

Garden Fields School Newslet-



Autumn Term Newsletter
No 2
27/09/2019

**MUSIC
MARK**

INFLUENCING
SUPPORTING &
CONNECTING

Happy, Caring,
and Inspiring!

Music WOW Assembly



Today our classes came together in a special assembly to celebrate the learning from over the past few weeks developed from our whole school music theme.

Year 1 told us about how they had looked at the different parts of Britain where the Spice Girls had **come from and 'modelled' their 'concert t-shirts**.

Year 2 sang Space Oddity to us and told us about their research about Space including learning about Neil Armstrong, Katherine Johnson and Tim Peake.

Y3 Thames class sang us their version of Bill Hailey and the Comets, Shake, Rattle and Roll retitled **'Thames, Rattle and Roll!'**

Year 4 showed us their amazing spray paintings from their Graffiti Workshop linked to their studies based upon the musical Aladdin.

Year 5 presented us with geographical details about the Caribbean and also some interesting biographical information about the life of Bob Marley. They also showed us their carnival masks.

Year 6 were inspired by the Latin rhythms of the Samba and as one part of their work they looked at the book Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson about a girl who lives in the Amazon Rainforest.

It was fascinating to see the wide range of work covered.



The Garden Fields Lottery

Forget the national lottery because thanks to our PTA we now have our very own Garden Fields Lottery!

As part of our quest to build our own music studio you can now buy a lottery ticket to help raise money for our project. You can do this by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/garden-fields-school/supporter>

You select your tickets , set up a direct debit and then you're ready to play!

Anyone can play as long as they are over 16, so please let family, friends, neighbours and work colleagues know!

You will be entered into not just one but TWO weekly draws held every Saturday at 8pm:

- First draw is just for GFS - the more people sign up, the greater the prize
- Second is the Prize Draw for a chance to win **£25,000!**

Also, if you register before 1st November you will be entered into an extra Autumn draw where 3 winners will be drawn to each receive £100.

The lottery costs £1 per ticket per week to play and guarantees 40p in the pound coming directly to us for the children. You can register as many tickets as you like. If we have 100 tickets registered, the weekly prize for a GFS supporter will be £30, all are entered into the £25K Prize Draw and the yearly amount we receive from 'Your School Lottery' will be over £2,000.

Our first draw is tomorrow - Saturday 28th September!
Good luck!

If you have any queries, please email
pta@gardenfields.herts.sch.uk



Paul Davis Fencing Academy

We have just been informed by Paul Davis that he has chosen Garden Fields as his Fencing School of the month for September!

Many thanks to all of the children who attend **Paul's club for representing the school so** enthusiastically and showing such dedication! And thank you to Paul and his coaches for the excellent clubs that they run.

Congratulations also to Tia who recently won 2 fencing competitions and won a trophy as the overall winner!



New Home School Agreement and School Communications Policy

At our governors' meetings last year we reviewed our Home School Agreement and Communications Policies. These were somewhat dated and written long before the development of social media. All parents will shortly be given the new Home School Agreement to sign as it will replace the original one that you signed when you joined. I am sure that you will find it a sensible, positive agreement about how the school works with you.

I will also be sending out our updated Communications Policy which acts as a 'partner' to this policy specifying mutual expectations around communication between school and parents/guardians.

In the meantime please can we keep all communications respectful and polite. Please do not berate staff - it is unacceptable and serves as a poor example to our young children. Thankfully, examples of this are the absolute exception - I am delighted to say that we have lots of lovely, positive conversations with our parent body!

Traffic

I am receiving complaints from parents and residents about the state of parking in the roads near to school at drop off times. I have notified the police who will be ticketing in the area.

Please respect the double yellow lines, the school keep clear area and other restrictions.

Please also respect users of our drop off zone by not parking across others and take care when accessing it and leaving it—in particular look out for pedestrians including those on the zebra crossings that we have put in. **And please don't park on the zebra crossing as it defeats the object of it!**

Please also make sure that your children don't run around the carparks and stick to paths.

Please can you also respect our neighbours and not blare out music and leave engines running. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



Car parked on our drop off zone car park zebra crossing

Harvest Time

In assembly on Friday 11th October 2019 (two weeks time) we are celebrating Harvest.

Becki Chafe, from Christ Church in New Greens will be talking to us and we will also be donating food to Emma Dalton from St Albans and District Foodbanks.

If you have any non-perishable items which we can donate for Emma to take to our local foodbank, we would be very grateful.

Please put the item/items in a carrier bag and bring them to the upper school hall on Friday morning.

Thank you for your support!



Garden Fields Kitchen 5 Star Rating

Many congratulations to our kitchen team for achieving a 5 Star Hygiene award - a fantastic achievement. These inspections are unannounced and this is the second 5 star award that they have achieved in the last 3 years. Well done and thank you to Mrs Keen, who was acting head cook on the day, and to the rest of the team for your great dedication and effort!

Clubs and The Hub

When going to clubs in the morning please could parents go through the lower school entrance if going to a club in the lower school hall. This makes registration easier for both the hub and the clubs that run in the lower school hall and makes it easier for the Hub to maintain their concentration on the Hub children.

The exception to this rule is for parents who have a child at both - in which case the first child can be dropped off at the Hub and then the other child taken through the hub to the hall.

Children in the upper school hall or going to netball can still use their codes to go through the main entrance.

Also, if your child cannot make any of our after school clubs then please let the office know- just so that when we register and they are not there we know that they are safe.

Thank you.

Census Day - Burger Day

This coming Thursday, 3rd October is a special census day in school in which various data about the school is recorded by Mrs Merridan in our school office.

One aspect of this is that we receive funding according to the number of children who have school dinners on that day.

This means that the more children who have a school dinner that day (even if it is just for that day) the more funding we get for the school.

It will be a special burger day with the option of a beef burger or Quorn burger or simply a cheese roll!

So if you can persuade your child to have a school dinner that day if they don't already then that would be great!

Lifeboat Appeal

We are again supporting the lifeboat appeal. Look out for the collection box in the school lobby over the next 2 weeks. Donations welcome. Thank you.

Achievements

Congratulations to Ellen in Year 4 for achieving her grade 1 class award in ballet and ASA Stage 5 award in swimming.

Congratulations also to Julian from Year 1 whose artwork was chosen to be displayed in a well-known museum in Slovakia. Very impressive Julian!

Have a great weekend!