

Garstang Community Primary School



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Dear parents and children,

What a busy half term we've had, and only one term left of the school year! We break up for the holidays today and the forecast is amazing for next week—it should feel like we are abroad!

As ever, your children have been amazing this half term. Willow and Oak Class sat their SATs tests with determination to succeed and we were super proud of them. Next term we have Rowan undertaking Phonics tests and Maple doing the Multiplication Check. But they will also be having lots of fun too!

The Children's Festival is almost here and the excitement for the parade is mounting! The Whit competitions have also been taking place, and our under 11s football team are through to the semi-finals on Whit Monday. Come down and give them your support!

Have a great half term. Remember we return to school on TUESDAY 6th June, ready for a very busy last term!

Steph Reeves
Headteacher



Coronation Celebration

On May 5th, we joined with St Thomas' Primary to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. It was a lovely morning—the children had all learned a coronation medley that they sang amazingly well, and we had poetry and prayers. Garstang Town Council had gifted a commemorative 50p coin to all of the children in school, in a special presentation bag. I did emphasise to the children that as it was commemorative, it should be carefully looked after as a special memento (I had visions of Sweets being inundated with 50ps that night!). Huge thank you goes to the Town Council for this special gift.

ParentPay Accounts

Please can we ask that ParentPay accounts are kept in credit at all times. The minimum payment is currently £23, but for every transaction, school is charged a fee of 50p. Although this doesn't seem much, when you multiply this by the number of transactions, it quickly mounts up. After half term, once your account is nearing arrears, we will endeavour to warn you, as we will be unable to provide a hot lunch from the day the account goes into arrears. From September 2023, the cost of a school dinner will rise to £2.50 per day (£12.50 per week). This unfortunately reflects the rising cost of food. Please make sure that if you are entitled to free school meals, you have applied. Information can be found here:

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/?page=2>

School Activities and Achievements

Andrew from Dogs Trust visited to do a whole school assembly and some class workshops around being safe around dogs. There were some really good ideas shared and it was lovely to see how many children really love their dogs!

Garstang Cricket Club have been in working with Years 4, 5 and 6 on their cricket skills. The children have really enjoyed the sessions.



Ash Class enjoyed a trip to Footprint in the Lake District. They had a great outdoors day, strengthening their understanding of the Stone Age. They made axes, worked copper to make sun discs, foraged like hunter gatherers and lit fires. The weather was brilliant and the children were an absolute credit.

Our girls' football team have been busy over the last few weeks in some local league fixtures. They have worked hard and played well and we are very proud of all their efforts.

Debbie from NISCU came into Acorn to support their RE learning, looking in particular at The Bible.



The Whit Cup Football and Netball have been running over the last couple of weeks. Firstly our under 9s took part in their football tournament, winning the majority of their games and coming 2nd place—well done! Then the Under 11s played in the qualifiers—they have got through to the semi-finals to be played on Whit Monday. (Check out Charlie's goal on our Facebook or Twitter pages!). Then the netballers had their turn, and we have so many



budding stars we were able to enter 2 teams to the Whit Cup. They both played amazingly and had a great evening.

Mary and Charles for RNLI came in to talk to the children about staying safe near water. The children learned the 4 rules of water safety—test them to see if they remember them!!

Oak Class are busy preparing for their end of year production on Shrek. Sarah, from Blue Moose Dance, has spent a day with them, supporting their choreography and dance skills. She will be back after half term to help them polish their groovy moves!!

Acorn Class had a great trip to Booths to see how the shop works behind the scenes. They walked to and from school, with lots to see and chatter about along the way. When they got to Booths they got to look in the big fridges and the warehouse. They went in an enormous lift too! They then got to look at, and try some of the produce in the fruit section, and on the cheese counters. They were also very interested by the fish and meat counters too. To finish off, they split into groups to find the items on a shopping list and even got to use the scanners! A fabulous morning out! Thank you Booths!

Oak and Beech classes were lucky enough to be invited to the Science Festival at UCLAN. There were lots of activities, exhibitions and stalls for the children to see and they really learned an awful lot.

The Netballers were also in play at Stanley Park at the annual Bee Stinger Tournament. They won four of their first five games and narrowly lost in the quarter final. They showed brilliant teamwork and supported each other really well.

Sports Day has just finished and what a fabulous morning it was. The weather was perfect, the children were busy all morning and the family picnic always fills my heart with happiness! Thank you to all of the staff for ensuring a smooth running morning, and congratulations to the winners by one point, the Logical Leopards!!!

June

Y4 Multiplication test take place this month

6th	School re-opens (TUESDAY)
8th	Oak Class Dance Day
12th	Y1 Phonics tests this week
12/13th	Oak Class Bikeability
14th	Acorn trip to Humblescough Farm
21st	PTA Fun Day after school
23rd	Willow trip to Leighton Hall
30th	Acorn Class Assembly 9:15am

July

6th/7th	Oak Class trip to London
14th	Oak Class to GCA to watch Matilda
17th/18th	Oak Class Performance 6:00pm
20th	Oak Class Awards Evening 6:00pm
21st	School closes for summer