Great Massingham CE Primary School
Living, Learning & Flourishing

WEEKLY NEWS AND INFORMATION

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

Congratulations to the year 5 & 6 children on completing their bikeability this week in very cold weather! They showed great resilience and perseverance.

Eaton Vale Residential 16th – 18th March 2026 Years 5 & 6
The full cost of the trip is £162.63 per child. Payment can be made through Pupil Asset, there are instalment options available. Please ensure payment is made by 28th February 2026. If you need to discuss payment of the trip do not hesitate to contact Mrs Myhill or the school office.
The residential information is as an attachment to the newsletter email and in hard copy (check your child's bag please).
PLEASE NOTE: the daily timetable on the slides is an example. They will send the confirmed timings to us nearer the time. The activities slide notes the school chooses the activities. There is a slide after showing which activities we are booked for. There is also an activity guide that has been sent out to give more details of each one.
Many thanks to those who braved the poor weather for the parents and carers meeting about this last Friday.

While we are talking about the weather, the cold has finally arrived. We've all been a bit spoilt with the mild weather of late and I just wanted to remind everyone that a warm coat is now needed.

School lunches:
It has come to my attention that a number of children eat very little of their school hot lunch. The pudding is usually well received as I'm sure you can imagine. I have reminded the children that they need to be eating as much of their 'firsts' as they can, so they have the fuel they need for the day and maintain a healthy balance. There is often a lot of food waste with several dinners almost untouched as they go in the bin. We need your help here to make sure we are reducing waste and reducing the hunger pangs in the afternoon. If your child has a hot lunch, please go through the menu with them and help them identify which meals they like. A big thank you in advance.
The menus are on our school website or ask the school office for a copy if required.

Christmas Nativity Play
Please accept our apologies for a confusion with times for the Christmas service. The Christmas church service with nativity and carols is 1.30-3pm (Tuesday 9th December). There was an error in a recent letter detailing this.

TERM DATES

Autumn Term 2025	Spring Term 2026	Summer Term 2026
Wednesday 3rd September – Friday 19th December (Half term – Monday 27th October – Friday 1st November)	Tuesday 6th January – Friday 27th March (Half term – Monday 16th – Friday 20th February)	Tuesday 14th April – Friday 17th July (Half term – Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May)

DATES FOR THE DIARY

28th November - Bikeability Level 1 (yrs 3 & 4).
9th December - Nativity & Carol Service 1.30pm.
11th December – Christmas Jumper Day.
18th December – Christmas Lunch.
18th December – PFA Christmas Disco at Great Massingham Village Hall. 5.00-7.00pm.
19th December - Last day of term.
22nd December – Active Education activity day at Harpley Primary School.
6th January – First day of term.

REGULAR DATES

Mondays: Guitar lessons with Toby Rideout. To sign up please contact Toby via email toby@rideoutmusic.co.uk
Tuesdays: PE with Active Education – All children to come to school in PE Kit.
Afterschool Club, run by Active Education. https://activeeducation.info/
Wednesdays: Year 3 & 4 children to come to school in PE kit.
Drum lessons with Tom Relihan. To sign up please contact Tom via email tomrelihan@gmx.com
Thursdays: Infant children to come to school in PE kit,
Fridays: Year 5 & 6 to come into school in PE kit.
Afterschool Club, run by Active Education. https://activeeducation.info/

Attendance

Our Attendance Target is 97%.			
Attendance	INFANTS	JUNIORS	OVERALL
October	96%	96%	96%



VISION, VALUES & COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

In collective worship this week the senior value leaders have led their own worship on the values of kindness and compassion. This is a big responsibility and both schools rose to the challenge. Well done to our year 6 value leaders on both sites for a great job!
The children will be visited by GENR8 next week at both sites. They are a collective worship group that delivers special worships at key times and this one will be focused on the birth of Jesus.

Our School Vision is: " I will instruct you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you" (Psalm 32:8).

Our 5 Core Values:



Kind regards and have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Myhill and the Great Massingham team

Please remember to use easyfundraising every time you shop online. Over 8,000 retailers will donate to us, including all the big names like eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, ASOS, Expedia, M&S, Just Eat, Uswitch and many more! This means you can raise FREE donations for Great Massingham school no matter what you're buying.

If you haven't signed up to support us yet, it's easy and completely FREE. These donations really help us, so it would be great if you could take a moment to get started!

Newly registered app users will receive £2 donated to their cause during the month of November.



