



Great Whelnetham CE Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to the second half of the spring term. I hope this newsletter finds you all safe and well and that you have all had a lovely half term break.

The children have all come back to school fully energised and they are ready to embrace all their new learning topics. I am writing to you today with some important news and some additional dates for your diaries.

Covid Update

Although the Government has changed their guidance regarding Covid, the information that we have received from Suffolk remains the same and therefore our guidance and procedures relating to covid will continue until they are reviewed again on 1st April. If you need to come into the school to speak to a member of staff, we would be very grateful if you could wear a mask. Thank you for your continued support in helping to keep our school community safe.

Ukraine

We are all very saddened by the recent events in Ukraine as I am sure you are too. Some of our children, mostly older, have understandably been talking about this situation. Therefore, to support our children, we are planning to spend some time early next week to talk to them about what is happening and will be sharing some resources that have been provided by BBC Newsround and the Diocese. We will only be doing these sessions with children in **Swans** class.

We fully appreciate and respect that some parents may not want their children to be aware of these current events and therefore if you would **not** like your child/ren to be part of this session I would be grateful if you could email the office by **Monday 14th**. We will reassure our children that if they are worried or have any questions then they can speak to a member of staff or to their family at home. For our younger children, we will only speak to them about this situation if they ask any questions and will encourage them to talk to you so you can decide how much you wish to share.

Trips & Special Events

On a more positive note, Larks class really enjoyed their recent visit to the local library in Bury St Edmunds. They had the opportunity to travel by bus, listen to a story, design a book cover and bring back some books to share in school. We are most grateful to the parents who supported us and to Mrs Masson for helping to organise this trip. The children had a wonderful time and were keen to talk and share their experiences on their return to school.

Robins class have also enjoyed their visit to St. Edmundsbury Cathedral as part of their local history study about St Edmund. They thoroughly enjoyed performing their own version of the story of St Edmund, exploring the cathedral and searching for signs and symbols of St Edmund. The children also had the opportunity to visit the Abbey ruins and use their creative skills to make their own wolf masks. An informative and exciting day for everyone! Please look at our school Facebook page for photographs of both events.

World Book Day

I wanted to thank all our children, staff and parents for making World Book Day so successful this year at Great Whelnetham. The children really enjoyed sharing their wooden spoon character creations and they talked so confidently about the stories and books that inspired them to create these. They were able to complete a variety of different activities on the day to celebrate their favourite books. The children had the opportunity to take part in a live event book show with authors Michael Rosen and Catherine Raynor as well as learning the World Book Day song. It was an absolute joy to see the children so happy to share their reading experiences and we are so pleased that they were confident to recommend books to each other. Well done team!

Red Nose Day – Friday 18th March

We will be raising money for this wonderful charity this month and therefore, for a voluntary £1 donation, we would like to invite the children to come into school dressed in non-uniform, wearing something red and if they have one, their red nose.

Welcome

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Lylah and her family to Great Whelnetham C of E Primary School. Lylah has joined Larks class this half term and it has been a pleasure to have her join our school

Parent Consultations

You will be receiving your child's time for your spring term consultation appointment in the next few days. These will take place on Monday 28th March and Wednesday 30th March. We will be arranging after school and evening appointments and will ensure that the time that we provide is convenient for you.

Term Dates

Please note that our last day will **Thursday 7th April** as we have a PD day on the Friday.

As always, thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions or would like to discuss any matters, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or myself.

Best wishes,

Claire Flatman
Executive Headteacher