

Dear Parents/Carers,

We'd like to wish everyone a very warm welcome to the first newsletter for the academic year 2019/20. The first half term is always one of new beginnings and settling in with the children and teachers getting to know their new classes, routines and expectations for learning. We have been very impressed with the way the children have adapted to their new classes and are delighted to welcome our new Reception children to the school.

During this half term we have been revising our school rules and have changed these to 'Values of the Month'. We start the year with September's value, 'Dream Big', which is also our school motto. We looked at the sports athlete, Dame Kelly Holmes and learnt although she had a talent for sport, she still had to work incredibly hard and persevere to overcome obstacles and finally achieve her dream.



Respect is the value for October and during assemblies and circle times we have been discussing how we can show respect through our actions and words. We are also celebrating Black History Month and have talked through how various inspirational people have helped shaped the lives we live today.

The children have been learning their new topics which you can read more about in this newsletter. We have already been on several trips; the London Eye and a river cruise on the Thames, Kew Gardens, The Imperial War Museum and the Young Shakespeare Company came in and gave a terrific performance of Macbeth to Years 5 and 6. All of these experiences help to shape the children's learning by giving them a first-hand account which is so important to aid their understanding of the required knowledge and skills.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the school community for the funds that have been raised for both the MacMillan coffee morning and the NSPCC where we raised £555 and £968 respectively. Well done to Year Five for organising the delicious cakes and refreshments for the MacMillan and the whole school enjoyed a dance-athon led by Mrs Browne for the NSPCC.

We are excited that our reading and maths challenges will be commencing after half term and look forward to the children earning their badges and certificates for both of these areas. A separate letter about both of these initiatives can be found on the website.

As you know despite advertising twice we have not been successful in recruiting a new caretaker for the school. The advert is due to go out again and we hope to be able to secure a new caretaker as soon as possible.

However, this does mean that in the time we have been without a caretaker, we have been able to use the money saved to purchase a new French scheme which is being implemented across Key Stage Two. We are looking forward to continuing to converse in French with the children as well as those in Years 5 and 6 learning to write simple sentences.

We are also delighted to announce we have been able to purchase 17 new computers for the school which will replace our original computers in the ICT suite, again as a result of this saving and a very generous donation from one of our parents.

We wish you all a happy and restful October half term. While there is no set homework, please encourage your children to read and practise times tables. We look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 28 October when our whole school reading challenge begins!

Miss James  
Head Teacher

Mrs Browne  
Head of School



National Support School  
designated by  
National College for  
Teaching & Leadership

**CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL ON**  
**Monday 28 October 2019**

## Dates for the diary...

### Monday 28 October

Monday 28 October 3.15pm  
 Tuesday 29 October All Day  
 Tuesday 29 October PM  
 Tuesday 29 October 4.30-5.45pm  
 Tuesday 29 October 6.00-7.15pm

Friday 1 November All Day  
 Wednesday 6 November 8.00pm  
 Friday 8 November All Day  
 Friday 8 November AM

Wednesday 13 November TBC  
 Thursday 14 November 6.00-8.00pm  
 Friday 22 November TBC  
 Friday 22 November 7.00-9.30PM  
 Sunday 24 November 11.30-2.00pm  
 Sunday 24 November 4.45-4.55pm  
 Tuesday 26 November PM  
 Wednesday 29 November All Day  
 Monday 2 December 1.00-2.00pm  
 Tuesday 3 December 9.00am  
 Monday 9 December All Day  
 Tuesday 10 December 9.00am  
 Wednesday 11 December 2.00pm  
 Thursday 12 December 6.00pm

Friday 13 December  
 Monday 16 December All Day

### Thursday 19 December

### Wednesday 8 January 2020

Tuesday, 14 January 7pm  
 Monday 10 - Friday 24 February

### Monday 17 - Friday 21 February

### Monday 24 February

Wednesday 4 March 8.00pm  
 Thursday 5 March  
 Tuesday 17 March TBC

### Monday 23- Wednesday 25 March

Wednesday 25 March 3.30-7.00pm  
 Thursday 26 March 3.30-6.30pm  
 Wednesday 1 April 1.45pm  
 Thursday 2 April 1.45pm

