



Girton Glebe Primary School

Newsletter

15th November 2024



Welcome back! It's been a busy start to this half term, and we're thrilled to see the school buzzing with activity. Thank you to everyone who attended our Parents' Evenings – it was great to connect and share your children's progress.



There has been a lot going on across all year groups: trips to Histon, various workshops like Skipping Ninja, and EYFS and Year 1 have also started their Scootability and Balanceability sessions on Tuesdays. Rehearsals for the Nativity are also in full swing, and the whole school is excited to see our youngest pupils put on their special performance at the end of term.

This week also marked Anti-Bullying Week, with the theme "Choose Respect." Every class has been working hard to understand what it means to respect one another and build a positive school culture. It's wonderful to see our students committed to creating a welcoming, supportive environment, and we look forward to sharing examples of this through our other online platforms.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to a fantastic term ahead!

Chris Butler
Headteacher



Skipping Ninja Fun!

Last week, school was buzzing with excitement as we welcoming back The Skipping Ninja for a fun whole-school assembly and workshops for each class! It was a day packed with energy, where students from every class participated in an action-packed session to learn the art of skipping.

Our wonderful guest instructor Pete led each class through various skipping challenges, helping everyone improve their technique and discover new tricks. Whether it was learning how to jump with one or two feet or developing a new move, each student gave their best effort and had loads of fun in the process.



The highlight of the event was the selection of Skipping Ninjas from each class. These standout students showed exceptional perseverance, kindness, and teamwork, inspiring others to push through challenges and celebrate every success. Our Skipping Ninjas demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship, cheering on their classmates and participating fully in all activities.

A big thank you to everyone who took part in making the day such a success! Whether you learned a new skill or just had a great time jumping, keep practising, and who knows—you might just be the next Skipping Ninja!

Keep skipping and stay active, everyone!



Lime Class Updates

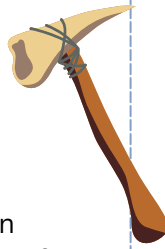
Flag Fen: Stone Age Survival

On Monday, 21st October, Lime Class went on an exciting trip to Flag Fen Archaeology Park as part of our history learning in our 'Who We Are' inquiry. This trip gave the children the opportunity to take part in a Stone Age Survival Day.

Upon arrival at Flag Fen, we journeyed back in time to examine various sources of evidence from life in Stone Age Britain. We explored what our prehistoric ancestors needed to survive and got hands-on with making wattle and daub to build Stone Age walls, mixing clay, straw, and even animal dung! We loved delving into prehistoric art and created our own rock art using natural paints made from materials like berries and charcoal. The children also crafted their own clay pots, inspired by prehistoric designs, using the same types of tools and materials available in prehistory to decorate them.

We concluded our day by learning how to stalk prey and discovered how different parts of an animal served various purposes, beyond just providing food. We then enjoyed a campfire inside a reconstructed Bronze Age roundhouse.

Everyone had a fantastic time, and we all learned so much! A huge thank you to all the adults who accompanied us.



Library Quest: 12,000 Steps to Adventure!

On Wednesday Lime Class went on an exciting adventure to Histon Library. We walked there and back across the fields and really enjoyed the overcast conditions as the landscape looked beautiful. After walking there and back we had clocked up an incredible 12,000 steps! At the library we learnt how the library works, the type of books they hold and spent some time looking at the huge variety. The children are all now desperate to have their own library card and visit again with their parents/carers so that they are able to borrow their own books. Huge thanks to the adults that accompanied us on the epic walk!



Lisa Knowler
Year 3





IB Update



This half term, classes are busy focusing on the transdisciplinary theme 'Where We Are in Time and Place'. As usual, we launched the new theme with a whole-school assembly. This had a focus of looking at different decades and the key events that happened during them as well as how music and fashion have developed and changed over time. In classrooms, children and teachers are busy delving into their inquiry. Whilst Year 1 are focusing on discoveries, Year 2's central idea (statement of inquiry) is 'Journeys shape culture and change the way people live'. In KS2, Year 5 are developing their knowledge and understanding of the Ancient Greeks, whilst Year 6 are inquiring into how 'Past societies and our physical geography influence how we live'.

Thank you to everyone who turned up for the workshops on Monday. It was lovely to see you there. This workshop focused on the 'Transdisciplinary Theme', 'Central Idea' and 'Lines of Inquiry'. The presentation has been recorded and can be watched by clicking [here](#).

Where We Are in Time & Place

Central Idea

Lines of Inquiry

Key Vocabulary & Names

Place	terrace	city	glyph
Desires	where	North America	concrete
Chiquitos	Rio Grande	Spain or Independent	Fiesta de San Isidro
Arabic	casas	muralists	LA Chicano
indigenous	colonists	Pink A.Tax	astronomy

Keep an eye out for our curriculum organisers making their way to you on ClassDojo!

