

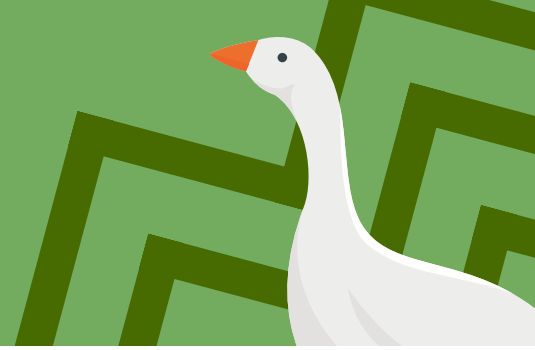


Girton Glebe Primary School

# Newsletter



12<sup>th</sup> January 2024



## Happy New Year and welcome back to school!

The sunshine has joined us this week as we returned to our first full week of teaching, and both children and staff were excited to see a little flurry of snow, too!



It's been a busy week around school. With Year 6's Bike Ability mornings, the return of our wonderful offer of afterschool and lunchtime clubs, and classes diving into their new topics, it's been a joy to be back at Girton after the Christmas break.

Perhaps the highlight of the week for me was Monday's assembly. Led by our fabulous Year 6 litter picking team, the assembly reminded us of the harmful effects of littering on the planet, and our responsibility to clean up our playground and local environment and to be global citizens. Our dedicated team of Year 5 girls have since recruited a team of willing volunteers from around school to help them on their clear-up mission. A huge well done and thank you to Sophie, Megan, Thea, Lois & Mia for all of the hard work you have done over the past year with your litter picking club. You are great ambassadors for all of Girton Glebe's core values!

Read on for a round-up of this week's news...

**Chris Butler**  
Headteacher



## Celebration Assembly

Well done to all of the children below who earned a certificate in this week's celebration assembly! We are proud of your hard work in the first week back at school. Congratulations to all of this week's Readers of The Week and those who earned a Mathematics certificate in this week's assembly, too!

**Ash:** Sahib & Teddy  
**Maple:** Bless & Giorgio  
**Birch:** Alfie & Lydia  
**Lime:** Celia & Nico  
**Cherry:** Mia & Teddy  
**Willow:** Clara & Lennie  
**Oak:** Jasmine & Valerie

We love to celebrate things great and small in celebration assembly. If you have something you'd like to celebrate, whether it's in school or out, please contact Mr Butler.

## Gardening Club Update

Exciting news! Our school gardening club, set up by awesome volunteer Alison in the Autumn term, have been awarded the RHS Level 1 Gardening School Award! After months of hard work in the pond and forest area, the gardening club have been recognised for their efforts to make an accessible growing space and for beginning to understand the benefits of gardening.



So far, our Key Stage One and Key Stage Two clubs have cleared the pond area and planted a variety of herbs and flowering plants such as cyclamen and grape hyacinths. While it's still very much winter, they have enjoyed planting both in school and in pots to take home and Alison and the children can't wait for Spring to see the fruits of their labour!

We are at the very beginning of our gardening journey at Girton Glebe. The RHS award has 9 levels in total; we are excited to keep working outside to earn more of these!





## Willow Class Winners!

Before the holiday, Edwin the Elf visited the school, delivering an undecorated Christmas tree to each class. Edwin challenged the children to decorate these trees and was thrilled to see so many different ideas and themes in how these were decorated. We had war-time trees with paper decorations, forest school trees with hand-made decorations made from natural materials, trees decorated entirely in school and trees decorated with creations from home. Edwin returned on the penultimate day of term to judge these, choosing Willow Class as the winning tree!



A huge well done to all of Willow Class! Edwin chose your tree because he was so impressed that so many of the decorations had been made at home and he especially loved the team effort to create the star. We hope you enjoyed seeing all of our trees at our Christmas concert and we're sure you'll agree each one was beautiful!

## Open Library – New Day & Time

This term, our school library will be open to families on a Friday morning from 8.15-8.45am. Why not pop in to read with your child and borrow a book or two during school drop-off? If your child has a celebration certificate, join us in school a little early and spend some time in the library before joining in the celebrations in the school hall.

**We look forward to seeing lots of you there from next week!**

## IB Update

First of all, we are excited to welcome back to Girton Glebe our Deputy Head and new IB Lead, **Jo Pyle!** Jo returned from maternity leave this week and we are over the moon to have her back at school. Here is Jo's first update of many on our journey towards delivering the IB curriculum:

"I am very excited to be returning to school and taking on the role as school IB Lead. I count myself lucky to work alongside such dedicated staff to develop this inquiring and knowledgeable Primary Years Programme (PYP) at Girton.

Even though we are at the start of our IB journey, so much has already been done to ensure a successful journey to authorisation. During the Summer, Mr Butler and I completed our category 1 IB training, whilst, in school, all teachers have been reading, researching and delivering CPD specific to the philosophy and approach of the PYP. This has given us all a firm foundation to start developing our PYP.

Earlier this academic year, Mr Butler and I were also lucky enough to visit two primary IB schools to see the PYP being delivered in action and learn from their expertise. This was an invaluable experience where we saw some outstanding provision in place, which we look forward to developing and implementing for our pupils at Girton.

Alongside this, we have been having regular meetings with Jo Sale, the Trust IB Lead. Jo brings with her a wealth of IB knowledge and is supporting us to road map our IB journey.

I am sure you will agree that it has been a very busy academic year already, with lots of preparations happening and two very successful Open Afternoons! All the staff at Girton are excited to begin developing our PYP ready for it to start in September."