### Friday 3 April

Monday 20 April  
 Tuesday 28 April 7pm

### Monday 25- Friday 29 May

Monday 1 June  
 Saturday 6 June  
 Monday 8 June  
 Monday 8- Friday 12 June

Wednesday 10 June 8pm  
 Tuesday 16 June

Thursday 18 June AM  
 Friday 19 June All Day

Thursday 25 June TBC  
 Friday, 10 July TBC

Saturday, 11 July TBC  
 Tuesday 14 July 6.30pm  
 Wednesday 15 July 6.30pm  
 Friday 17 July 9.30am

### Children return to school

PTA- Weigh the Pumpkin and cake sale  
 Years R to 6- Flu Vaccinations (rescheduled)  
 Year 6 only- Sex Education

PTA-Infant School Disco  
 PTA-Junior School Disco  
 PTA – Funky Feet Day  
 PTA Meeting  
 PTA – Wear It Red Day  
 Year 3- Chocolate Workshop

Year 6 visit to Vue Bromley  
 Local Committee Meeting  
 Year 4 Zoolab Workshop  
 PTA-Christmas Market set up  
 PTA-Christmas Market

Year 4 singing at the Christmas Lights  
 Year 1 Zoolab Workshop  
 Reception & Year 6- Vison and Weight Screening

Year 6- TFL Workshop  
 Junior Choir- performance to parents  
 Year 6- Rescheduled Bikeability Day 2  
 Reception Christmas Nativity  
 Year 1 & 2 Christmas Play  
 Year 5 & 6 Carol Service  
 Whole School Christmas Lunch & Christmas jumper day  
 Elf Day

### Last day of term

### Children return to school

PTA Meeting  
 PTA- Smarties Fundraiser  
 Half Term

### Children return to school

PTA Meeting  
 World Book Day  
 PTA-Secret Gift Room ahead of Mother's Day  
 Year 5 PGL – Sayers Croft

Parent's Evening  
 Parent's Evening  
 Year 3 and 4 Production  
 Year 3 and 4 Production

### Last day of term

### Children return to school

PTA Meeting at the school

### Half Term

### Children return to school

PTA-Beautification Day TBC  
 PTA- Shopping and Pamper Night TBC  
 Year 6 PGL- Isle of Wight

PTA Meeting  
 PTA-Secret Gift Room ahead of Father's Day

KS1 Sports Mornings  
 KS2 Sports Day & family picnic- details to follow

PTA AGM Meeting at School  
 PTA- Summer Event set up  
 PTA- Summer Event

Year 5 & 6 End of Year Production  
 Year 5 & 6 End of Year Production  
 Year 6 Leaver's Assembly



## Reminders



### School Voluntary Fund



We would like to thank all those parents who have made a contribution to school funds this term. Contributions from families to the School Fund is very important as it pays for a variety of activities which benefit all the children.

We would ask families to contribute £25.00 per academic year which can be paid in termly or half termly Instalments, however any contribution is always most welcome. Parents can either send in contributions via the school office or make payments via AGORA, our online payment system.



### School Hours



May we please remind you how important it is that children arrive on time for school. The doors open at 8.40am with school starting at 8.50am. Children arriving after morning registration will need to sign in via the school office and will receive a late mark. It is important for children to arrive on time so that the day can begin smoothly and they can participate in the learning planned as part of early morning work.

Parents are reminded not to drop their children off early to school, leaving them unattended before the school gates/doors open.

Please can we also remind parents that they need to arrive on time for the collection of their child/ren. KS1 children's day ends at 3.10pm and KS2 children 3.15pm.

Finally we have also been advised of a number of late collections from after school clubs. Please ensure you are here prior to the club finish times. If this persistently happens then we will have no alternative than to withdraw your child's space in the relevant club.

## School News

### Reception

The children in Reception have been very busy settling into school this half term. They have enjoyed making new friends and getting to know lots of adults both in their classroom and around school.