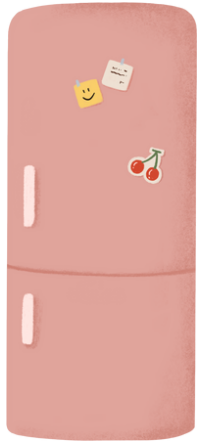
LEGO Contribution Request!



We are looking to build our collection of Lego characters and sets for use in school activities, including Lego Therapy sessions. If you have any Lego pieces, characters, or sets at home that are no longer being used, we would be so grateful if you could donate them to the school. Your contributions will help us create engaging and supportive learning experiences for our children. Thank you for your generosity!

Fridge Request!

We are in need of a small fridge to ensure the fruit provided for our KS1 and EYFS children stays fresh throughout the day. If you have a spare fridge in good working condition that you no longer need, we would greatly appreciate your donation. This will help us continue promoting healthy eating and provide the best for our children. Thank you for your support!



Term Dates Survey

In the 2024/25 academic year, Eastern Learning Alliance is conducting a trial whereby we are shortening the Autumn term – we have extended the October half term by two days and will be breaking up for Christmas three days earlier. The teaching hours this creates (referred to as “disaggregated” time) are being used to provide a variety of academic support, interventions, and extra-curricular clubs outside of the normal school day, spread across the school year. This means we are able to offer an enhanced programme of extra-curricular clubs and academic interventions in each school using contracted teacher time.

In order to set our term dates for 2025/26, we are collating evidence as part of an evaluation to help us decide whether to take a similar approach going forwards.

This section of our website outlines the context and thinking behind this trial, together with how we are evaluating it: <https://tela.org.uk/information/term-date-trial/>

Part of the evaluation involves collecting feedback from staff, students and parents. We would be grateful if you could fill in the form below to give us your views:

<https://forms.office.com/e/Kp60VjT7NH>





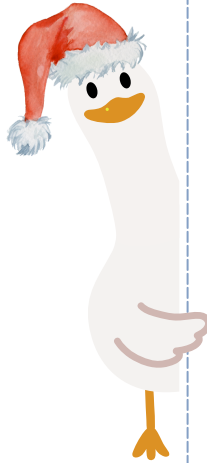
fogg Non-Uniform Day!



There will be a non-uniform day on **Friday 22nd November** in aid of donations for the Christmas Fair. Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform in exchange for bringing a box/bag of sweets or chocolates.

fogg Events!

- 21st Nov:** School disco
- 30th Nov:** Christmas Fair
- 5th Jan:** Christmas Tree Shred
- 24th Jan:** Ceilidh



Christmas Concert!

We are thrilled to invite all parents & family members to a festive concert on the evening of Wednesday 11th December at 5:30pm. Join us in the school hall to share Christmas songs performed on the piano, violin and other instruments and songs 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. Tickets will be on sale soon.



Education Inclusion Family Advisor

Education Inclusion Family Advisors offer you an opportunity to ask for information, advice and support on any issue affecting your family life in a relaxed and confidential environment. These areas include:

- Challenging behaviour
- Routines
- Supporting emotions and wellbeing
- School transitions
- Parenting strategies
- Building resilience and confidence
- Any other family challenges you might be facing

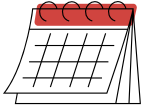
As Education Inclusion Family Advisors, we offer support in various ways:

- Up to six 1:1 sessions with parents/carers (virtually or face to face in your child's school on request)
- Workshops on specific topics (currently held virtually)
- Signposting to other services such as parenting courses and support services

For more information, please speak to your school's office or contact me directly at samantha.stacey@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or follow this link to request support:

<https://forms.office.com/e/vZj2YzZXd9>





Upcoming Dates

20th Nov

Lime Class Cinema Trip

21st Nov

Piano Assembly, 9.00am

21st Nov

FOGG Disco

22nd Nov

FOGG Non-Uniform Day

22nd Nov

Willow Class Christmas Unwrapped

26th Nov

Y1&2 Boys' Football Match

27th Nov

Flu Vaccines

28th Nov

Lime Class Assembly

28th Nov

Y1&2 Girls' Football Match

30th Nov

FOGG Christmas Fair

2nd - 5th Dec

Y6 Bike Ability

3rd Dec

KS1 Visit to St Andrew's Church

5th Dec

Birch Class Assembly

5th Dec

KS2 Visit to St Andrew's Church

Celebration Assembly

Well done to all of the pupils who earned a Celebration Certificate this week and last week. We always love to celebrate achievements chosen by our pupils, from in and out of school!



