



'I will instruct you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.' Psalm 32:8

Friday 3rd November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely half term break and a safe and happy Halloween. This is the final half term of the calendar year - I cannot believe it is November already! We will be starting our rehearsals for the Carol Service soon so keep an eye out for scripts coming home and please, if you can, help children to learn their lines.

POLITE REMINDERS

Please can we remind you that Prime drink bottles (or any alternative energy drinks) are not allowed in school, even if they are empty and refilled with water.

Lost Property

We have quite a large collection of lost property outside our school office. Please feel free to come and see if any belongs to your child/ren at drop off or pick up time. We would also remind you to add your child's name to items of clothing so they can be returned to the correct child.

WELLIES!

We will be using school field at break times throughout the school year. As the weather is beginning to get more autumnal it is vital that children have a change of shoes. Please send in named wellies for your child/ren to use at break times. If children do not bring a change of shoes they will be asked to take muddy shoes off when coming back into school.



Week beginning 30th October 2023

This week's learning highlights:

News from Infants (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)

We have begun the next part of our school year with enthusiasm this week as we welcomed each other back into school, with everyone smiling and cheerfully greeting one another after a week apart - it was such a joy to witness. We are so proud of how our infant children are developing their manners and social skills, taking delight in each other's news and updates and showing kindness throughout the school day.

We shared our new theme together this week as we focus our learning through the idea of 'Tell Me A Tale' and noticed how this could link into so much of our learning including maths. Did you know you can 'Tell a tale' by explaining a mathematical calculation method? Well we have done exactly that through lots of practical tasks of addition and subtraction for all children in a variety of ways.

On Thursday, we had an incredible time at Lynnsport, a first experience for many of the Reception children. They jumped, rolled, stretched and bounced their way along various parts of the apparatus with enthusiasm and precision. The children are already excited to return next week!



News from the Juniors (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)

This week the 3's and 4's have been looking at the importance of having an 'Open Mindset' through a character called Mojo. Mojo was finding things very difficult during a Maths lesson and was ready to give up and walk away. The children had excellent advice for him;

"Mojo, your brain is like a muscle it needs to be exercised." Jenson

"Work harder, become smarter" Noah W

"Have a positive attitude." Freddie

"When you're doing the harder Maths problems you're giving your brain the exercise it needs to get smarter." Charlie

Mrs Cross was thrilled to see such positive mindsets during Maths this week, all pupils working hard and giving their brains the exercise it needs to progress with Maths. She was also impressed with their good sportsmanship during some Human Bigo number bond session which involved the whole class. The winners winning graciously and being congratulated by the other team.

Year 3 and 4 have also started their new class book this week, The BFG. We have loved the story so far and have written our own descriptions of the famous giant

Year 5 and 6 have settled back into school after half term and have stepped up to doing assessments this week.

While reading our class text: 'The Island' they have produced some thoughtful writing that shows good examples of active and passive voice. They have explored how idioms and sayings are used by the author to vary language and develop characters.

STARS OF THE WEEK



Infants: Edie for your fabulous enthusiasm for learning

Juniors: Teddy for going above and beyond with his reading. Reading every day! This is really paying off and we are super proud of you.

ATTENDANCE

Our Attendance Target is **97%**.

October attendance	INFANTS	JUNIORS	OVERALL
October	95.4%	96.9%	96.1%

A good start to the school year – well done everyone, keep up the good work. Fingers crossed we don't get too many winter bugs to lay us low!



VISION, VALUES & COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This week in collective worship we have been learning about All Hallows Eve, and All Saints day and the Christian aspects of the autumn festival celebrated on 31st October. We have focussed on consideration of others and keeping safe.

Our 5 Core Values:



REGULAR DATES

Monday: Music with Estelle from the Music Service

Thursday: drum and guitar lessons with our new teacher, Josh Simpson

Thursday: Infants go to Lynn Sport. **All children to come to school in PE kit.**

Friday: PE with ICS Coaching. **All Children to come to school in PE Kit.**

FUTURE DATES

W/C 6th & 13th November parents consultations

28th November Flu vaccinations

Xmas dates

Friday 1st December - Decorating Day

Wednesday 13th December - Xmas lunch

Tuesday 19th December - Performance / Carol service at St Mary's TBC

Wednesday 20th December - Party Day and end of term.

TERM DATES

2023 AUTUMN TERM 	2024 SPRING TERM 	2024 SUMMER TERM 
Wednesday 6 th September - Wednesday 20 th December (Half term - Monday 23 rd October - Friday 27 th October)	Wednesday 4 th January - Wednesday 27 th March (Half term - Monday 19 th - Friday 23 rd February)	Monday 15 th April - Friday 19 th July (Half term - Monday 27 th May - Friday 31 st May)

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

Would you like to be a parent governor? We currently have a vacancy on the Governing Body. Please email head@greatmassingham.norfolk.sch.uk to find out more.

FIRST ADMISSIONS - SCHOOL YEAR 2024/25

Parents of children born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 should automatically receive a booklet and application form through the post. Parents can apply online www.admissionsonline.norfolk.gov.uk (website open between 25th September 2023 and 14th January 2024)

Or you can contact admissions on 0344 8008020. Applications received after 14th January 2023 will be treated as late and will not be considered until places for all on time applications have been allocated.