The children have coped well with all the classroom routines and school rules and they have taken lots of new experiences in their stride. These experiences have ranged from a 5 A Day exercise session to going to Birthday Assembly, playtime with Year 1 and lunch with everyone in the hall.

They have also had lots of time to explore the Reception classroom, including the outside area. In addition to this they have been to the ICT Suite, had P.E in the hall and also enjoyed going down the big slide and using the trim trail on the top playground.



They have started learning their sounds in our phonics sessions, practised writing the corresponding letters and done lots of counting and number activities in our maths work.



It has been a very busy few weeks for everyone and once the children return from the half term break we are looking forward to introducing them to another new experience – Forest School - and starting our new topic People Who Help Us.

### Year 1

Forest School has been such fun this term; being outside and active has been a wonderful experience.

With our friends, we've played, shared, explored and been incredibly busy discovering the many exciting places in Forest School.

Using our investigative skills, we've discovered so many different living things; for some of us, we were lucky enough to find a toad living in an old tyre!

As part of our English learning, we've started to use our senses to describe various story settings. We've taken this learning into Forest School to discover what we can see, hear, smell, touch and taste (only in our imagination) in Forest School.



We've been fantastic using our senses and coming up with a vocabulary list full of exciting adjectives which we plan to use in our English work very soon.

'I've loved finding bugs!' said Mollie.



'Forest School is so fun!' said Connor



## School News

### Year 2

On Friday 20th September Year 2 began their 'Lively London' topic with an exciting school trip. We were lucky enough to experience two different views of many iconic London landmarks.

We boarded the train with huge smiles on our faces at Orpington Station and for the first part of our adventure we took part in a cruise down the River Thames!



Highlights of our 40 minute boat trip included seeing The Tower of London, St Paul's Cathedral and Tower Bridge opening for a tall ship.



After lunch in the sunshine we boarded the London Eye and rose high over the buildings taking in 360-degree views of London.



We had a wonderful adventure and our heads were filled with lots of new facts that we were keen to use in our work back at school.

A big thank you to the adults that helped us out on our trip.

### Year 3

In Year 3 in science we have been investigation how to stay healthy. We used disclosing tablets to investigate the amount of plaque that was on our teeth after lunch. Half the class brushed their teeth thoroughly before chewing on the disclosing tablet, while the rest of the class did not. Our experiment highlighted the importance for brushing your teeth thoroughly to keep them healthy. In the pictures you can see some of our results.



Can you guess which of us had brushed our teeth before chewing and who didn't?

## School News

### Year 4

During our first term in Year 4 we went on a great school trip to Kew Gardens. When we were there we went into the Palm House which was basically a real rainforest climate inside a green house, it was so warm! We found that the humidity levels in the Palm House were a lot greater compared to the outside climate. We also found out that the soil temperature was higher, as well as the overall air temperature. We really got to experience what life would be like for all these animals and plants in the Amazon Rainforest in Brazil.

The Kew Garden landscape was absolutely beautiful, the flowers were so vibrant, the trees were so green and the grass was so incredibly lush! Our favourite part of the trip was the adventure playground, it was an outdoor play area made out of natural resources like wood, we climbed so high and managed to work the water hose to make it flow down a route that we had to decide.

We also had a great time working in teams trying to 'save our egg'. We were given a plastic cup, 4 straws, a Polly-pocket, 2 cotton wool balls, 1 sponge, 50cm of tape, paper towels, scissors and glue. In our group we had to design a machine that would save the egg from cracking when Mr Vallois dropped it from a height of 3 metres. Unfortunately, 2 groups did not save the egg, the egg went everywhere! It was messy!

By Kit and Nethra (Griffins Class)



#### Marvellous Magic!

Year 4 were lucky enough to have a magic show performed by Mrs Brett which was very exciting to watch. We watched several tricks including, one where Mrs Brett had to guess the correct crayon and one with the correct coin. Another trick had famous people written on bits of paper. The paper was then scrunched up into a hat. Mrs Brett then predicted the famous person a member of the audience had chosen before it was taken out of the hat, amazingly, she was correct! We loved the empty box trick at the end where we all saw the box was empty, then lots of things appeared out of it such as, a very long multi-coloured scarf which was endless, a sharpie pen, a crayon and some scissors. Thank you Mrs Brett, we were impressed by how you mastered all the tricks perfectly and we really enjoyed watching it.

