

Garden Fields School Newsletter



9th March 2018

Happy, Caring, and Inspiring

Ofsted at Garden Fields

Well we knew that we must be due an Ofsted inspection as it was about four and a half years ago, but nonetheless when the phone call comes in, there is always that slight feeling of dread and panic!

We were prepared and ready though, and we had already had a lot of discussion about what might happen and what we needed to do to really show off and celebrate what a great school we have at Garden Fields.

It was a very long day but we felt that it was a very fair process and that we were able to demonstrate what we think we do really well in the school.

I would like to say a massive thank you to the whole school community for getting behind the school so brilliantly. Your responses on Parent View were so tremendously positive as were letters of support from you, cards and also the fantastic feedback to the inspector from parents who were spoken to on the playground.

Thank you for the lovely emails, cards and messages of support from you too!

We are very grateful to Carlee for the cheese (yum!) and to Peter Jones, our chair of governors, for the lovely breakfast this morning!

Unfortunately we are 'sworn to secrecy' regarding the outcome of the inspection at present as the report needs to be quality assured and therefore judgements can still be altered. However, it should be published in around two to three weeks time.

And thank you of course to our tremendous staff team. In this regard I would like to echo the words of Peter Jones and his message of support for us before the inspection **when he said, "Garden Fields really does live up to its values** - the children demonstrate every minute of the day how superb the staff are in the support and encouragement you all give them."

But most importantly thank you to your inspirational children, who were a credit to you. The inspector was most impressed with their excellent behaviour, their wonderful sense of curiosity and their enthusiasm for learning!

A Festival of Rugby



A couple of weeks ago I had the pleasure, along with Mr Berman and Miss Clarke, of taking three teams to St Albans Rugby Club for an afternoon **festival of rugby. It wasn't a tournament as such but it was a tag rugby event at which schools' teams were organised into groups of 4 to play one another at tag rugby.**

It was a great afternoon of sport and our children played some terrific rugby, behaved impeccably and had most importantly thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

If any of your children, boys or girls, would like to play contact rugby down at St Albans rugby club on a Sunday morning, then do pick up a flyer outside our main office, or come and see me for further details.

Maths Quiz Success!

Well done to Adam, Ewan, Freddie and Louis H who represented the school in the first round of the Y5 Maths Challenge at Fleetville Junior School last week. Not only did they come first out of 15 schools, they achieved the highest score of any qualifying team! The final will take place in the summer term. Thank you to Miss Lee and the parents for ensuring the children were able to attend under Arctic conditions!

Year 5 Ancient Greek Day



On Monday 26th of February, year 5 had a Greek workshop. Throughout the day, we had fun learning about the Greeks. When we arrived, we started off talking about Greeks in general, then about how the Greeks were fascinated about time and how long ago they lived.

After that we started acting out Greek legends such as The Minotaur, Hercules and many others. One which we did that we especially enjoyed was Medusa. After lunch, we compared modern armour with ancient armour. Everyone felt different pieces of headgear and tried them on.

After some games and sports, with Sparta triumphing over Athens in javelin, it was the end of a brilliant day!

By Anna and Orla

Thank you Barhale!



Many thanks to Barhale for your donation of cones today for our lunchtime supervisors and sports department to use. This was arranged by our midday supervisor Jo Corley and her daughter Jess who works for Barhale.

In fact both Jo and her daughter Jess are ex pupils of the school **and now we have Evie, Jo's youngest daughter with us too!**

In fact Jo has some interesting memories of the school from when it first moved from the city centre in Catherine Street.

It was also great to meet Steve, a manager from the company today and thank you to employee Johnny for taking the photos!