



FRIDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2023

School Newsletter

www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk

2023

Dear Parents,

We hope this week's Parent Consultations were helpful and you enjoyed looking through your child's school work.

We are excited to let you know that building work has now commenced on our brand new multi-use changing rooms. The swimming pool and surrounding area is also having a refurbishment and both projects will be completed in time for the start of swimming season. Mrs Priest will be returning to teach 10 weeks of swimming to all year groups from the beginning of May, further information to follow. As always, we will be reliant on a number of parent helpers for the KS1 lessons. Please contact the school office if you would like to volunteer, we like to start this process early as a DBS check will be required in advance.

Wishing you all a lovely half term break, a reminder that the children return to school on Wednesday 22nd February.

Kind regards,

Sarah Vass Headteacher

E-safety resources - TIKTOK

Please read the attached guidance for Parents and Carers.

Information about risk and reward of apps, games and other technological features are readily found on the internet via sources such as Childnet (www.childnet.com), Common Sense Media (www.common sense media.org) and EST Training ('The 2 Johns': www.esafetytraining.org).

If you are concerned about an aspect of your child's online safety, and would like advice, please contact their class teacher in the first instance.



World Book Day - Thursday 2nd March!

This year we are participating in World Book Day and would like the children to dress up as their favourite book character. This could be from ANY book that they have read, **but not just film characters please.**

Please talk to your child about what ideas they have for dressing up as they will need to be able to talk about their book character. Costumes do not need to be bought especially or elaborate. This is a link below to help with ideas.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up-ideas/> We know that some children do not like to wear non-uniform, we support their individual choices.

If you need any further help please ask your class teacher.



Car Park

A reminder that there is no access to the school site via the school car park gate except for disabled access. Please use the main gate by The Lodge.

The car park is reserved for school staff and blue badge holders only. This includes at after school club pick up time and/or after school events.

Week starting Wednesday 22nd February:

Spring Menu - Week 3



Diary Dates:

13th to 17th February - Half Term

20th February - INSET day

21st February - INSET day

20th February - NHS Communication Station held at GTPS - 9.30-11am (registration from 9am)

1st March - YR & Y6 NHS Heights and Weights check

2nd March - World Book Day

7th March - Zones of Regulation drop in (2-3.15pm)

7th March - YR Outdoor Learning

20th March - NHS Communication Station held at GTPS - 9.30-11am (registration from 9am) - *see details above*

21st March - Y6 Outdoor Learning

21st March - Y5 Mayan Day

29th March - Y4 Production to Parents (6pm)

30th March - Y3 Showcase (Timing TBC)

3rd to 14th April - Easter Holidays

21st April - YR & Y5 Road Safety

(Please check the Newsletter each week for diary updates)

NHS Communication Station held at GTPS

20th February and 20th March 9.30-11am (registration from 9am)

Full details here:

<https://providechildrenandfamilyservices.co.uk/services/childrens-speech-language-therapy/>

The sessions are for parents who are concerned about the speech and/or language skills of their **Reception age or pre-school child.**

Choir

Mr Kitchener and other GTPS staff members took the choir club to Wembley Arena on Tuesday 7th February for Young Voices 2023 – the largest children’s choir concerts in the world! After many weeks of rehearsals, the children put on a wonderful performance alongside hundreds of other schools to a packed out crowd of tens of thousands!

‘When we first got on the coach, we were really excited. There were so many people around when we got there! The experience was awesome. We were singing and dancing the whole time. Being in Wembley Arena was such a great opportunity. The singing sounded lovely and the dancing was excellent. All the flashing lights were so cool. We really enjoyed seeing all the other acts too. We so were so surprised that we performed with famous people on the stage!’

Matilda, Madeleine and Freya - Year 4



Sports News

Y5/6 Football Match

On Thursday 2nd February we were invited to play a football match against Wentworth Primary.

It was a close match with the children trying out different positions, a hand ball by Wentworth gave us a penalty but it was saved by their keeper.

A goal from Noah (his first ever) with a cool celebration, made the final score 2-1 to Wentworth.

An enjoyable afternoon with great team spirit.

