

Garden Fields School Newsletter

Happy, Caring, and Inspiring



Spring Term No 3

15th March 2019



Farewell Miss Cole!



Today we said goodbye to our deputy headteacher Miss Cole who leaves us for a new adventure in Australia!



We gave Miss Cole a big send off with a special assembly this morning, with the children waving Australian flags that they had made in class and giving her special items for her journey—sunglasses, an **Australian hat, a boomerang... that kind of thing!** We then presented her with a special book put together by the children and a special framed picture with words chosen by the children and staff that describe Miss Cole.

Thank you also to parents and governors for the special gifts that you gave her which we presented too!

In her 5 years working at Garden Fields Miss Cole has played a lead role in developing the exciting, innovative curriculum that we have here at Garden Fields.

Significant in this has been her role in mapping out the curriculum and working tirelessly behind the scenes to develop **our curriculum 'wow weeks'**.

Miss Cole has also played a key role in developing teaching and learning through leading on staff training and development as well as working with the Alban Federation to develop trainee teachers.

We will also miss her efficient organisational skills! But perhaps most importantly we will miss her enthusiasm and dedication **to our children's enjoyment of learning and for making our children's school days truly memorable.**

We will miss you Miss Cole but wish you all the very best for the future!



Leadership Team Changes

As of next week Miss Palmer will be our deputy head - a role that she had before in fact - until she had her family. She will also continue to lead on Inclusion as our Inclusion Coordinator (INCo).

This will enable her to maintain the excellent work she has done in developing our teaching and learning for those **children with additional needs as well as our support for children's pastoral needs and wellbeing.**

She will also maintain the development of our teaching methods to enhance children's early literacy skills.

Miss Palmer and I will also continue of course to have the excellent support of our phase leaders: Mrs Reynolds (Reception and Year 1) Mrs Gleeson (Years 2 and 3) and Mrs Girdwood (Years 4, 5 and 6).

Dance Festival

This term some children from our Year 2 have been working hard with our student teacher Miss Sheppard to prepare for a special dance performance at the Alban Arena.

Our children were the youngest children to take part as many of the others were of secondary school age.

Miss Sheppard is a dance teacher herself and we are very lucky to have had her support.

Many thanks indeed also to Miss Jones who led on this with Miss Sheppard.

Thank you to Megan and Caroline from Year 5 who joined and supported our Year 2s!



Indoor Athletics

Garden Fields recently took part in the district indoor athletics tournament this term and **were winners in both the boys' and girls' sections as well as the overall champions.**

They will now represent the St Albans district in the county finals.

It is also the 3rd year running that our girls team, under the expert coaching of Mrs Johnson, have won this event!

Well done to all of those who took part and good luck at the county finals.

Maths Challenge Success

At Garden Fields we pride ourselves not only on entering all local sports competitions but also in local quiz events such as ones for maths and general knowledge.

So when David Cook, lead maths advisor for Herts for Learning asked us if we would like to host one of the heats for the county Maths Challenge, how could we refuse?

A huge number of schools arrived at Garden Fields for the event, packing out our upper school hall and working together in teams to try and work out a range of mathematics problems.

Thank you to all the children who took part: **Evan, Henry, Oliver, Otis, Jacob, James, Emma and Joseph.** As one of the best runners up in the county, one of our teams have qualified for the finals at the end of this month!

Many thanks to Maths subject leader Mrs Huntley and to Miss Cole for organising the event.

World Book day and Book Cover Winners



Our children arrived at school in an array of fabulous outfits for World Book Assembly.

The day was 'launched' at a special assembly in the morning led by our English lead Miss Ellwood and later in the afternoon the children had the opportunity to visit any teacher that they liked for a special story time, with each teacher having selected a book of their own choosing.

Our library captains also ran a competition to see who could produce the best book cover based upon any book that they liked.

They then announced the winners and runners up in this

Monday's assembly. Congratulations to Lewis, Ben, Chery, Maram and Ines for winning!



Mr Farrugia at B team match in lion costume



Children from Medway Class

Sustainability Week

Thank you to all of you who have offered to help us during our Sustainability 'Wow Week' which Miss Watson is organising and which begins when we come back after Easter.

It promises to be a great week and culminates with a fashion show using second hand clothing on Friday 26th April organised by Eliza Lau-Johnston.

For further details and ways that you can support, please use the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/y58yd4zw>

GDPR

Please note that Garden Fields School is compliant with the General Data Protection Regulations. The Garden Fields Privacy Notice is available on our website in the Policy section should you wish to view it.

You can see it at:

<https://tinyurl.com/yya954os>

Enjoy Comic Relief tonight and have a great weekend everyone!