

# Garstang Community Primary School



Phone: 01995 603622

e-mail: [head@garstang.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@garstang.lancs.sch.uk)

November 2018

Website: [www.garstangcommunityprimary.co.uk](http://www.garstangcommunityprimary.co.uk)



[Garstangcommunityprimary](https://www.facebook.com/garstangcommunityprimary)



[@garstangprimary](https://twitter.com/garstangprimary)



3

Dear Parents and Children,

As I type this, I am looking out onto the playground on my favourite type of day—beautiful blue sky, winter sunshine and a nip in the air! I think I am one of those strange people who prefer Autumn and Winter to the heat of Summer! However, when I looked out at lunchtime, I did see quite a few children in just their short sleeved polo shirts! We do insist that they go out in a coat at this time of year, but it seems many of them don't feel the cold! Please do make sure that your child's clothes are clearly named, as we do spend an awful lot of time reuniting hats, scarves and gloves with their owners at this time of year!

Christmas is approaching fast—I have spent the afternoon listening to Oak Class play 'Jingle Bells' on their recorders, and Rowan and Willow practising for their Nativity. School will be decorated this week—we have a lovely new knitted Nativity set, donated to school by NISCU, who often come into school to present assemblies to children. In fact they are coming in before Christmas to perform a puppet show for the whole school! The Christmas Postbox will be out by the end of this week, but we do not want you to feel obliged to ask your child to write hundreds of cards! If you want your child to write just one card for the class then that's fine! If your child does want to use the postbox, please make sure that they include the recipient's first and last name, and their class.

Thank you for your continued support.

Stephanie Reeves  
Headteacher

## Children in Need

Thank you for your support! The children LOVED having Pudsey visit school—the excitement levels were high! We raised nearly £500—we can't be any more precise than that as they took some of the money on the day and we have now banked £397. KS2 tackled their quiz really well—I was amazed at some of their general knowledge. If you do have any more sponsor money, please could we have this by Friday 30th November at the latest. Thank you.



## School Admissions

A reminder that places for Reception Class in September 2019 MUST be applied for by January 15th. You must apply, even if you have an older child in the school. Applications can be made at:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-primary-school-place/?page=1>

## Christmas Arrangements

**5th December (2:15pm & 6:00pm):** Acorn Nativity 'Christmas Counts'

**10th (2:00 pm) & 12th (6:00 pm) December:** Rowan and Willow Nativity 'The Nativity'

**11th December:** Secrets' Room

**11th December:** Maple Class Brass Concert 2:30 pm

**12th December:** KS1 Carol Service (St.Thomas's Church) 10:00 am  
School Christmas Dinner

**13th December:** KS2 Carol Service (SS Mary and Michael's Church) 11:00 am. The children will walk to the church ready for the service to start at 11am. **ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP WALK WITH THE CHILDREN TO CHURCH? PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW**

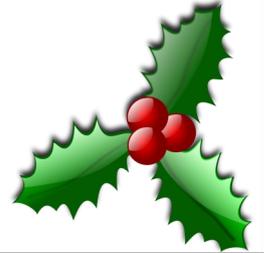
**ASAP IF YOU CAN.**

**14th December:** NISCU Puppet Show

**19th December:** KS1 party—a special visitor has been invited!

**20th December:** KS2 to Dukes—'Peter Pan' (return approx. 4:45pm)

**21st December:** Elf Run in aid of Brian House Children's Hospice—wear a Christmas Jumper/top or Christmas coloured top for £1.00 donation



### A Huge Thank You!

We are massively aware that at this time of year we are always asking you for contributions for Christmas activities, charities, raffles, school photographs, dance costumes, Tower Wood payments, at a time when your purses are already under strain! We really do appreciate all that you do to support the school, and we wouldn't have such lovely resources without your help. Please can we ask that, where possible, you make payments via ParentPay, as with the banking situation we really do struggle sometimes. If we have requested cash, please ensure it is sent into school in an envelope, clearly labelled with your child's name and what the money is for. Thank you

### Mr Dignan

Our new Deputy Headteacher, Mr Dignan, came for a visit on Friday, and hopefully will be back again before Christmas. In January, he will teach Beech Class, and also be the subject leader for Maths and PE. He was welcomed beautifully by the children, and I am sure that he is keen and eager to start!