Great Massingham Short Story Competition

Children aged **5–11** are invited to enter the *Great Massingham Short Story Competition 2025*!
Write an original story of up to **500 words** for the chance to win a **£25 Amazon Gift Voucher** and see your work published in *The Mallard*.
Deadline: Friday 19th December 2025
Winner announced: by 28th February 2026
How to enter:

- Online (preferred): Scan the QR code on the attached poster or visit 👉 https://tally.so/r/mKbK9K
- Or send your story by email to themallardeditor@gmail.com
- Or post to: **6 Abbeyfields, Abbey Road, Great Massingham, PE32 2JE**

Parental consent is required (built into the online form or available separately at www.greatmassingham.net).
For questions, contact: Sarah Harvey, *The Mallard* Editor
✉ themallardeditor@gmail.com | ☎ 01328 823391

News from Infants (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)

As part of our science learning and focus on seasonal change this week in the infants, we have wondered what the terms **migration**, **hibernation** and **adaptation** mean. We researched these terms together and discovered what their meaning. To help embed our understanding we decided to do something to help animals during the winter months and have made a bird feeder to hang in our school garden. To do this we scooped out half of an orange and used lard and birdseed mixed together to create a delicious and helpful food source for birds and other animals who may be 'adapting' or who are preparing to 'hibernate'. Some of us even suggested birds who are about to 'migrate' may eat the food to build their strength for their long journey.

In Maths Year 1 and 2 have compared two-digit numbers and ordered two-digit numbers, using mathematical vocabulary and symbols. Our learning has been embedded through practical exploration using concrete resources and we have explained our understanding to each other too. Reception have looked closely at the mathematical concept of **parts** making up a **whole** and have created some great images to repress this.

As always please do look at our wonderful learning on Tapestry. We really enjoy sharing Tapestry uploads from families too.










News from Years 3 & 4

This week we have taken all the skills we have been practising while reading The Tear Thief and have used them to create our own Tear Thief poems. We have produced some amazing poems full of similes and many of us have also tried our hand at alliteration, rhyme and personification.

We will be making copies of our poems to bring home and share with our families. Look out for these, you will definitely be impressed!

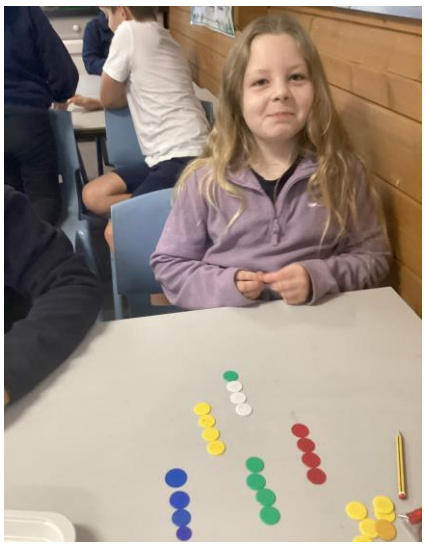
We have begun a new maths topic on multiplication and division and are working hard to learn the pattern of each times table. Alongside our class lessons we are encouraging all Year 3s and 4s to keep using TT Rockstars to help them recall and use times table knowledge.

In art we have been exploring watercolour techniques and combining this with pencil and pen to work on our ongoing theme of dragons.

Lastly, (and perhaps most excitedly) we have begun to learn the songs for the upcoming Christmas performance at the church. We are already giving this our all and singing with great enthusiasm!













Infants: Ottilie, for always being such an enthusiastic and a hard-working learner

Years 3 & 4: Jenson for increased concentration and modelling some good manners.

Years 5 & 6: Noah for his perseverance and determination during in class assessments

News from Years 5 & 6

We have had a busy and exciting week this week, with lots of different activities!

Lots of the class have been completing their bikeability courses this week. Despite the cold weather they have really enjoyed getting outside and practising their existing cycling skills. They all received excellent feedback from the bikeability team and showed great perseverance throughout!

In class we have been making a start on nativity preparations, making decorations for the church and props for the nativity. I have been really impressed with their creativity and determination to make this nativity one to remember!

On Thursday we braved the cold weather and all went for a walk around the village looking for inspiration for our nature-based art topic. We took plenty of pictures, looking out for unusual natural features and landscapes, and are ready to start our sculptures next week!











GREAT MASSINGHAM VILLAGE HALL WHATS ON

Build Your Own Burger Saturdays 4.00-9.00pm. **Norfolk Pie Hole** First Monday of each month 7-9.30pm

Bar open:
Wednesday – Friday 7.00 – 11.00pm
Saturday 4.00 – 11.00pm
Sunday 12 Noon – 6.00pm

27th November. John Julien, Medium. £10.00. 7.00pm.
28th November. Firefighter Quiz. 7.30pm
12th December. Tapping House Bingo. 7.00pm
13th December. Drag Bingo. Tickets £15 7.30pm
17th December. Creative Arts 1.00pm
24th December. Two Hats. Free to members. £2.00 non members. 7.30pm
31st December. New Year's Eve Party in the Bar. Free to members. £2.00 non members. 7.30pm