By Anish and Isabelle (Giants)



### Year 5

This term Centaurs adventures have been exquisite learning about Ancient Egypt. This topic is extremely fun to learn about. Our first lesson was creative because we had to build a miniature pyramids using card, art straws, lolly sticks, and masking tape. Once we had finished, our teacher put them in front of the fan and if it stood still, it was sturdy.



On the 26th of September, was the Macmillan Coffee Morning. Everybody made or bought cakes, cookies and cupcakes for this special occasion. Despite the little time before the Macmillan Coffee Morning each person in the class was given a job; the greeters (they greet the guests), the waiters (they take the orders), photographers, cake sellers, and the donation people. It was a pleasant experience for all of us and we raised £555 for this charity.

When we began our science, we had no idea how stimulating these lessons would be. In science, we learnt about Space and our Solar System. One of our favourite lessons in science was writing a mnemonic in the order of the planets nearest to the sun. Our homework has been very motivating and helped us with our science in lessons. Some people have constructed excellent creations from homework such as Luna Rovers out of food cartons, Solar systems and space poems.



Meanwhile, we have been working a lot on our poems in are English lessons and mostly focusing on the atmosphere. In one recent lesson we created an atmospheric poem about vigorous twister hitting a small town. We were using metaphors to describe the twister as an animal. This lesson really improved our writing skills and it was fun yet challenging.

We have had a brilliant time this term, and we can't wait for the next to come.

## School News

### Year 6

On Thursday 3 October 2019, Year 6 went on an amazing trip to the Imperial War Museum – for our Topic WWI.

Everyone met at Orpington train station at approximately 9:20 am. The excitement of the class was bubbling as we waited on the platform, for the train to Waterloo East.

The journey took around 20 minutes, before we arrived in London. We then walked until we reached the Imperial War Museum.

Soon we arrived at the astonishing Imperial War Museum. It was a remarkable sight to see. The building was colossal, and was surrounded by a plethora of people.

When we walked in, we were amazed at all of the incredible artefacts accompanied by a day in the life of a soldier. Above, a Spit- Fire and a Harrier Jump Jet hung from the ceiling.

Unfortunately, we were unable to see the Holocaust section due to our age but we can share with you about the other exhibits we saw.

As we strolled forwards, everywhere we could see exhibits, such as WW1 soldiers uniforms; guns that they used (like rifles and machine guns); tanks; poisonous gases and bombshells.

In one of the exhibits rooms there was a task. you got to check whether you were tall enough, the correct age, the correct weight and had the perfect eyesight to be able to become a ww1 soldier. Obviously, we weren't qualified!

After lunch, we carried on with the tour. Most of the class went to see the WW2 exhibition, while the rest of us went to finish off the WW1 gallery in more detail.



### Sport

The girls' and boys' football teams have already been in action this year after training hard from the start of term. There has been some excellent play and we have all enjoyed representing the school.



We are also looking forward to the swimming gala at Beckenham Spa on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October where we will be representing Farnborough in the Small Schools gala.

## PTA NEWS

### PTA Update October 2019

**Christmas Market** - You have now received your countdown to Christmas market letter and we hope this helps you with all the donation dates. The market is our most important fundraiser and this year is no exception. We raised over £4000 at this event, a significant amount for our school. We are delighted to already have some amazing raffle prizes including a 3 night spring break cruise to Amsterdam from Cruise & Maritime Voyages, £100 cash prize from Anthony Martin Estate Agents Locksbottom, £80 cash prize from Culverhouse accountants, A family ticket for Leeds Castle and £50 voucher from Graduates. With more raffle prizes from Air Jump, Quasar, Paintballing and Learn and Explore.



**PTA Funds** - This academic year we hope to purchase with the funds raised: KS1 scheme phonic books enabling children to go home with 2 books a week each and KS1 timber playground equipment. We are aware that the school themselves are purchasing items for KS2.

