



Garlinge Primary School and Nursery



Years 5 and 6 Newsletter

Terms 1 and 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin by welcoming you all back to a new academic year after the summer break and I look forward to a successful year working together with you for the benefit of the children. The children have all come back looking lovely and smart and have settled well into their new classrooms and routines.

This newsletter aims to introduce you to the Year 5 and 6 department and the main topics of learning within each year group, as well as providing you with information which you may find useful when supporting your child.

Staff

The department staff for this academic year are:

<u>5A-Miss Griffin & Mrs Demetriou</u> TA-Mrs Scott	<u>6A-Mrs Pegden</u> TAs-Mrs Ray & Mr Lambert
<u>5B-Mrs Pointer</u> TA-Mrs Petzendorfer	<u>6B-Miss Jenkins</u> TAs-Miss Atkins & Mrs Skelton
<u>5C-Mrs Billinghamurst</u> TA-Mr Turner	<u>6C-Mr Millership</u> TAs-Mr Newby & Mr Lambert
<u>5D-Mrs McGrath</u> TA-Mrs Broad	<u>6D-Miss Subramaniam</u> TA-Miss Coleman

How you can help your child

Please make sure that your child arrives in school promptly at 8:45am for their first lesson. We ask that you telephone the office if your child is not well enough to come to school.

Uniform

We would like all of the children to take pride in their school uniform. A full uniform list is available on our school web-site www.garlingeprimary.co.uk or if you are unsure please do speak to your child's class teacher. All items of school uniform should be **clearly named**. We would also request that children wear **plain black shoes** and not trainers to school. Earrings are permitted, but must be small plain studs please.

PE

Help your children to be organised for PE by making sure that they **always** have a PE kit in school. This should consist of a white T-shirt, dark shorts and plimsolls for indoor PE; trainers for outdoor PE. Dark coloured joggers and sweatshirts can be worn for outdoor PE during the winter months. Children with pierced ears will need to remove earrings when taking part in PE lessons; this can be done either at school or at home beforehand.

Homework

Homework is an important way in which you can support your child's learning and will consist of weekly tasks set by class teachers. Please ensure that your child takes pride in their homework tasks and develops their organisation skills by handing completed homework in on time. This will normally consist of: weekly spellings, a weekly maths piece and either a piece of topic based homework, or an English activity. Times tables should also be learnt and practised daily. Your child has been given an upper school homework diary, which they are welcome to use for organising their learning at home.

Reading, Spellings and Times Tables

Your children have all been issued with a home reading book which they should take home each day. Please support your child by listening to them read on a **daily** basis as well as spending time discussing their books with them. Also, please look out for our Buster's Book Club reading incentive scheme. This is a popular scheme in school, encouraging children to read for a target number of minutes each Wednesday for a possible class reward. Times tables and weekly spellings are also an important part of daily learning in school and should be practised at home daily.

A 'Healthy School'

We are proud to have been awarded 'Healthy School' status, therefore we encourage parents to pack a healthy lunchbox for their child, and we discourage chocolate, sweets or crisps. We encourage children to bring in a piece of fruit to eat at break times. Also, as a 'Healthy School', we are unable to hand out birthday cakes/sweets to children in our classes provided by parents.

The children are encouraged to bring in a **water-bottle** with a sports-cap lid, which can be filled from our water dispensers during the day and taken home daily to be cleaned and refilled. May I also remind you that we are a **'nut free'** school; therefore food containing nuts cannot be eaten in school.

Topics and Learning

Years 5 and 6 Topics for Terms 1 and 2:

<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>
HISTORY- Anglo Saxons	HISTORY- World War Two
SCIENCE- Properties of materials & forces	SCIENCE-Evolution & electricity
R.E- God and places of worship	R.E- Christians & humanists Religious arts & charities
PSHCE- Me and my keeping safe & relationships	PSHCE-Me and keeping safe & relationships
MUSIC- Learning to play the ukulele	Music- World War Two music
PE- Sports hall athletics, Outdoor Adventurous Activities, dance and also swimming (5A & 5C)	PE- Netball, football, dance and sports hall athletics.

Targets

All children will be given targets for maths, reading, writing and science to ensure that they continue to move forward and make the progress expected of them. Children should know their targets and be constantly working towards achieving them. These will be displayed in classrooms, on the children's books and will also be shared with you during our Parent Evenings.

Important Dates

Please take the time to check with your child each day to see if they have been given any letters as you will be informed regularly of any events/school news. Children will also be encouraged to use their homework diaries with additional notices and information.

Key dates for your diary:

11th September – Swimming starts every Tuesday for classes 5A and 5C. 5B and 5D will be swimming in term 5 – further details will follow
20th September – Parent 'Meet the Teacher and Team' meeting year 5 and 6 parents/carers at 1.45 in the KS2 hall/classes
8th October - Year 6 WW2 tunnels trip Dover Castle. Please arrive in school for 8.30am
11th October – Kent test results by email and posted to parents
19th October - Last day term 1
29th October – Term 2 begins
12th – 16th November – Anti-bullying week in schools
14th November – Parent afternoon/evenings
5th December - Years 5 and 6 topic celebration afternoon in classes: 2.45pm – 3.05pm
10th December – Christmas party week. (Christmas details will be finalised nearer the time)
19th December – Last day term 2.

Year 6 - Secondary school open day dates are now also available on the individual school websites, so please do take the time to visit a variety of schools with your child, once you have the dates confirmed. These are normally throughout September and October, with the closing date for online applications being 31st October.

Finally, if you have any questions about your child's education, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself, we will gladly be able to assist you.

We all look forward to a successful term and thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs D. Pegden

Assistant Headteacher and UKS2 Department Leader