



Thursday 14 February 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Spring Term Newsletter – Term 1

We've had a really great start to our Spring Term and students have settled back really well into the routine of school life after the Christmas break.

We'd like to give you an update on what we've been up to during the last few weeks, as well as what we have planned for the second part of the Spring Term and we'd like to start with a few "wow" moments that we've had in Secondary Phase and Primary Phase.

Hilltop Residential

At the beginning of February, several of our secondary students and staff all enjoyed a fantastic three days at Hilltop Outdoor Centre in Norfolk, on the first residential of the year. Despite the weather being a bit damp and cold, 26 secondary pupils and 10 staff all took part in numerous activities and had a fantastic time.

Alice In Wonderland

On Thursday 7th February The 'Mad Hatters Tea party' was held in primary phase, hosted by Dragonfly Class, Mrs Pembery and Ms Seccombe and pupils who go to story club.

In preparation, the children had made top hats and they had been to charity shops to source fine china tea cups, saucers and tea pots.

Both Mrs Ydlibi and Mrs Ives were seated at a table that was set out, and decorated like something from a film set, with many props and characters from the story. The planning and resulting outcomes of this activity were extremely impressive. The children had been taught to use soft conversational voices, remain seated, pour tea, serve cakes from cake stands and drink from tea cups (straight backs and an extended little finger as one does!) They chatted with humour and with conversation that would put many a mainstream children's party to shame.

It was a most civilised affair. Children will remember this event and can begin to demonstrate these skills in other settings. This was a very proud moment for us to experience. The children were a delight and have risen to high expectations, demonstrating their developing levels of oracy through the story stimulus 'Alice in Wonderland'.

Young Writers Competition

Some of our Hawk class pupils took part in a Young Writers competition entitled "Spooky Sagas" which was launched to inspire pupils aged 7-11. Pupils from all schools, mainstream and special, were challenged to use their writing powers to create a mini saga in just 100 words, to write a spine-tingling tale that used atmosphere and suspense, from things that go bump in the night to Halloween pranks.

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Entries were submitted and the Young Writers team reviewed them all, choosing the best to be published in a book. We are absolutely delighted to confirm that two of our pupils' entries, Renato and Oliver, have been selected to be published in "Spooky Sagas – Cambridgeshire" and would like to congratulate them on this fantastic achievement – we can't wait to see the publication!

Visiting Artist

At Christmas we welcomed back the fantastic mixed media and movement artist, Usha Mahenthiralingham, to work on a Saxon themed project with our students. Usha came into the school for several dates throughout December and, this week, will be coming back to school to put the finishing touches to the piece, with the help of students. We look forward to seeing the piece displayed in our reception area very soon.

Community Café: Friday 1st March

Our next Community Café is planned for Friday 1st March 2019. These events are proving to be popular with all and provide an opportunity to build strong home-school relationships and develop a strong school community. The next café is now open to both Secondary and Primary parents and pupils and will be hosted by Hawk Class. A separate letter with full details has been sent out.

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

Once again we'll be celebrating World Book Day, which this year is on Thursday 7th March. Whilst we won't be dressing up this year, we will be marking the event with some book themed activities throughout the school and look forward to a great day.

Red Nose Day Activities: Friday 15th March and Autism Awareness Week: 1st – 7th April

We are busy planning activities for both of these events, which includes arranging for a speaker on autism to come into the school, and we will communicate more details to you nearer the time.

Meetings with Staff

If any parents would like to meet with teachers, or any of the leadership team, please may we ask that you call or email us, on the contact details shown above, to arrange an appointment. Additionally, Primary parents also have the opportunity of a five minute handover in their child's class playground. All messages will be forwarded through to the appropriate person.

Dates for your diary

The attached dates will be added to the school calendar on the website. We will notify parents of any additional dates or amendments, where applicable, with as much notice as possible and specific details will be released nearer to each event.

Welcome back

We look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on **Monday 25th February**, after their half term break, and of course more exciting times ahead!

Yours sincerely



Mrs T Ydlibi
Executive Principal



Mrs L Ives
Head of School

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DIARY DATES SPRING TERM 2

| FEB | ACTIVITY | DATE | CLASS |
|------------------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| | Return Back to School after the half term break | Monday 25th February | Whole School |
| MAR | Community Café hosted by Hawk Class | Friday 1st March | Whole School |
| | World Book Day | Thursday 7th March | Whole School |
| | Local Community Themed Trip | Tuesday 12th March | Class 13 & Class 15 |
| | Red Nose Day | Friday 15th March | Whole School |
| | Ferry Meadows Walk with a Drink Trip | Wednesday 27th March | Half Termly Reward Trips for Year 7 & 8 |
| | Ferry Meadows Walk with a Meal Trip | Friday 29th March | Mindset for Learning Reward Trip |
| APR | Autism Awareness Week | Monday 1st - 7th April | Whole School |
| | Woodgreen Animal Shelter / Exotic Pet Refuge (TBC) with drink & a snack | Monday 1st April | Mindset for Learning Reward Trip |
| | Wildwood Meal and Cinema Experience | Tuesday 2nd April | Mindset for Learning Reward Trip |
| | Reward Trip to Showcase | Tuesday 2nd April | Hawk Class |
| | Bowling at Hollywood Bowl with Meal | Wednesday 3rd April | Mindset for Learning Reward Trip |
| | Lazertag Trip | Thursday 4th April | Half Termly Reward Trips for Year 7 & 8 |
| | Escape Room Experience | Friday 5th April | Mindset for Learning Reward Trip |
| | Break up for the Easter Holidays | Friday 5th April 2019 | Whole School |
| Pupils return back to school | Tuesday 23rd April 2019 | Whole School | |

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Foundation Trust

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A list of Directors is available for inspection at the registered office, Greenwood House, Private Road No 2, Colwick Quays Business Park, Nottingham NG4 2JY. Further information about us is available at <http://www.greenwoodacademies.org>