

Garden Fields School Newsletter



End of Summer Term

Happy, Caring, and Inspiring

20th July 2018

Farewell to Year 6

We had the most amazing Year 6 Leavers' Play on Wednesday at the Sandpit Theatre. The children gave two performances, one in the afternoon and then one again in the evening, of their play entitled **Lights, Camera, Action!**

The play was about a school TV channel called GFS TV, which actually stood for Ghastly Folds School! In a series of spoofs of various television genres we met some East End hoodlums supping milk in the school soap 'Class Act', a 'super nursery nurse' showing how to control a reception class (or rather the teachers in the class!) and a bizarre school quiz show run by a crazed headteacher.

We then had a talent show entitled the GFS Factor featuring some amazing singing but also some singing which was rather more erm...challenging, such as that by performed by spoilt schoolgirl Chaboncé! The show also included the acerbic comments of lead judge, Cyrus Scowl!

We were then introduced to Harry Monk and his team of trustee caretakers fixing a range of common school maintenance issues under the name of

DIY Distress!

Afterwards, we had a team of American style law enforcement 'supervisors' showing their rather brutal methods for running school lunchtimes.

The show finished with a moving leavers' GFS assembly presented by Mrs Falafel and Miss Hyperbole! It was a fabulous show from our Year 6. The level of acting, dancing and singing was excellent but another impressive feature was the children's excellent comic timing which made for a very funny and engaging show.

Many thanks to everybody who worked so hard to produce such a fabulous show to finish the year on and thank you and well done to the Year 6 children for your fabulous performances!

Good luck for the future Year 6. You have certainly given us so much over the last 7 years, including a superb final show, to remember you by.





Waverley House Points Winners as Townsend are crowned Sports Day Champions

After an epic 2 days of sporting contest, Townsend house were crowned Garden Fields Sports Day Champions 2018!

They therefore broke the long monopoly that Harpenden had held over this competition in recent years.

Harpenden won the Lower School shield but when these were added to the scores from the Upper school event, it was Townsend who emerged as overall winners.

In the house-point league table it was a different story with Waverley house taking first place . Well done to all of our house groups for your efforts this year. You now have a chance to rest before you come back determined and ready to compete again next year!



General Knowledge Quiz Champions!

Many thanks to all who took part in the General Knowledge Quiz at Marlborough School towards the end of term.

Special congratulations go to Bobby, Kishan, Arlo and Robert who were overall winners of the event!





School Choir at M Fest



Another amazing musical experience offered by Miss Wray to our children at Garden Fields is the opportunity to sing at the large scale music festival M Fest held each summer at Marlborough School.

This is also a very prestigious position to be in, as Miss Wray established this link a few years ago and it is now very hard to get a place on the festival bill!

Not only that, but the hugely talented Tom Billington, music teacher at Marlborough School and one of the key people behind M Fest, also comes in and rehearses with our children.

Many thanks Miss Wray and Miss Ellwood for giving up your time to lead our choir and thank you to all of the children who participated and sang the following:

Rock star , Firework and This is Me (from The Greatest Showman) at the festival.



Academic Success!

Of course there is far more to school life than results from tests and at Garden Fields we believe that an exciting and innovative curriculum is at the heart of any great school. Nonetheless, we received our SATs results for Key Stage 2 last week and our results are really impressive!

95% of our children have left Y6 working at the expected level in reading and maths and 92% in Writing. To put this into perspective, last year nationally 73% achieved this in reading and 75% in each of maths and writing.

Also, if a score of 110 remains as the marker for those working above age related expectations (ARE) then at Garden Fields this year 57% will be working above ARE in reading, 40% in maths and 32% in writing compared to 24%, 22% and 18% nationally in 2017.

At Key Stage 1 our performance in ARE was above national figures from last year for reading, writing and maths. At Garden Fields the number of our Year 2s who are working at ARE in reading was 77%, in writing 78% and maths 80% compared to 76%, 68% and 75% nationally.

However, what was particularly noticeable for our Year 2s, was the number of children achieving at the higher level with 33% working above ARE in reading, 30% in writing and 30% in maths compared to 25%, 16% and 21% who were working above ARE nationally in 2017.

We don't have this year's national figures for KS1 and 2 yet, but I will update you further on this in the new academic year together with further detail on the KS2 results.

Many thanks to the whole team and community at Garden Fields for such an impressive academic performance.

It really is a testament to our fantastic teaching and teaching support staff team and the incredibly strong support for them from our administrative, premises, finance and mid-day supervisory team.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support this year. I would also like to thank the excellent support from our PTA and all of you who have helped at events this year to provide such great entertainment for our children and families and also raise money for our school.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a wonderful summer with your families!

Best wishes,

Mr Farrugia