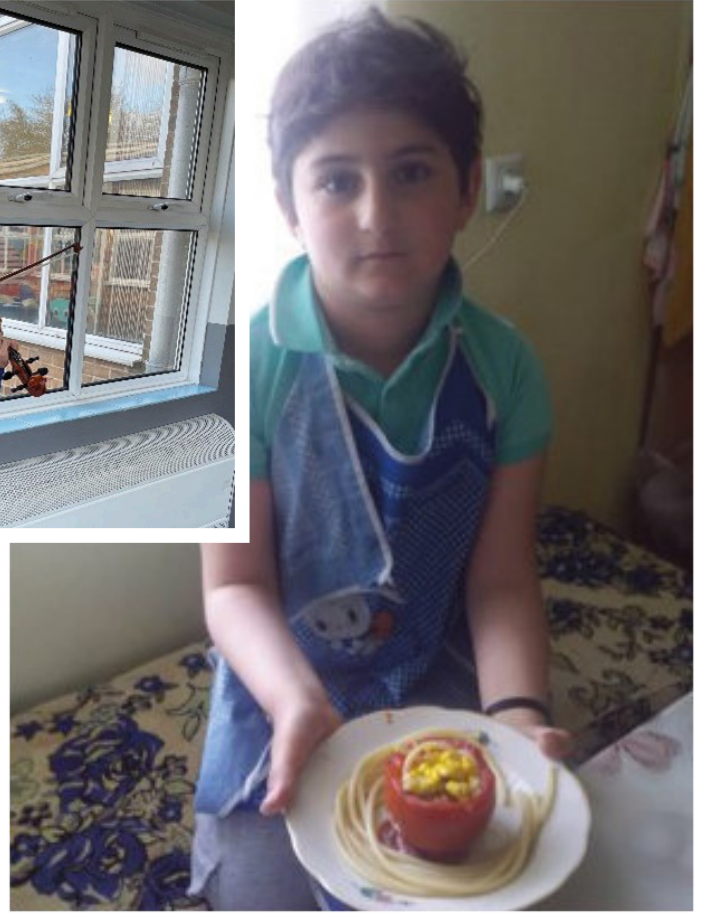
In Maths, we have been working hard on learning formal methods for addition and subtraction and have all made fantastic progress with this. We have also been working hard to learn and our 3 and 4 multiplication tables facts and are becoming very speedy!

In Art and DT, we created our own cave art and have made beautiful pots out of clay. We used a variety of clay tools to engrave our pots with different patterns and designs. Take a look at some of our pots!

## EAL Celebration!

On Monday morning, Dr Aydin treated the whole school to a celebration assembly all about all of the wonderful children at Girton Glebe who speak English as an Additional Language. Dr Aydin explained to children, staff and visiting parents the work that she does with these children to support their English learning, as well as celebrating the unique skills and talents that each of the children she works with has to offer. It was great for the children to learn some different ways to support and include their peers for whom understanding and speaking English may be a challenge, and lovely to hear that we have so many hidden talents amongst our EAL pupils!

From musical instruments, to baking and fashion design, and even Maths competition winners, check out some of their interests and hobbies in these photos sent in by parents!



## Upcoming Dates

### 11<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Church Visit

### 12<sup>th</sup> December, 09:00

Violin & Viola Christmas Assembly

### 12<sup>th</sup> December

Choir Signing at William Collyn Center

### 13<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas Dinner

### 13<sup>th</sup> December

FOGG School Disco

### 14<sup>th</sup> December, 09:00

Ash Class Nativity

### 18<sup>th</sup> December, 17:30

Christmas Carol Concert

### 19<sup>th</sup> December

Last Day of Autumn Term

## Coming Up Next Half-Term

### 4<sup>th</sup> January

First Day of Spring Term

### 7<sup>th</sup> January

FOGG Christmas Tree Shred

### 8<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> January

Year 6 Bike Ability

### 18<sup>th</sup> January, 09:00

Lime Class Assembly

### 25<sup>th</sup> January, 09:00

Oak Class Assembly

### 26<sup>th</sup> January

FOGG Ceilidh

### 1<sup>st</sup> February, 09:00

Willow Class Assembly

## Exciting News From IVC!

# Impington Village College ranked as East Anglia's Comprehensive School of the Year 2024



Impington Village College is celebrating its listing as East Anglia's Comprehensive School of the Year by The Sunday Times Parent Power List 2024; the third time the school has been crowned the title!

The award, which ranks schools and Colleges based on examination results, follows a successful year for the College, which saw it become the first UK state secondary school for students aged 11 - 18 years old to offer three International Baccalaureate (IB) programmes for free.

Two of just 25 students in the UK to achieve a perfect point score of 45 in their IB Diploma Programme (DP) results attended the College's Sixth Form, and the entire 2023 cohort also achieved an average point score of 33; higher than the global average of 30.24. Nearly 100% of its DP students secured places at their first choice of university, while 75% of Oxbridge applicants from the College received offers. Students also performed significantly higher than the national average in their GCSE examinations, with 16% of all grades achieved by pupils at Grade 9, over 30% at Grade 8 and above, and 45% at Grade 7 and above.