**Events** - The summer event we held raised an impressive £1,813.73 and was well attended by both parents of the school and the local community. Thank you so much to those who gave up their spare time to help on the day and for all the wonderful donations. We had some wonderful positive feedback.

The second hand uniform sale raised £103, please keep your donations coming in for future sales.

**Future Events** - The results of the votes on future events were 1st posh bingo, 2nd open air cinema and joint 3rd treasure hunt and Easter egg hunt, so watch this space!

**Tuck Shops** - Earlier on in the year each class held their own tuck shops in which the money that was raised went directly to that class. Due to some of the tuck shops being run so close to the end of the academic year it was agreed that the money raised would travel with them to their new classes. The teachers of some of the classes are currently deciding what to spend the money on and we will let you know their purchases asap. So far the following has been spent:

**Year 5** - Footballs, Diabolo, Harry Potter children's collection, Naval Strike Board Game, Phlat Ball and Toss and Catch Paddle Game.



**Year 6** - Origami, Books, Twister Board Game, Trumps Game and a selection of other Board Games

### Dates for your Diary

28 October	Weigh the Pumpkin Competition and Cake Sale
29 October	Autumn Disco
31 October	Deadline for design a poster competition
1 November	Funky Feet Day
7 November	PTA meeting in The Woodman
8 November	Wear it Red Day
14 November	Chocolate Donations
22 November	Cake and Mince Pie Donations
22 November	Christmas Market Set Up
24 November	Christmas Market



## FARNBOROUGH KIDS CLUB NEWS

### We started Kids Club and look what happened?



Whoosh is it a bird, is it a plane no its SUPER KIDS CLUB! Our new club members arrived just in time to join in our superhero week! During the week we designed & made masks, cuffs, badges and of course did lots of dressing up & face painting!! (Thank you Year 5/6!!) We were still 'up in the clouds' during fairy tale week where we made our own wands and unicorns. Luckily our gingerbread men did not escape very far but we've heard rumours that our beanstalks are definitely heading for the clouds!

Lets hope we don't wake up to a village full of Giants!



From Giants to our youngest club members who have settled & embraced all our activities with enthusiasm. They are already making new friends across the school. There has been something new for our older club members too! As we are trialing some ipads. So far so popular!!

Everything 'new' keeps our club fresh & exciting, but we still rollout the old favourites. Highlights this term have been decorating our pink pig biscuits, opening a salt dough bakery, making aliens, spaceship frisbees and of course inviting Tom back with his jungle creatures!

Its been a whirlwind of a half term but we all can't wait to start back after the break whooooshing in with our Halloween/birthday Party (Thursday 31<sup>st</sup>Oct) & Neon Games Night (Friday 8<sup>th</sup>Nov). Other themes this term will be STEM week, Road safety, America /thanks giving & of course Christmas.

A **big thank you** to all the families who have supported us this half term and we hope you all have a great half term break. If you want to sign up to join the fun we have a few spaces left! To register or book sessions for the breakfast or after school clubs please contact me:

**Penny Turpin** on 01689 852 637 or by email [penny.turpin@viginmedia.com](mailto:penny.turpin@viginmedia.com).

## School News

# Attendance

### 100% Attendance for the first half of the Autumn Term 2019

We would like to congratulate the following children who obtained 100% attendance for the first half of the Autumn Term, from **Monday 2 September up to and including Friday 18 October 2019**, for the academic year 2019/20:



