



Girton Glebe Primary School

Newsletter



9th February 2024



It's been a busy but thoroughly enjoyable week this week!

My week started with an exciting trip out of school, accompanying ten very excited Year 5&6 girls to the much-anticipated football tournament. See how we got on below!



Miss Pyle and I also had the pleasure of visiting lots of classrooms this week and were truly impressed with our pupils' understanding of and mature conversations about the tricky concepts they are currently learning, such as division and algebra in Maths and identifying adverbs, conjunctions and expanded noun phrases in English. It has also been lovely to see the return of Book Buddies following National Story Telling Week last week; I especially enjoyed hearing all about Year 1 and 3 who this week shared stories that Maple Class had written and illustrated themselves, as well as a few favourites from the school library!



This time of each half-term is perhaps my favourite: as projects draw to a close, the school is filling up with wonderful art and writing that showcases just how much the children have learnt over the past 6 weeks! This week, there were even some delicious treats such as the guacamole that Year 6 made with DT specialist Miss Shafi as part of their Hola Mexico! topic.

Chris Butler, Headteacher

Celebration Assembly

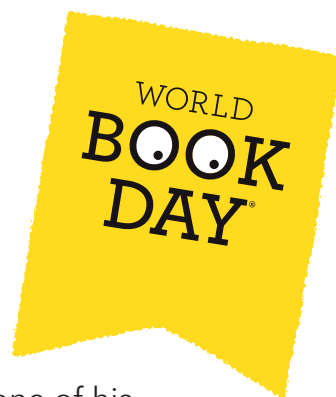


Well done to all of the children below who earned a certificate in this week's celebration assembly!

Ash - Darius & Theo
Maple - All of Maple Class!
Birch - Alexanderr & Bella
Lime - Josephine & Liam
Cherry - Lena & Shiloh
Willow - Kerrigan & Thea
Oak - Harisshan & Marcell

World Book Day – Book Signing!

Award winning Author, Matt Dickinson, will be visiting our school on **Tuesday 12th of March** as part of our World Book Day Celebrations. Matt will be doing an afterschool book signing in the school library; if you would like Matt to sign one of his books for you, please complete the attached order form and return this, with the correct money, to the office by **Tuesday, 5th of March**.



Bike Ability @ Home

As many of you will be aware, children in Years 5 and 6 benefit from the free to access Outspoken's Bikeability programme to promote road safety and safe cycling. Bikeability also have other programme available for children outside of school, including a new immersive experience to access at home! If you are interested in finding out more, then visit: <https://outspokentraining.co.uk/immersive-reality/>



Birch Class Update

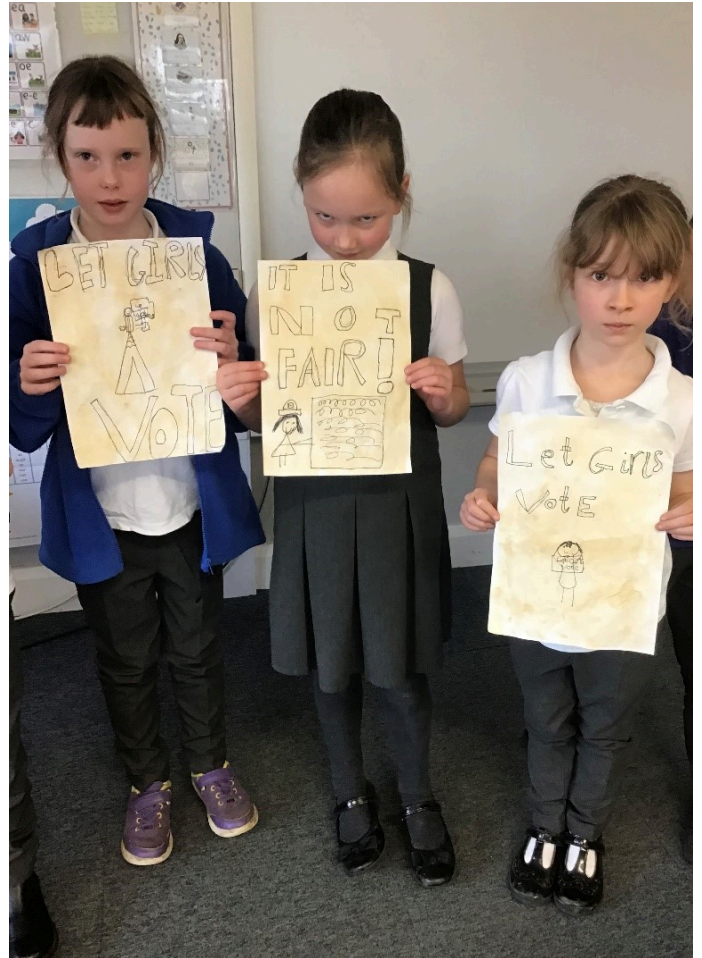
Birch class have spent the past half term exploring the topic 'Movers and Shakers'. During this project, the children have been exploring the lives of influential historical figures, how they changed the world and what motivated them.