## Sports Roundup

### Bike Ability for Oak Class

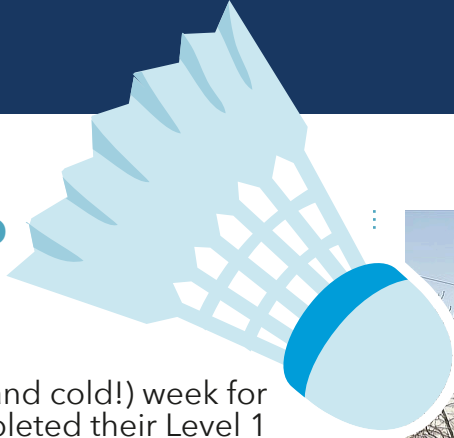
This week was a busy (and cold!) week for Oak Class as they completed their Level 1 & 2 Bike Ability training. Starting on the playground, the children got to grips with how to ride, signal and manoeuvre safely before taking to the roads of Girton. It's fair to say everyone was wheelie excited but a little nervous about being out in the icy cold all week! The children did a fabulous job, learning about road-positioning and the highway code and gaining confidence in skills such as crossing roads and overtaking parked cars. This training was not only great fun but an important life lesson for our Year 6 pupils and we are grateful to all of the instructors from Outspoken for helping to keep our children safe on the roads. Thank you!

### Upcoming Football Competition

Mr Ball has been running his very popular lunch time KS2 Girls and Boys Football Clubs since returning to school. On the 6th February, we will be taking a squad of 10 girls to the South Cambs School Sports Partnership Y5/6 Girls Development Football Competition. We will be choosing the team in conjunction with Mr Ball from those who have been attending his lunchtime club and are looking forward to showing off what our team are capable of at our first sporting event of 2024!

### Other Club Updates

Netball club is still going strong thanks to Miss Twedde and her team of dedicated Year 5 and 6 children who train no matter the weather! The children have been building on the fantastic skills they showed and success they had in the local competition in October and are getting ready for the next round in March.



### New Clubs Timetable

We are pleased to offer a wonderful range of morning, lunch and afterschool clubs this term, sporting and otherwise, with some existing and some new clubs for children to try! Many of these clubs are free to attend and our £1 clubs will be running at this price until February half-term. Please see the below list of clubs on offer and contact the school office for more information.

**Before School:** Triathlon, Tennis

**At Lunchtime:** Magic, Gardening, Recorder, Football, Ukulele, Choir

**After School:** Gymnastics, Art, Running, Multi-Sports, Netball, Taekwondo, Coding, Cake Decorating, Acro-Dance, Street Dance, Football



## Author of The Month

This month, we have not one but two authors of the month. For January, siblings Paloma (Year 6) and Peter (Year 4) have nominated **Yuichi Kimura** and **Kobi Yamada**.

Paloma and Peter love the illustration on Yuichi Kimura's and Kobi Yamada's books.

**Paloma says:** "I enjoyed reading 'On the seesaw bridge' because it has detailed abstract drawings. The writing is funny and a joy to read. I like to read 'What to do with an idea' because the story is inspiring in writing and visually."

## FOGG Update

FOGG held our first event of 2024 on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January - the annual Christmas Tree Shred. It was a beautiful sunny day, which ensured a good turnout. We were delighted to raise **£390.65** for the children of Girton Glebe!

Thank you to all who supported the event. Thanks especially to **Acacia Tree Surgery** and **Wheelie Fresh Bins**, without whom this event couldn't take place.

Our next event is the family-friendly Ceilidh on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January. Get your tickets now from [www.foggpta.org.uk](http://www.foggpta.org.uk)

## Upcoming Dates

**18<sup>th</sup> January, 09:00**  
Lime Class Assembly

**23<sup>rd</sup> January, 09:00**  
Violin & Viola 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

**6<sup>th</sup> February**  
Year 5&6 Girls' Football Competition

**15<sup>th</sup> February**  
Year 5 Bushcraft Adventure Visit

**16<sup>th</sup> February**  
Last Day of Half-Term

## SEND Support for Parents

Are you trying to manage some angry behaviour?



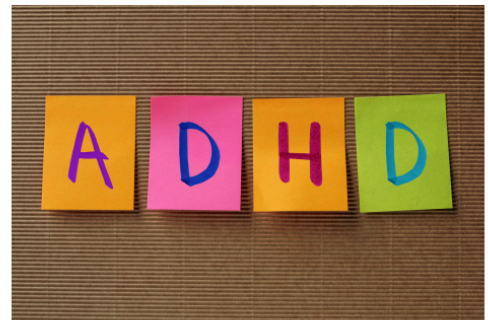
### UNDERSTANDING ANGER

15th January 17:00-19:00

Jane Keyworth, Lead Facilitator at FACE giving a two hour talk to parents (and teachers), explaining what anger is, why we have it and how to manage it.

Book online now £24 [facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

## Supporting a Child with ADHD



Challenge the stereotypes and get the facts with Jane Keyworth

**Thursday 1st Feb** (7pm to 9pm) £24

Available to book now via the website  
[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)





## House Points

It's a new week and a new half-term and we have reset the House Points ready for the new year! A huge well done to everyone in **Red House** for being the first House of The Week in 2024! You have all shown the school core values around school to earn the most points this week; congratulations! Here are this week's totals:



197



173



172



166



# Authors of the Month



**Yuichi Kimura & Kobi Yamada**

**nominated by Paloma (Year 6) and Peter (Year 4)**



**Girton Glebe**  
Primary School





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

