

WEEKLY NEWS AND INFORMATION

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very happy new year to you all! I would like to introduce myself as your new Executive Headteacher for Great Massingham and Harpley schools. I am delighted to be joining the GMH federation family and I'm very much looking forward to getting to know you all. It is clear that both schools have been well led and managed, culminating in highly positive Ofsted and SIAMS reports, some very recent. I hope to continue that good work and look forward to working with the excellent staff here at the federation to build upon this success going forward. Before Christmas I visited both schools on several occasions and was able to enjoy their superb Christmas performances. I hope you will agree that these really demonstrated the talent of the children and the dedication of the staff.

I would like to thank everyone for their warm welcome and kind wishes, very best wishes to you all as we start 2025.

Hilary Myhill

Swimming

As from 9th January Juniors started their 6 weeks swimming at Oasis swimming pool. Please ensure your child brings their swimming kit & towel in a separate bag. If any parents are able to help us accompany the children to Oasis swimming pool please let the school office know.

Readers

Help children learn to read so they can succeed, in school and beyond. We are seeking volunteers who would like to read with our KS2 children. Please contact the office for more details if you are interested.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

13th & 14th January Bikeability Level 2 course
31st January Bikeability Level 1 course
7th February NSPCC Numbers Day
17th - 21st February Half Term
7th - 22nd April Easter Holidays. Term starts Wednesday 23rs April

REGULAR DATES

Mondays:

Guitar lessons with Toby Rideout. To sign up please contact Toby via email toby@rideoutmusic.co.uk **Wednesdays:** Drum lessons with Tom Relihan. To sign up please contact Tom via email tomrelihan@gmx.com

Thursdays:

Juniors are swimming at Oasis Swimming Pool, please ensure they come with swimming costumes and a towel in a separate bag. All children to come to school in PE kit.

Fridays:

PE with ICS Coaching - All children to come to school in PE Kit.

3.30pm ICS Coaching after school football club. Book directly with ICS Coaching via https://icscoaching.pembee.app

VISION, VALUES & COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This week's collective worship was on new year's resolutions. Next week we begin our new collective worship theme for this half term - peace.

Our School Vision is: " I will instruct you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you" (Psalm 32:8).

Our 5 Core Values:





ATTENDANCE

Our Attendance Target is 97%.

Attendance	INFANTS	JUNIORS	OVERALL
December	96%	96%	96%



https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/attendance

Kind regards and have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Myhill and the Great Massingham team



Infants: Riley for a positive start to the new term and showing an enthusiasm for working independently.

Years 3 & 4: Skyla for fabulous efforts calculating Area in Maths.

Years 5 & 6: Noah A - consistently showing dedication to homework tasks.

Week beginning 6th January 2025

This week's learning highlights:

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

We have had a fantastic start to the new year and new term in the infants. We felt so proud of the eagerness from the children as they returned to school - it really was great!

During our first day back, something shocking happened... there was a (mini) emergency in the infants! Upon returning to the classroom from the hall, we couldn't believe that all our coats, bags and lunchboxes in our cloakroom were on the floor in a huge mess! The outside door was also open but the gate was shut. At first it was rather worrying but after some investigation we realised there was not anything to be scared about (Mrs Nash reassured everybody we are safe in school) and we started to look for clues to solve the emergency mystery. We spotted the trees were swaying and wondered if it could have been the wind blowing through the door into the cloakroom, so we checked the weather forecast and saw the icons for 'wind'. We realised it was a big gust of wind that had blown our belongings from their pegs to the ground! It was such a coincidence that we started our new theme of 'Emergency!' and there happened to be a real-life emergency in our classroom. It brought about some fantastic theories and discussions as well as sentence writing and drawings. We tidied up the shocking mess the wind had left and thankfully no belongings had been completely blown away. What a way to start a new term and our new theme!

Also, on the theme of weather, we thought about the seasons, particularly winter and some of the changes that animals make to ensure they are warm, safe and comfortable in the winter months. We went outside and explored the signs that show us that winter is here and talked about animals that adapt, migrate or hibernate through the winter.

In 'Skills for Life' we talked about the importance of rules for keeping us safe and how following the rules ensures that everyone enjoys themselves at school, home and in public places.













News from the Juniors

This week in year 3 and 4 we really enjoyed our first swimming session. In English we have been learning about the story of the Pied Piper of Hamelin, looking at the interesting vocabulary and learning about the style of writing.

We have been studying Area in Maths, looking at different rectangle shapes to compare.

In Science we started learning about light and in Art we evaluated our DT work from last term! Which designs do you like best?



We also started our topic learning about Volcanoes and Earthquakes in Geography and Art. What a fun week!

A Huge Congratulations to Y5/6!

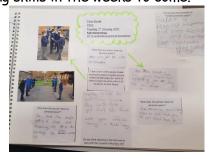
This week, we have a very special announcement to share! Our amazing Y5/6 class has reached a monumental milestone: 1000 dojo points! We are incredibly proud of each and every one for their hard work and positive contributions to our classroom community. The children were rewarded with some time visiting DOJO Island and participating in some fun games. We look forward to building on this success in the weeks and months to come in 2025!

A Busy Week to Begin 2025! This week has been a whirlwind of learning! In English, we embarked on an exciting new adventure with the inspiring story of Malala Yousafzai. We're eager to delve deeper and uncover the true story of this remarkable young woman. Our Geography lesson has taken us on a journey across the globe! We've been exploring different maps, learning key geographical terms like longitudes and latitudes. We discovered how the equator is an imaginary line that circles the Earth and how this impacts the climate, with hotter countries often found closer to the equator. This week in PSHE, we've been exploring the important topic of personal space. We've learned:

- What personal space is: It's the invisible bubble around us where we feel comfortable.
- Why it's important: Everyone has the right to feel safe and respected.
- How to respect others' space: Giving people room, seeking permission, listening to their cues.
- What it feels like when our space is invaded: Uncomfortable, anxious, or even angry.

We've had some great discussions about how we can all be more mindful of each other's personal space, both in school and at home. We've also practiced some fun activities to help us understand the concept better.

To top it all off, we enjoyed getting back into the water at Oasis Leisure Centre in Hunstanton on Thursday! We had a splashing good time in the pool and were sorted into our swimming groups, looking forward to improving our swimming skills in the weeks to come.





Looking for your next great read? Don't miss out on our Book Sale happening Saturday, 25th January, from 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM at King's Lynn Library!

We have a fantastic range of books, including rare local non-fiction treasures and a selection of fiction to suit every taste.

Whether you're a history buff, a fiction lover, or just looking for something new, you're bound to find something special!

Amazing deals on books for all agesHidden gems & one-of-a-kind findsPerfect for bargain hunters

Mark your calendars and bring a friend—let's make it a book lover's day out!