



'I will instruct you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.' Psalm 32:8

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Summer Term! We hope you enjoyed quality family time during the Easter break. We have loved hearing about children's holiday news and seeing them excited about their learning for the term ahead. Huge thanks to those who have donated sports equipment for use at lunchtimes - this will make such a difference to the children. Now that the better weather is here, we will be using the school field at lunchtimes.

### **Julian's Memorial Service**

A memorial service for Julian Thompson will be held at St Mary's Church, 2pm on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Mrs Stibbon and Mrs Nash will be there to present a book of memories made by staff, children and governors. We would also like to children to sing JOY and Shine on me. Please bring your child(ren) to the church for 1.45pm on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April if they would like to join us in singing and presenting the book of memories to Julian's family.

### **STAFF NEWS**

Mrs Stibbon will be absent for the second half of the Summer Term. Mrs Stibbon is having an operation that means she will be recovering before coming back to work (fighting fit) in September. During this time, Mrs Stephens and Mrs Beardall will cover. We are delighted Mrs B has kindly agreed to step in during this time. Mrs B has remained an active part of the GM & H Federation governing body so is fully up to speed with the two schools. We know you will join us in wishing Mrs Stibbon well and a speedy recovery!

It is with a heavy heart I inform you that I will be leaving at the end of the Summer Term. Whilst I was not actively looking for a new job, an opportunity has arisen and I have accepted a job at another school. I feel extremely privileged to have worked for our Federation over the past five years. These are special schools with a lovely family feel. I look forward to making the most of my time here as we enjoy an action packed Summer Term. Mrs Stibbon will take on the role of Headteacher fulltime from September and we are delighted about the stability and consistency this will bring. Mrs Stephens x

# Week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023

This week's learning highlights:

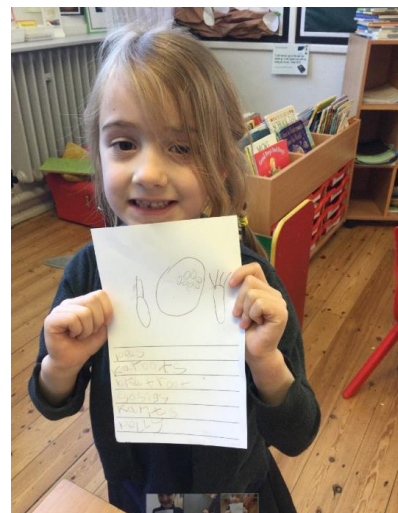
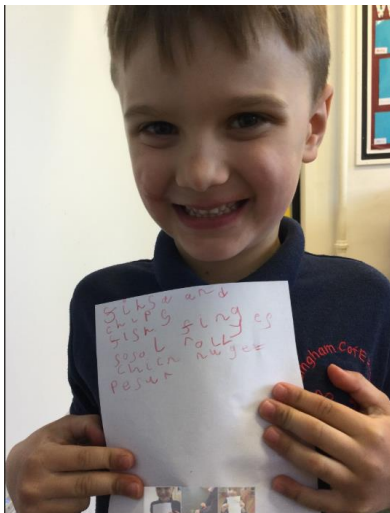
News from Infants (Reception, Y1 and Y2)

Reception and Year 1 have returned to school after the Easter break with bundles of eagerness to explore our new theme. We have enjoyed sharing ideas and discussing possible activities for our learning across the new theme too. Our role play area is now a beachside cafe and we have seen some fantastic independent writing as the children take each other's orders for food. During Maths we have been counting in twos and exploring doubles. Reception even covered the carpet area with counters placed in doubles. A lovely week back altogether!

Year 2 have returned in great spirits for the new summer term! They have all shown a positive attitude to their learning, worked hard and displayed great team skills.

The children enjoyed writing their own newspaper reports based on the story of the Snail and The Whale and got stuck into weighing objects using scales in their maths.

They have thrown themselves into their new theme based on the seaside by exploring seashores in the past, we have all been amazed by how much they have changed to now!



