



Girton Glebe Primary School

# Newsletter



26<sup>th</sup> January 2024



**This week has been assembly mad;** the week kicked off with an NSPCC assembly delivered by Mr Butler, before we were treated to Oak Class's informative class assembly and a beautiful violin & viola assembly with Mariya and her talented performers. This week, we have also launched new Key Stage assemblies, led by Miss Jolly (KS2) and Miss Roddy (KS1), in which we are beginning to explore our school values and other current personal development issues from around school in more depth. Our first assemblies focused on discrimination (KS2) and ways to fill our own and others' buckets of happiness (KS1).



## Celebration Assembly

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

**Ash:** Eliza & Logan  
**Maple:** Gibson & Tallulah  
**Birch:** Darcey & Mikey  
**Lime:** Arthur Wr & Harley  
**Cherry:** Brooklyn & Marife  
**Willow:** Megan & Pattie  
**Oak:** Mark & Yuvraj

Last week, we also celebrated **Kikki** in Willow Class who has earned a Blue Peter badge for her efforts with tennis and badminton over the past year! Kikki was awarded this badge for trying a new sport for the first time, telling Blue Peter about her experience and answering some sporty questions. She is excited to keep working hard to earn another badge. Kikki told the school, **"I'm hoping to get my music badge for playing the piano next - it was designed by Ed Sheeran!"** Well done, Kikki!

If you have something you'd like to celebrate, whether it's from within school or outside, please contact Mr Butler.



We are also spending lots of time in our lovely library at the moment. Three classes have accessed "How To Use The Library" workshops with our volunteer, Alison Giles, so far and we are excited to continue to use this space both for reading for pleasure and for developing our comprehension skills. Don't forget that parents & families are welcome to use this space on a Friday morning, too!

**Chris Butler**  
Headteacher



For more information on how to apply for your own Blue Peter badge, click [here!](#)





## Lime Class Update

If you were lucky enough to attend last week's Lime Class Assembly, you'll know all about what Year 3 have been up to recently!

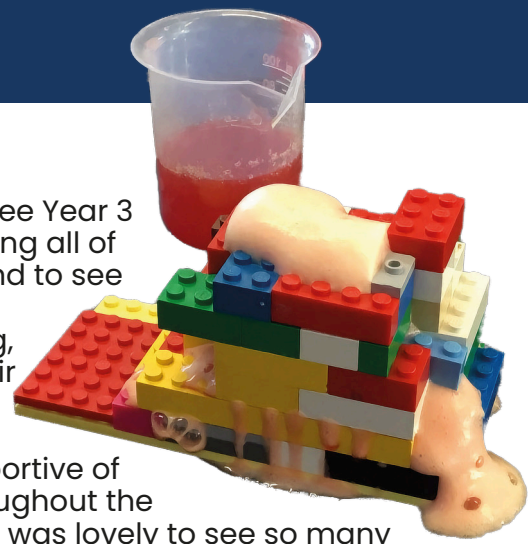
Last Thursday, the children of Lime pulled off a spectacular assembly, containing everything from Cinquain poetry, instructional writing and narratives to beautiful oil pastel cave artworks and even a song that helped the whole school travel back in time to the Stone Age! Their project-themed assembly taught us how to wash a woolly mammoth, how to create pinch pots from clay, and how to create stone henge out of custard creams!

Lime Class did not disappoint with the first Class Assembly of 2024. With everything from musical talent to incredible scientific knowledge about how light travels, every child had something to offer in their uplifting showcase of their recent learning. Perhaps the most unique part of this assembly was the song the children performed at the end, using drumsticks to tap, thwack and thump the rhythm of S Club 7's Reach. The class worked brilliantly as a team, working together to keep time and showing wonderful perseverance when they had to start again.

It was great to see Year 3 so clearly enjoying all of their learning and to see the whole class involved, smiling, and sharing their work with confidence. The class were supportive of each other throughout the assembly and it was lovely to see so many parents watching, too!

It has been an exciting start to the term in Lime Class with our new project 'Rocks, Relics and Rumbles'. Last week, we built volcanoes out of Lego and, using bicarbonate of soda and vinegar, created an eruption! We worked as a team to create some fabulous volcanoes and all really enjoyed watching the chemical reactions occur.

In project this week we have been learning about sedimentary, igneous, and metaphoric rocks and how they are formed. We spent the afternoon being Geologists and investigated whether the rocks were hard or soft, had layers, were permeable or impermeable and used magnifying glasses to look closely at them.







## National Storytelling Week

Next week is National Storytelling Week! This fantastic annual event is a joyful celebration of the power of sharing stories. Stories teach us about the world, they allow us to step into someone else's shoes and feel empathy, they help us to relax and escape and they can help develop essential literacy skills.

We will be celebrating in school with additional trips to the library, chances to hear favourite stories told by adults and those written by Girton Glebe children, buddying up to read with another class and much more! Check out next week's newsletter to see how we celebrate.

For fun storytelling activities to try at home, visit the National Literacy Trust [website](#).

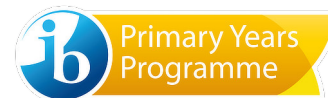
## Mathletics Champion!