Victoria Hearn, Principal, said: "We are thrilled to have been recognised for our student's outstanding outcomes, but the award also highlights our commitment to going beyond academic achievements and placing emphasis on the holistic development of our students.

Our teachers work tirelessly to blend academic and cocurricular opportunities to ensure our students have access to world-class opportunities and I am proud to have their efforts recognised on a national level.

"This award is the culmination of a hugely successful year for the College, which saw us become the first UK state secondary school authorised to offer three IB programmes. We were also recognised by the British Council for our international education provision, which underscores our commitment to offer students in Cambridgeshire an outstanding education that equips them for an unpredictable future. As we celebrate being recognised as East Anglia's Comprehensive School of the Year 2024, I am excited that more children in Cambridge will benefit from an IB education for free when our partner school, Girton Glebe Primary School, begins its candidacy process to teach the IB Primary Years Programme from September 2024."

Together, with Impington Village College, Impington International College and The Cavendish School, Girton Glebe Primary School will be part of the first cluster of state schools in Europe to offer all IB programmes for children aged four to 18 across primary, secondary, sixth form and special education settings.

To find out more about Impington Village College, visit [www.impington.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.impington.cambs.sch.uk)

Girton Glebe parents will have received a letter from Executive Headteacher, Victoria Hearn, regarding a proposed change to IVC's admissions policy which prioritises the children on roll at Girton Glebe. With incredible successes such as this one for IVC, and the continued partnership that we are growing between the two schools through support such as specialist teacher provision and the introduction of personal Chromebooks in Year 6, we think this change will be hugely beneficial for all of our pupils here at Girton Glebe. For more information, click [here](#).

We continue to invite positive feedback from Girton families on the proposal via [admissionsconsultation@ivc.tela.org.uk](mailto:admissionsconsultation@ivc.tela.org.uk) or via post to Impington Village College, New Road, Impington, CB24 9LX. **The consultation will be running until Friday 22 December 2023. Many thanks!**



## House Points

Well done to everyone in **Blue House** again this week for being our House of The Week! Here are this week's totals:



130



115



79



67



## LET'S FACE THE NEW YEAR!

Tuesday  
16th Jan  
19:00 - 20:00  
FREE



**FREE SESSION**  
**Cannabis Awareness**  
Get the facts so you can have the conversation

Thursday  
4th Jan  
19:00 - 21:00  
£24



**Supporting a Child with ADHD**  
Challenging stereotypes, explaining what ADHD is and offering a range of interventions that can make lasting differences.

Monday  
8th Jan  
19:00 - 21:00  
£24



**Autism: Improving Communication**  
Small changes in how you communicate, lead to huge improvements with your ability to communicate with someone on the spectrum.

Tuesday  
9th Jan  
19:00 - 21:00  
£24



**Getting a Good Night**  
Screen Addiction, insomnia, energy drinks and more. Get a range of extremely useful ideas on how to get quality sleep.

fogg  
presents

# Ceilidh

Friday 26th January  
Girton Glebe Hall  
5.30pm

Live band and caller  
Paid Bar

**Tickets:**  
Adults £10  
Children £5



See [www.foggpta.org.uk](http://www.foggpta.org.uk)  
for more info and to order tickets

## Christmas Tree Shredding

Sunday 7th January 2024  
09:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
**Girton Glebe School**

*Come and join us for a great community event!*

**Tree Shredding**  
by Acacia Tree Surgery

**Wheelie Bin Cleaning**  
by Wheelie Fresh Bins

\* Suggested donation of £2.  
All proceeds go to Friends of  
Girton Glebe, Registered Charity  
1098145





open to all children between  
4 – 11 years old



“Play setting of the year 2022”  
Club central Out of school awards

Get in touch  
[info@smarkkidzplayandlearn.co.uk](mailto:info@smarkkidzplayandlearn.co.uk)

## Wrap Around Care

### At Your School

- ★ Wrap around care, gives you childcare from 7:30am to 6pm.
- ★ A high focus on play and joy for children.
- ★ Healthy food Options for children to enjoy in their own time.



Register and book online  
[www.smarkkidzplayandlearn.co.uk](http://www.smarkkidzplayandlearn.co.uk)



SCAN ME

# We are recruiting!



We are recruiting for a Casual Teacher to lead lessons during teaching staff absence on a zero-hour contract. The successful candidate will be enthusiastic and highly motivated and would benefit from the advantages of the flexible working hours that this role offers. We are committed to providing excellent opportunities for career development and progression.

Head over to [tela.org.uk/vacancies](https://tela.org.uk/vacancies) to find out more and apply today!

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Primary School



# We are recruiting!



We are recruiting for a Casual Teaching Assistant to work as part of our Special Needs Team under the direction of the SENDCo. Successful applicants will support class teachers where there are staff absences, supporting children with special educational needs and general class support. We are committed to providing excellent opportunities for career development and progression.

Head over to [tela.org.uk/vacancies](https://tela.org.uk/vacancies) to find out more and apply today!

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