Last week's certificate winners were:

Maple: Ali & Amelia

Birch: Gibson & Ted

Lime: Mikey & Penny

Cherry: Melina & Theo

Willow: Emaya & Liam

Oak: Timothy & Zachary



This week's certificate winners are:

Ash: Livia & Philip

Maple: Theo & Darius

Birch: Alfred & Navya

Lime: Orla & Rex

Cherry: Liam & Michaela

Willow: Felix & Mia

Oak: Olesia & Thea

CAMBRIDGE CITY WOMEN FC ARE

Recruiting Under 12s

CAMBRIDGE CITY WOMEN AND GIRLS ARE RECRUITING FOR ADDITIONAL NEW PLAYERS TO JOIN A BRAND NEW AND EXCITING UNDER 12S TEAM. FOR MORE INFORMATION AND DETAILS, GET IN CONTACT WITH US USING THE DETAILS BELOW!

SARAH@FLAXFIELDS.CO.UK
07969493948



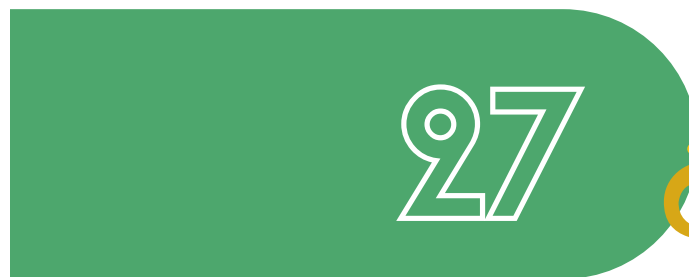


House Points

Congratulations to this week's House of The Fortnight: Blue and Yellow!



Here are this fortnight's totals:





Parent Online Safety Guide

We'll be sharing Parent Guides for keeping your children safe on a range of different online platforms, games and apps over the coming weeks. First up: Whatsapp! Please be reminded that the minimum age to use Whatsapp in the UK and Europe is 16 years old (This age restriction was previously lowered to 13, but was raised in response to data protection legislation in 2018). We are aware that some of our KS2 pupils use this app; here's how best to keep them safe:

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

...MSG ME...

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

With more than two billion active users, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. The UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging, but for the time being, this controversial feature remains.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency' - plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. Therefore, if a child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that the child might be added to a group chat or community (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

CHAT LOCK

In 2023, WhatsApp introduced a feature that lets users keep their chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind their phone's passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. They subsequently developed an additional feature - 'Secret Code' - where users set a unique password for their locked chats. Unfortunately, this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

COMMUNITIES AND GROUPS

A community is a collection of related groups on WhatsApp. They can consist of thousands of users. Communities can often be used by scammers to target large groups, hoping someone clicks on their link or responds to their requests. In communities and groups, there are multiple ongoing conversations, which results in pressure to respond. Members - even if they are not each other's contacts - will be able to see any messages sent into the group.

'VIEW ONCE' CONTENT

The ability to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate material or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this disappearing content - but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing protection of privacy.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly - whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original... and might not be entirely factual, either.

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child is safe while out, for example. However, anyone in a user's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location - potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

ONLINE

Advice for Parents & Educators

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution; get them to consider whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. You can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except ...'. Additionally, if a child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need - and then turn it off.

DISCUSS GROUP CHATS

Make children aware that there could be members of a group that they don't know well and that words can be misinterpreted. Encourage them to leave a good impression, to avoid joining in if conversations turn towards bullying, and to respond to such situations in an appropriate way. Make sure they know that it's OK to leave a group chat if it makes them uncomfortable - or for any reason, in fact.

THINK BEFORE SHARING

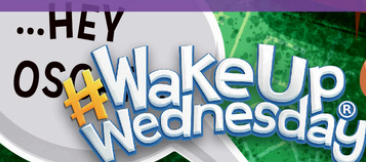
Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy - and all too common - for content that a user posts to be shared more widely, even publicly on social media. Encourage children to consider how an impulsive message or forwarding might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Check in with the child about how they're using WhatsApp, making sure they know you only have their safety at heart. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about the sort of content they've stored in there, who they're talking to, and why they want to keep these chats hidden. Also, if children send any 'view once' content, it could be helpful to ask them why.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College®



fogg Friends of Girton Glebe
Supporting Girton Glebe Primary School, Cambridgeshire, UK



CHRISTMAS FAIR

**SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER
2PM to 4PM**

GIRTON GLEBE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Entry £1 per family (50p individual)



Performances by
the School Choir

SANTA'S GROTTTO
CAFÉ
TOMBOLA
GAMES
LUCKY DIP
GIFT SALES
and MORE!



for more information see www.foggpta.org.uk
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