



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

Friday 24th November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The school Christmas productions are now in full swing. Children have been given their lines to learn and are all very excited about the 'play' as they always call it. Please help them to learn their lines - they are so much more confident when they don't have to look up where we are in a script! And please hunt through the dressing up box for anything that might help - sarongs make good saris, scarves make good sashes and a bit of creativity can always be used to make flower garlands or grass skirts!

We have re-structured lunchtimes to make extra space for the children and gone back to 'family-grouped' tables with children from all year groups sitting together. It has made a hugely positive difference to lunchtimes and I want to thank the Y6 children for being such great models and room monitors - they have really stepped up to the role.

POLITE REMINDERS

Door bell

We apologise for the inconvenience caused by our door bell not working, we are waiting on a new one to be delivered and installed. Unfortunately, this will not be until the last week of term so we thank you for your patience. If you require access to the school once the gate has been shut, please call the school office on 01485 520362.

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 20th November 2023

This week's learning highlights:

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

The children have enjoyed another exciting week of learning in the Infants. The week kicked off with a visit back from local author, Andrew Bickerton, he was delighted to read all of our wonderful stories.

In Maths, we've explored 2D and 3D shapes, finding out their properties such as corners and sides. We've also investigated what symmetry is and what it looks like in 2D shapes.

We transferred our knowledge of shapes into ICT by creating pictures in the style of Kandinsky with some great examples - please see our pictures!



STARS OF THE WEEK



Infants: Bella N for amazing gymnastics skills at Lynnsports this week.

Juniors: Finley Allen have star of the week for his amazing nature project he did at home.

Scarlet for showing resilience in PE, determined to improve her skills no matter what.

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

Mrs Cross was blown away by the level of focus and perseverance shown in her Art lessons on Tuesday. The main aim was to sketch an eye in great detail. All KS2 children were able to draw an initial outline before adding tone and texture with shading, mark making and highlighting. It was wonderful to see pupils praising each other's work and taking inspiration from it for their own. Huge congratulations to Floss and Charlie for their masterpieces pictured below!



Year 5 and 6 have been working hard on writing the next part of the story 'The Rain Player', which is all about the Maya and the game they play Pok-a-Tok. They have really enjoyed the book so far and had a chance to write what they thought would happen in the Pok-a-Tok game that the main character Pik had been challenged to by Chac god of Rain after Pik had been unkind about Chac. The children had some brilliant ideas about what may happen and we had some brilliant writing from them all, with great description and suspense. A special shout out to Oscar for his brilliant writing. We enjoyed reading and hearing your story.

We started a different lunchtime routine on Tuesday and KS2 really impressed us all. A special mention to William who assisted with delivering the dinners to some of the younger members of the school in the Sunshine Room. You were fabulous! Also, a big thank you to James who volunteered to stay behind and help clear the hall.

Message from the PFA

Forms have been sent out for next year's 100 Club, in children's bags. If you require any more, please let the school office know.

Due to the popularity of the 100 Club extra numbers are being sold for 2023/24.

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 - Creativity

In collective worship we are beginning to look at the creativity of artists. This week we looked at the work of Janet Weight-Reed, a Welsh artist and the work she did based on the Song of Songs.

"Arise my love and come to me for the winter is past the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth, the season of singing has come, and the turtle dove is heard in our land" (Song of Solomon 2:10-12).

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

Tuesday 28th November Flu vaccinations

Tuesday 5th December Reception & Year 6 NHS Screening checks

Christmas dates

Friday 1st December - Decorating Day

Wednesday 13th December - Christmas lunch

Tuesday 19th December - Performance / Carol service at St Mary's 1.30pm

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)	Thursday 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)

ICS Coaching are running holiday clubs on Thursday 21st & Friday 22nd December at Harpley Primary School.

Below is the link to book a place

<https://forms.gle/zuZjq2eXW9XU2xVD9>

Also, a link to the Big Norfolk Fun Activities for information and booking

[Big Norfolk Holiday Fun Activities | EveryMove](#)

Norfolk County Council SEND Newsletter can be viewed via the following link

https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/?sc_itemid={82F439C2-CF00-4F77-A538-839BF6EBB2CA}&sc_lang=en&sc_pd_view=

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

Would you like to be a parent governor? Do you care about education and want to make a positive contribution to the community?

Parent governors play a vital role on governing bodies, holding the unique position of having a parental viewpoint of the school. We currently have a vacancy on the Governing Body. Please email

head@greatmassingham.norfolk.sch.uk to find out more.



Harpley Community Choir Fundraising Concert

Thursday 7TH December, 7pm at St Lawrence Church

Mulled Wine, Mince Pies. Please join us!

No tickets – Donations on the night

**ALL PROCEEDS TO HARPLEY CHURCH, SCHOOL &
VILLAGE HALL**

**An evening of music by ABBA, Simon & Garfunkel, Cat
Stevens and many more**