A HUGE well done to **Joon Joon** in Willow Class for earning the first Emerald Mathletics certificate that we have seen at Girton for a while (if ever!). Children earn certificates for time & effort spent on practising their Maths skills at home using Mathletics.com. We regularly celebrate all of the wonderful children who have earned Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates in our Friday assemblies but were delighted to see an Emerald being awarded last week.

If you'd like to follow in Joon Joon's footsteps, there are also Diamond and Epic certificates up for grabs if you work hard enough!

**Well done, Joon Joon!**

## IB Update



In our staff meeting this week, we have continued looking at our current curriculum topics and carefully matching these to the IB Themes. Staff worked together in small groups this week to each look at one year group and populate ideas for the themes. We really enjoyed discussing possible class texts to use within each theme and were really pleased to see some old and new favourites make the list: *The Boy at the Back of the Class*, *The Colour Monster*, *The Boy Who Biked the World* and *Anne Frank's Diary* to name a few.

Our first IB Theme in September will be 'Who We Are'. Across the school, each class will be engaged in different inquiries covering elements of the theme. For 'Who We Are', this will include the nature of the self, beliefs and values, health, and human relationships (families, friendships, communities and cultures) as well as rights and responsibilities and what it means to be human.

## Smartkidz @ Christmas

With the release of our updated term dates for next academic year, parents may be pleased to know that Smartkidz have added additional dates to their Christmas holiday club, to support with childcare.

Smartkidz will now open from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December! While we have not yet put together a play plan, your children can anticipate a week brimming with Christmas activities, explorations and fun. If you need childcare during this extra week, simply scan the QR code to register and secure a spot for your child. We look forward to welcoming lots of you for a memorable week of Christmas excitement at Smartkidz Holiday Club!

**Find out more [here](#)!**





## A Tuneful Tuesday

On Tuesday morning, the entire school were treated to a beautiful performance from our talented violin and viola players. Playing songs such as Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, The Big Dipper and Perhaps Perhaps Perhaps, the performers wowed their parents, the staff and the rest of the school as they confidently performed their solos.

The assembly opened with our violin teacher, Mariya, captivating the audience with an impressive performance of Winter. Following this, the school were treated to solo performances from children from years 3 to 6, some accompanied by Mariya on piano.

Very well done to **Olesia, Alicia, Livia, Liam, Melina, Ella, Thea, Flo, Clara, Emaya, Felix, and Dorothy** - who played the cello beautifully! Your performances were incredibly professional, and we are proud of each and every one of you! Thank you Mariya for all of your hard work in preparing for this showcase.

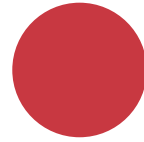






## House Points

Well done to this week's House of The Week:  
**Yellow House!** Here are this week's scores:



217



201



197



194

# HIBBERT-WARE GARDEN NEEDS YOUR HELP!

HELP  
NEEDED

We are crowd funding to refresh the Hibbert Ware Memorial Garden, Girton, so it remains true to its original dedication while showcasing wildlife gardening during the climate emergency.



Please consider donating now!

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/nature-in-girton>

## Alice Hibbert-Ware

A passionate, inspiring educator and naturalist, Alice Hibbert-Ware lived in Girton from 1931-1944. Her work led to the protection of the Little Owl.

## The Hibbert-Ware Memorial Garden

Established in her honour, we have exciting and ambitious plans to re-design the Garden for nature and community.

## Supporting Biodiversity

The Garden will host a greater variety of plants that will lead to increased diversity of wildlife.

## Supporting Community

Open to all, it will show case wildlife friendly approaches to gardening and offer a calm space for our community to be in.



**Girton** Local Nature  
Recovery Plan  
*Working for wildlife in our village*

[lnrp@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:lnrp@girton-pc.gov.uk)





## Upcoming Dates

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

Willow Class Assembly

**6<sup>th</sup> February**

Year 5&6 Girls' Football Competition

**12<sup>th</sup> February**

St Andrew's Church Assembly

**15<sup>th</sup> February**

Year 4 Bushcraft Adventure Visit

**16<sup>th</sup> February**

Last Day of Half-Term

**19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

Half-Term

**5<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 5&6 Careers Fair @ Cambridge Regional College

**7<sup>th</sup> March**

World Book Day

**11<sup>th</sup> March - 15<sup>th</sup> March**

Assessment Week

**12<sup>th</sup> March**

Author Visit (Matt Dickinson)

**14<sup>th</sup> March, 15:30**

Year 6 SATs Information Session

**15<sup>th</sup> March**

Red Nose Day

**19<sup>th</sup> March**

Parents' Evening

**20<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 5 Easter Cracked @ Girton Baptist Church

**21<sup>st</sup> March**

Parents' Evening

**26<sup>th</sup> March, 14:00**

Year 3&4 Production

**26<sup>th</sup> March, 15:30**

Year 5 Norfolk Lakes Information Session

**28<sup>th</sup> March, 09:00**

Year 3&4 Production

**28<sup>th</sup> March**

Last Day of Term