



# Great Whelnetham Primary Newsletter



October 2019

## Spy Missions, Shackleton and West Stow!



It was delightful to see such happy and excited children returning from their school visits. Year 5 and 6 had a fantastic time at "Spy Missions" and impressed the guides at the Scott Polar Institute with their knowledge of Shackleton's journeys! They have been developing their knowledge of espionage in maths (ask them about the Pigpen cypher!)

Year 4 had a lovely time at West Stow and have learnt more about Anglo Saxon life. School Visits are so important to enhance pupils' learning— thank you so much for supporting these. We are so proud of the excellent behaviour of our children.



## Larks and Robins trip to Framlingham Castle

On Wednesday 9th October Larks and Robins went on an 'adventure' to Framlingham Castle. The children (and staff!) were very brave and explored the high wall! It was so rewarding to see all the children thoroughly engaged and using their knowledge to name parts of the castle. We walked around the castle in the moat so the children had an appreciation of just

how large the castle was. The weather was incredibly kind which enabled us to have a lovely picnic lunch. We were incredibly proud of all the children as they behaved exceptionally and were a credit to the school. We even had comments from the public acknowledging the children's excellent behaviour! Claire Masson, Educational Visit Leader



### A message from Mrs Barrow

It has been a good first half of the Autumn term and I regularly observe lessons to ensure our children are making progress in their learning and teacher's expectations of pupils are high. I have had to remind children this term that we only ever use "kind hands"- meaning that we should never hit or hurt others. Can I please remind parents that pretend wrestling and play fighting have no place in school and that this quickly escalates into inappropriate behaviour. Please ensure that home and school are delivering a consistent message about this— I will be monitoring behaviour on the playground and dealing with this appropriately if I see it again! We want safe and happy playtimes.

## Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day!

Apologies— we know it is far too early to be mentioning Christmas....but I'm afraid we are going to!

10th December will be our Christmas School Lunch and on that day the children can wear Christmas jumpers. Can pupils please bring in a donation on that day (£1 suggested) to support Save the Children.

More festive news on the way....  
Including the Nativity Play for 2019!



## Wrap around care and the school breakfast club and Mrs Eves

Just a reminder...Cygnets provide before and after school care for children and through their provision we offer an extended school day from until.

Mrs Eves will be leaving the school shortly after half term and because of this and falling numbers attending we will not be running a school breakfast club and more.

If you do need before care provision please speak to Cygnets who we work closely in partnership with.

We wish Mrs Eves every happiness and success in the future and thank her for the time she has worked at the school.



## Special Lunch Menu

Thank you for supporting our initiative to encourage the take up of school dinners. The lucky winners were: Ellie in Robins Class and Tommy and Poppy in Larks Class.

*Now that the weather is getting colder can you please remember to send pupils in with a water proof coat. Also please ensure that we have up to date mobile phone contact details for you because in the event of closure of the school we will send a text message to parents to inform you about this as soon as we can.*  
*Thank you!*



## School Meals

Thank you for all the positive comments we have received following the introduction of the School Money Service. It is good to see a system that works well for us both. With so many more online payments there is far less cash in school but this does mean that it can be tricky sending home change if the correct money has not been sent in.

Starting after half term, if you are unable to send in the correct money for lunches, we will simply bank the full amount paid in and this in turn will credit your account with School Money. You will be able to check on the balance at any time when you log on to School Money and top it up as you wish.

## School Dinners



## Harvest Festival Church Service 2019

We hope many family members will join us for the Harvest Festival service **in school** at 9.30am on Friday 18th. Donations of non-perishable food items most welcome!



## Reading at home

Can we please emphasise how important it is to read with your child at home. Even a couple of minutes every other day makes an incredible difference to pupils progress. We aim to read with children in school as much as we can– but support from home is vital and we really appreciate this and cannot stress what a significant difference it makes. Thank you for your support!



## Diary Dates for Autumn Term 2019

### October

|                        |          |   |
|------------------------|----------|---|
| Monday 14th            | 3.30-6pm | Parents' Evening                                  |
| Friday 18th            | 9.30am   | Harvest Festival                                  |
| Mon 21st–<br>Fri 25th  | All week | Half Term   |
| Mon 28th–<br>Weds 30th | 3 days   | Year 4 and 5 visit to Horstead Residential Centre |

### December

|              |                |  |
|--------------|----------------|--|
| Tuesday 3rd  | TBC            | Christingle Services                     |
| Tuesday 10th | 12             | Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day |
| Thurs 12th   | 2pm and 5.30pm | Nativity Plays                           |
| Fri 13th     | 2.30pm         | Rock Steady Concert                      |
| Fri 13th     | TBC            | PTFA Disco at the Village Hall           |
| Weds 18th    | All day        | Last day of term for pupils              |

### January

|             |         |                          |
|-------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Tuesday 7th | All day | First day of Spring term |
|-------------|---------|--------------------------|

**PLEASE NOTE: We have a PD day on Thursday 19th December and Monday 6th January**