In English, we have been reading the text 'Rosa Parks: Little People, Big Dreams'. In class discussions, the children thought about how they would have felt growing up as Rosa Parks. It has been great to see so much enthusiasm for this topic, with many children sharing very thoughtful ideas and creative responses to Rosa's story. The class then used this as inspiration for writing, producing diary entries from the perspective of Rosa Parks. These diary entries demonstrated how well we can consider the feelings of others and how far our writing has come already this year!

Meanwhile, in Project lessons, Birch class have delved into the life of Emily Davison. The children learnt why the Suffragettes were so outraged and understood that they needed to take to the streets to protest! We even staged our own Suffragette protest in class, showcasing our placards made with short, snappy slogans to spread the Suffragette message.

Throughout this topic, there have been some fantastic discussions in class around what makes rules fair and what it means to stand up for what is right. Next, the children will be considering what it means for events to be 'significant' and comparing the achievements of several influential people.

Forest School Fun: Last week, Birch class also took part in Muddy Maths! This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to consolidate their understanding of abstract ideas using natural materials. We had a busy morning practising multiplication by building equal groups and persevering through some challenging concepts. Well done Birch Class!





Willow Class Update

Willow class have been continuing to develop our green fingers as part of our 'Sow, Grow and Farm' topic this term and have been carefully weeding and tending to our raised bed at the back of school. We have already planted some 'mystery bulbs' in the ground and have some very healthy-looking plants growing in the classroom ready to move outside when it's not so cold. (Green) fingers crossed we might have some vegetables and herbs to take home with us at Easter!

In Science this term our topic is 'properties of materials' and last week we undertook an experiment to see which material could keep our drinks warmest for longest by testing their thermal insulation. We added hot water to glass, ceramic, card and plastic cups and measured their temperature every two minutes to see which cup of water lost its heat the fastest. We have been testing a variety of materials to decide their suitability for different uses at a music festival.



In Art, we have learned about the Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama and her vibrant dotty paintings and sculptures. Yayoi Kusama had hallucinations as a child in which she saw everything turn into dots which greatly influenced her work. We have started to cover balloons in paper mache in preparation to make our own versions of her famous spotty pumpkin, but we think we might end up with spotty melons instead!



Football Champions!

Mr Butler and 10 excited Year 5&6 girls enjoyed a blustery Tuesday afternoon in Cambourne as they left school to attend a football tournament. The girls, with their shared a commitment to football training at the Glebe this year, competed against 15 other Cambridge teams and walked away with the top award, beating their closest rivals on goal difference! Mr Butler and Mr Bull are very proud of the team, not just for the commitment they have shown to win the tournament, but how they represented the school with the positive and happy attitude throughout all of their games.

Well done to Lilly, Thea, Kikki, Clara, Delilah, Pattie, Zara, Alicia, Phoebe and Flo and a huge thank you to Mr Bull for coaching our football teams throughout the year!





ELA Trust Update

The ongoing support of the Trust can be seen every day across Girton Glebe. The Eastern Learning Alliance support the school in many ways, not least in terms of financial input, staffing and leadership. This great work is seen by the ELA as a positive investment in the children of Girton, and we're really pleased to see our student numbers rising year on year.



Some of the parts of the Girton Glebe offer which would not be possible without ELA's direct support include:

- Specialist teaching across subject areas provided by Trust staff including Latin; Modern Foreign Languages; History; Art; Drama and PE;
- Single year group classes and a commitment to retaining this model;
- A full time Headteacher and an experienced senior team;
- Expert teaching across all classes;
- Excellent extra-curricular opportunities.

We are delighted to be able to offer this exceptional offer for our children, and know that the excellent student outcomes and broader experience are a direct result of this support. We are also pleased that the wider Trust offer to our staff, as well as the sharing of expert teachers across schools, ensures our staffing model is robust and stable for future years.

If you would like to discuss ELA's work at Girton Glebe or more widely, we are pleased to be welcoming Ryan Kelsall, ELA's Deputy CEO to the school over the coming weeks:

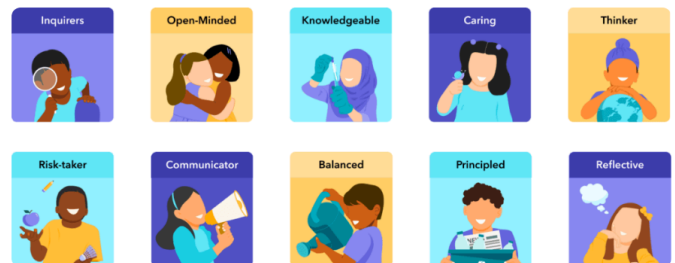
- **Thursday 15th AM (8.30–9.15am) - in the hall: meet and greet**
- **Thursday 29th Feb AM (8.30–9.00am) - on the playground**
- **Thursday 7th March PM (3.00–3.30pm) - on the playground**