### News from Juniors (Y3, Y4, Y5, and Y6)

A fabulous start to the term this week with the 3's and 4's coming in refreshed and excited to get started their learning. Sounds like they all had a lovely Easter! Well done Oscar and Ralph who climbed the tallest peak in England, Scafell! What an achievement!

Mrs Cross brought in a mystery bag and in turn we had to guess as to the objects it contained. These objects were linked to the story Danny Champion of the World Roald Dahl. We enjoyed analysing the front cover and predicting what the story was about.



Year 5 & 6 had a brilliant first week back at school! It has been lovely to hear about the children's holiday, it sounds like they got up to a lot of fun and chocolate! This week Year 5 & 6 found out about one of the books we will be reading, 'The Lost Whale' By Hannah Gold. We launched the book on Tuesday with the children digging for sea creates in blue gelli baff, we had varying reactions to it with descriptions such as: 'satisfying', ' crystal-like' 'squidgy' and 'fluffy', while others described it as 'rancid', 'gloopy', 'strange' and 'disgusting'. Opinions were mixed. They enjoyed searching for the creatures and now have these on their desks for the term. We talked about our love for animals and how zoos and sanctuaries can help wildlife, by protecting them and providing opportunities for research that could lead to helping endangered animals.

### SUMMER TERM DATES

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July

***Please note Bank Holidays in May: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and Monday 8<sup>th</sup>.***

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May - Coronation dress up day: come to school in red, white and blue or commonwealth flag colours.

Coronation picnic on the field: all parents and families invited to bring their lunch and a blanket/chair! The school lunch option that day will be a Coronation Picnic - menu attached

The usual Fish & Chip Friday menu will be the lunch option on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May.

# ★ STARS OF THE WEEK ★

**Year R & 1:** Ralphy for or your fantastic attitude to learning and for sharing your brilliant ideas!

**Year 2:** Lillie for an amazing attitude to her work, great independent learning and being such a positive role model

**Years 3/4:** Ruby for a wonderfully positive attitude and helping others.

**Years 5/6:** Floss for great descriptive vocabulary.

## VISION, VALUES & COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This week we took a democratic approach to appoint our Value Leaders for the term. These children help plan and deliver our collective worship and promote our school vision and values. One element these children consider is how we can be more environmentally friendly. I look forward to updating you on this throughout the term.

We launched our Value for Life: HOPE

Our 5 Core Values:



## REGULAR DATES

**Monday:** 1.00pm to 2.00pm Music with Estelle from the Music Service

**Tuesday:** 3.30pm onwards - Benjamin Howell, piano lessons

1.00pm onwards Stef Judd, piano and guitar lessons

**Thursday:** Juniors PE - Junior children to come to school in their PE kit.

**Friday:** PE (Juniors and Infants) with Rob from ICS Coaching - children to come to school in PE kit.

## PE KIT

Please be reminded that children should attend school in the correct PE kit.

Infants:	Boys and Girls	White 'T' shirt and plain dark shorts/leggings Trainers, preferably with Velcro fastenings Dark blue or grey tracksuit Optional, PE Skirt/Skort
Juniors:	Boys and Girls	White 'T' shirt and plain dark shorts/leggings Trainers Dark blue or grey tracksuit Optional, PE Skirt/Skort
Swimming	Boys Girls	Trunks and swimming hat One-piece costume and swimming hat

PE kit with the school logo can be purchased from the PFA. Uniform order forms are held in the school office, for any queries contact Mrs Kerri Turner

## ATTENDANCE

Our attendance target is 96%

	Infants	Juniors	Overall
March	94.3%	95.7%	95.0%
February	94.7%	96.5%	95.2%
January	94.6%	96.8%	95.9%
December	92.9%	95.2%	94.3%

Have a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,

Mrs Stibbon, Mrs Stephens and the Great Massingham team

Website: [gmhfed.norfolk.sch.uk](http://gmhfed.norfolk.sch.uk)