### Past Pupil Success

I attended Garstang Academy's Presentation Evening, and it was lovely to see so many of our past pupils winning prizes and being spoken of so very highly. I am also delighted to say that 2 of our ex-pupils are now Head Boy and Head Girl. What a great achievement. If you know of any past pupils who are doing particularly well please let us know. It is so lovely to see the people they have become!

### Anti-Bullying Week

During Anti-Bullying Week, the children undertook a range of activities that helped them understand exactly what bullying is, how it can be prevented and how to report bullying—whether it be verbal, physical or online.

Wearing odd socks demonstrated that we are all different and unique. We are really concentrating on kindness in school, and we now have a 'Kindness Tree' in the hall with all of the children's pledges on about how they can be kind, both at home and at school.



### Desperate Plea

As ever, we are still struggling with cover at lunchtime, and are desperate for welfare staff. The job entails ensuring children eat their lunch, keep safe on the playground and organising activities for them to do. The rate of pay is £8.75 per hour, and the hours are 11:50-13:05. If you are at loose end and could possibly help us out, please see Mrs Robinson in the school office. Thank you.

## School Activities and Achievement

Beech Class presented a lovely Harvest Assembly—I wasn't aware of how many words you can make from the word Harvest! Their rendition of Shotgun by George Ezra, with a Harvest theme was inspired. Oak Class then distributed Harvest gifts to our elderly neighbours.



Thank you for all your support for the Book Fair; school received £300 commission which we can now spend on new books.

In November, we received a visit from the Walk to School Team at County. The children had been given the opportunity to design a new Walk to School badge, and Ethan in Beech Class was chosen as the winner. His design has now been made into a badge. We hope the walking shoe didn't terrify you too much!



A group of our Y5/6 boys represented us at Garstang Academy for a Basketball Tournament, which they won! Well done boys!

Mrs Love organised for the Travelling Science show to visit school, and the children were amazed by the science experiments they could undertake using everyday objects around the house. Adrian was incredibly impressed by their science knowledge and vocabulary! Thank you to the PTA for sponsoring this.

The spooky discos were very well attended, with some terrifying costumes. Thanks to the PTA for their hard work.

5 children represented school at the annual Remembrance Day service in Garstang. They had researched 5 of the names on the war memorial, and each planted a cross in remembrance of their soldier. £135.50 was raised by school for the RBL through selling poppy items—thank you for your support.



Our visit from Pudsey was very exciting, and rather exhausting too! The children made a great noise as the rickshaw entered school, ridden by Colin Hendry!

Ash Class have been undertaking a series of lessons entitled 'Healthy Heads', run by Caroline from Fleetwood Town Community Trust. They are learning about how keeping a healthy body helps us to also keep a healthy mind!

Beech Class are undertaking a programme called 'Move and Learn' also run by FTCT, again looking at how leading a healthy lifestyle brings them so many benefits.

Our Year 5/6 girls attended a basketball tournament at GCA, taking part with enthusiasm!



Dance Club were superstars, performing 2 different dances in one week—one at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool, and one at The Guild Hall in Preston. We were so impressed with their talents. Thank you to Miss Julia who worked so hard to choreograph and teach them the routines, and to Mr Wilkinson and Mrs Rump for acting as crowd control during 2 very long afternoons!

Some of our Year 6 children walked to Garstang Library to undertake a session on 'Litcraft' - encouraging reading through Minecraft like activities. They had a great time, building a world from the book 'Kensuke's Kingdom' - they will meet this book

later in the year, and this ground work will really make it come alive for them!

FTFC came in to run a Premier League Primary Stars assembly. Ash talked to the children about the importance of inclusion on the playground, and how we can make playtimes positive for everyone.

A football tournament that had been arranged for our Y5/6 girls at Poolfoot farm was cancelled at the last minute due to rain. Mr Wilkinson was desperate not to disappoint them, so he organised a mini tournament with Pilling St John's School. Although the weather was dreadful, the girls had a great time, and forged some new friendships along the way! Huge thanks to Mr Wilkinson for going above and beyond the call of duty!



ICT  
TOP TIP

Anything you upload, text or post will be on the internet FOREVER, so think twice about your posts. It may affect your future!