IB Update

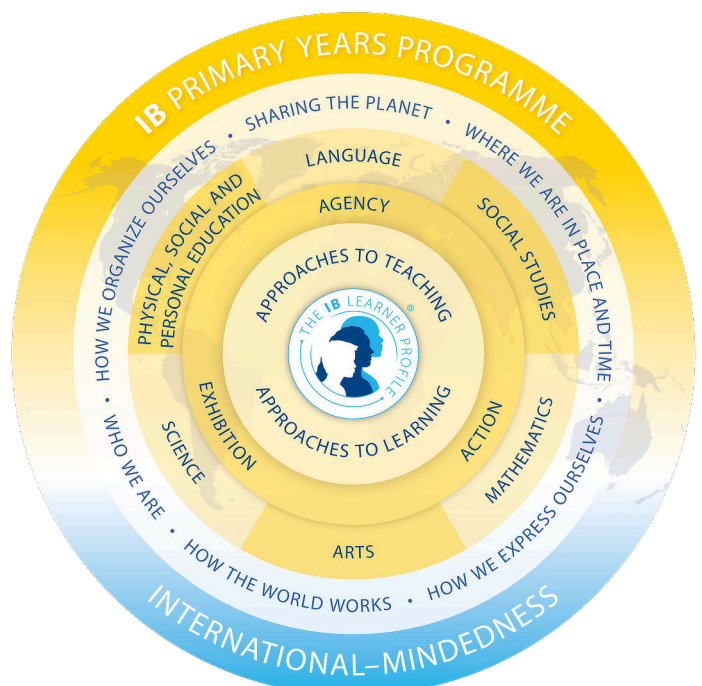


This week, we looked at the IB Learner Profiles during a whole-school assembly. The Learner Profile describes a broad range of characteristics and responsibilities that go beyond academic success. Through developing these traits, our children will learn to respect themselves, others and the world around them.

As a school, **we watched a video** introducing the learner profile before comparing and linking these attributes to our 6 existing core values. The children engaged in discussion with their peers to think about which of our core values align with the learner profile characteristics.



It was lovely to see the children make these links and be able to explain so enthusiastically why they link together. For example, we linked the learner profile of 'thinker' to our core value of curiosity, responsibility and perseverance. We also had fun thinking about ourselves and which of the learner profile characteristics we already exhibit!





Fogg Update

FOGG have had a great start to 2024 and are excited to share our first update. Our first event of the year was the annual Christmas Tree Shred and Wheelie Bin Clean which raised **£390.65** for the school.

The family Ceilidh on January 26th was also a great success, with lots of families – both from the school and the local community – joining in with the dancing and having fun. Many thanks to Fluidic Folk, the excellent local folk band for your support. We hope to make this an annual event on the school calendar.

Birch class had their cake sale on 26th January and raised **£101.30**. Look out for more cakes after school at Maple class's cake sale on 16th February.

Our next fundraising event will be a whole school "**Leap Day leap**"! More details to follow soon.

You may have read about the recent death of Eric Whitehead, a former Scout leader and parent of Girton Glebe. He was one of the parents involved in building the swimming pool. His family very kindly requested that donations at his funeral be passed to FOGG. We are very grateful for this significant donation, which is to be spent on the swimming pool so that current and future children can continue to benefit from it. We also received another significant donation from other former parents at the school who were involved in constructing the swimming pool. We look forward to sharing how this money will be spent in the near future.

As ever, if you wish to become more involved with FOGG, please contact any members of the committee.

Upcoming Dates

12th February

St Andrew's Church Assembly

15th February

Year 4 Bushcraft Adventure Visit

16th February

Maple Class Cake Sale

16th February

Last Day of Half-Term

19th – 23rd February

Half-Term

29th February

FOGG Leap Day Event

5th March

Year 5&6 Careers Fair @ Cambridge Regional College

7th March

World Book Day

11th March – 15th March

Assessment Week

12th March

Author Visit, inc. Book Signing After School (Matt Dickinson)

14th March, 15:30

Year 6 SATs Information Session

15th March

Red Nose Day

19th March

Parents' Evening

20th March

Year 5 Easter Cracked @ Girton Baptist Church

21st March

Parents' Evening

26th March, 14:00

Year 3&4 Production

26th March, 15:30

Year 5 Norfolk Lakes Information Session

28th March, 09:00

Year 3&4 Production

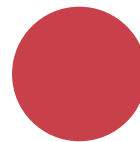
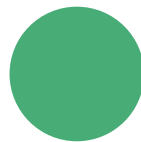
28th March

FOGG Break The Rules Day



House Points

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



192



191



166



157

AGES 5-12

SCHOOLS

Soccer



19TH - 23RD FEB 2024

COMBERTON

VILLAGE COLLEGE

COLERIDGE

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CHESTERTON

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SWAVESEY

VILLAGE COLLEGE

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STAY LOCAL FOR LAUGHS!

Custard Comedy

HEADLINER



PAUL TONKINSON

"Excellent...
extremely
talented...
brilliant."
Time Out

THE MC



MATT PRICE
"Master storyteller"



MAD RON
"Brilliant character comedy"



DOUG CARTER
Multi comedy award winner

15 MARCH
GROPIUS HALL, IVC

DOORS & BAR OPEN 7:30 PM

COMEDY STARTS 8:15 PM

TICKETS FROM £15

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/CUSTARDCOMEDY](https://bit.ly/custardcomedy)



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TICKET HERE**



SCAN