



FRIDAY 21ST JULY 2023

School Newsletter



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Dear Parents,

As we come to the end of a fantastic summer term, on behalf of the staff and governors I would like to thank you all for your support in what has been another successful academic and sporting year; it has certainly been a busy but rewarding one.

Today, we have said goodbye to our Y6 who move on to secondary school. We are incredibly proud of them all and would like to wish them good luck. We have attached photographs of today's special leavers' celebrations.

Today we also say goodbye to Miss Boon, Miss Campling, Mr Kitchener and Mrs Swann, although we are very sad to say goodbye, we wish them all the best in their individual adventures. Miss Campling and Mrs Swann will still be joining us from time to time on a supply basis so they will not be strangers!

We also say a fond farewell to our TA's Mrs Boyce, Mrs Farr and Mrs Potter. I know you will all join us in wishing our teachers and teaching assistants well and thanking them for all they have contributed to our school community.

We are delighted to be welcoming Mrs Craig (YR), Miss Baker (Y5), Miss Davis (Y4), Miss Read (Y3) & Miss Strudwick (Y6). We are look forward to introducing you to our new teachers and I know you will join us in making them feel very welcome at GTPS.

Stay safe, enjoy the break and I look forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday 5th September ready for another year.

Regards,

Sarah Vass - Headteacher



New school start time

As previously advised, the Department for Education has informed state funded schools that their expectation is for all children to be in school for a minimum of 32.5 hours a week.

In September, we will be starting the school day 5 minutes earlier at **8:50 am**. I hope this will have a minimal impact on most parents as the school doors will continue to open at 8:35 am and children can enter from that time.

P.E. Days for September

KS1 children should come to school in their P.E. Kit on their allocated P.E. days for September - confirmed as follows:

Reception	Tuesdays and Thursdays
Y1	Wednesdays and Fridays
Y2	Mondays and Wednesdays

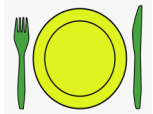
P.E. sessions will involve a variety of activities in September, and these could involve both outdoor and indoor sports on both of the P.E. days. Shorts can be worn underneath jogging bottoms if preferred.

YR - Trikes Do you have any of these in good condition that you no longer need and could possibly be donated to YR?



Week starting Tuesday 5th September 2023:

Please also find attached our NEW 3 week rotation menus for the Autumn term, with effect from September.



Diary Dates:

Summer Holidays - 24th July to 1st September

INSET Day - 4th September (**Uniform Shop will be open**)

First school day of 2023/24 Academic Year - 5th September

For ease of reference, please find attached another copy of the 2023/24 school calendar including GTPS INSET days.

PTFA Summer Fete

Thank you for working with us on the 'plan B' Summer Fete. After many lucky years of glorious sunshine it was very disappointing not to be able to run the full event and we do appreciate how much hard work goes into the planning stages. We are glad to hear so many of the children still enjoyed the scaled down event and well done to our inventive Y6 stallholders! Thanks once again to all the children, parents and staff for the support. Special thanks to Jo Lakin who is stepping down as PTFA Treasurer after a number of years in the role.



Autumn Term Clubs:

Please look out for full details via Parentmail. Club sign up via Google Forms will be required by 4th August.

KS1 Swimming Helpers - A big thank you!

Thank you to all our KS1 swimming helpers this year, without you the KS1 lessons would not be possible and the children have really enjoyed their 10 weeks of swimming this term.



Thursday 6th July -Friendly Football Match -Boys' and Girls'

Woodham Walter Primary School asked us for a friendly football match against their developing girls' team and their boys. The matches were held at Beacon Hill Football Ground.

We were unfortunate not to score in either match but we all had fun with some children not having played together before. There were some excellent performances, some great saves (well done Ollie!) and big smiles too.

Thanks to Mr Bennett for helping to organise the team and to Rachel Harwood for coaching the girls' team. Thank you to Mr Kitchener for refereeing and families for supporting the event. Special thanks too to Stuart Harwood for preparing the pitch.



Fun Rounders Festival

On Tuesday 11th July we hosted a celebration end of year rounders tournament. Six teams were entered from our school, Maldon Court, Heybridge and St Francis Primary Schools.

It was such a fun afternoon with lots of cheery support, matches were close and we celebrated St Francis winning the 1st/2nd place play off with ice pops for everyone which Beacon Hill kindly provided us with - they were most welcome!

We are again very grateful to Stuart Harwood at Beacon Hill Football Club for preparing the rounders pitches for us - thank you so much.





Tennis News

Wickham Bishops Tennis Club have been in touch to share with you the below photo from the WBTC Summer Tournament.

Kath Welsh, WBTC Head Coach, presents the Davidson Cup to the winner of the 10 & Under Final, Keelan (Y5)!

The runner up is Lucas (Y4) who put up a noble fight.

In Kath's words they played some "truly magnificent tennis" with Keelan proving the winner in straight sets. At only 10 years old Keelan also beat the WBTC top 14 & Under seed in straight sets in the first round of the U14 open. An inspiring talent!



Please share any local team or individual success stories with us, it is wonderful to hear of the children's exciting news and achievements outside of school.



PLEASE ALSO SEE SEPARATE PE & SPORT NEWSLETTER

Friday 21st July 2023 - Leavers' Picnic and Presentation Assembly

The children enjoyed a morning of fun and games outside followed by a picnic lunch of chicken/vegetable goujons, skinny fries and an ice lolly on the field.

The Y6 parents then arrived for the Leavers' Presentation Assembly on the KS2 upper playground. The children were 'clapped goodbye' with a guard of honour featuring the other year groups.



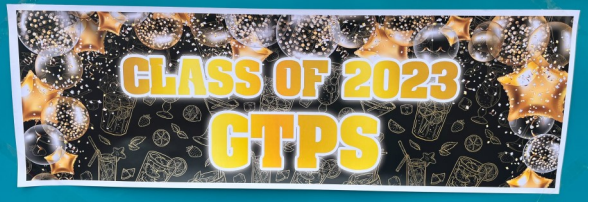
GTPS AWARDS

In our Leavers' assembly each child in Y6 receives a personalised certificate. In addition we present three special awards. This year they go to;

English - Tammy

Maths - Vanessa

And Archie received the Glenn Foster Endeavour Award.



We will really miss our Y6 leavers and we wish them all the very best of luck starting at their new secondary schools in September.

Y6 LEAVERS 2023