Henry B, Amelia-Lily, Luca, Henry C, Morgan, Ronnie, Benjamin, Gracie, Oliver, Clara, Annabelle, Finnley, Dhruv, Jackson, Jasmine, Kaidan, Mackenzie, Taraoluwa, Hanna, Donte, Vienna, Henry, B, Malije, William, Ellie, Erika, James, Daniel, Angel, Millie, Jessica, Charlie P, Leonie, Hartley, Mollie, Leonardo, Lauren, Henry T, Sophia-May, Guy, Charlie W, Eva, Thomas, Teddy, Zachary, Jackson, William, Leon, Rowen, Eesha, Daisy, Lucas, Dominic, Noah, Samuel, Isla-Belle, Evie, Henry T, Daisy T, Ambrose, Noah, Madison, Samuel, Amy, Freya, Saffy, Lily, George, Zackary, Florence, Lucas, Ryan, Esmee, Isabelle, Lucy, Dolly, Jonathan, Lacey, Charlotte, Harriet, Shannon, Daniel, Riley, Lewis, Eva, Ashley, Oliver L, Cameron, Brody, Jake, Sophia, David, Isabella, Beau, Faith, Abhinav, Albert, Max, Isabelle, Layla, Isaac, Ella, Julia, Lillian, Tilly, Alana, Hollie, Bro, Daisy-Anais, Ayaan, Niamh, Ibraheem, George P, Anselm, Charlotte, George T, Ellie, Daniel, Fillippa, Ethan, Lyra, Eva, Freddie, Lauren, Ella, Nethra, Fenton, Annie, Evie L, Polina, Oluwatoni, Chloe, Oscar, Louie, Lawrence, Evie V, Zane, Olivia, Harrison, Katia, William, Noah, Spencer, Dannii, Florence, Somayina, Iona, Vincent, Michael, Leon, Charlotte, Harry, Annelise, Billy, Xavier, Leah, Helena, Amelie, Max, Joshua, Lilly, Carys, Ava, Sophie C, Sophie C, Ochuko, Joel, Keiran, Abriana, Harry, Olivia, Michael V, Sadie, Scarlett, Sophie W.



## School News

# Attendance

As many of you will be aware, the school places a high focus on excellent attendance and punctuality. This is to ensure that our children make the most of the learning opportunities given which will enable them to achieve their full potential.

Last year, our whole school attendance figure was 96.9% which means we did not achieve our target of 97%. We would have been on track for 97%, however, at the end of the summer term, we saw a sharp rise in absences.

Attendance is regularly tracked across the school. Any child's attendance that is under 92% is closely monitored. Parents may receive a letter stating that their child's attendance will be monitored over the following six weeks. From now on if a child is absent from school due to lots of illness or medical absences, there will be a letter sent asking for medical verification for any further absences to be authorised.

Ofsted place a high priority on children's attendance and punctuality and this could have a direct impact on future Ofsted inspections. They consider overall absence and persistent absence rates for all pupils, the extent to which low attenders are improving their attendance over time and punctuality in arriving at school.

The table below shows each class's attendance from 2 September 2019 to 18 October 2019.

	Up to Oct 2019
<b>Pixies (Reception)</b>	98.3
<b>Elves (Year 1)</b>	98.2
<b>Unicorns (Year 2)</b>	96.9
<b>Pegasus (Year 3F)</b>	98.3
<b>Phoenix (Year 3P)</b>	97.1
<b>Giants (Year 4F)</b>	97.9
<b>Griffins (Year 4P)</b>	98.6
<b>Centaur's (Year 5)</b>	98.8
<b>Dragons (Year 6)</b>	95.6

Well done **CENTAURS** for having the highest attendance for this half term of **98.8%**.

## School News

### SCHOOL TERM DATES 2019/20

Term	Term Dates
<b>Autumn Term</b> September 2019 – December 2019	Monday 2 September - Friday 18 October <b>**Inset Day Friday 6 September**</b>
	<b>HALF TERM</b> Half-term 21 October - 25 October
	Monday 28 October – Thursday 19 December
<b>Spring Term</b> January 2020– March 2020	Wednesday 8 January - Friday 14 February
	<b>HALF TERM</b> Half-term 17 - 21 February
	Monday 24 February - Friday 3 April
<b>Summer Term</b> April 2020 – July 2020	Monday 20 April - Friday 22 May
	<b>HALF TERM</b> Half-term 25 May - 29 May
	Monday 1 June – Friday 17 July

**\*Please note apart from the one highlighted all other inset days are included within the dates above**

### SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

We would like to remind you that the school  
office hours are from **8.30am until 4pm.**