

# Great Heath Academy Newsletter



Issue 1920.1 | 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019 | <http://www.greatheathacademy.atrust.org.uk> | Tel: 01638 713430

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## Recent Events

**Assemblies:** We are looking forward to our first class assembly, which is coming soon. Recently we celebrated Tootoot's Pupil Voice week. Everyone from Y1 to Y6 created paper dolls which they decorated with positive words. For assembly on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> we made a giant circle on the field and said one positive word after Mr Smith counted down to zero. What an amazing experience! Please continue to encourage your children to use their words for positive change.

**School Council:** Congratulations to our new democratically elected School Councilors – we are looking forward to sharing the positive changes they bring to the academy.

**Sport and Music:** Our football teams have been training hard. Watch out on Twitter and Facebook for results as they come in. Year 5 have all started learning their instruments and greatly enjoying it. They will soon be practicing at home!

**#HelloYellow:** We have been learning about looking after our mental health and wellbeing. On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October we are inviting children to wear yellow to school to raise awareness of Mental Health.

## COMING SOON

- **#HelloYellow**
- **Parent/teacher meetings**
- **Y4 trip to Africa Alive**
- **Half term**



### Academy Staffing

This term we have welcomed Miss Brown, Miss Holden, Miss Hornsby, Mr Skillern, Miss Taylor, Mrs Palmer, Mrs Rice, Mrs Jones, Mr Danes and Miss Smith to Great Heath. They have all made a superb start and it feels like they have always been part of the ever-growing team.

### Academy Improvement

The beginning of a new academic year is always an exciting time. The children arrive with pristine white shirts and shiny shoes looking refreshed after the six week summer break. Staff too arrive back refreshed and ready to 'start again'. This September saw a new Ofsted framework which has shifted away from what they have looked at previously. There is a huge focus on what children are learning alongside their Maths and English along with a focus on reading. We felt quite pleased at Great Heath that we were ahead of the game due to the work we have been putting in over the past year and beyond. If you haven't already seen our new literacy strategy you can view it on the website at:

[www.greatheathacademy.atrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/literacy-strategy-sept-2019.pdf](http://www.greatheathacademy.atrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/literacy-strategy-sept-2019.pdf)

This document outlines how we teach reading and writing and puts high quality texts at the heart of the learning. The feedback from the teachers and pupils has been overwhelmingly positive and everyone has enjoyed experiencing new texts. Accelerated Reader is also establishing itself as an integral part of Great Heath and it is impossible to walk around the academy and not see a child reading a book or taking a quiz. Year 3 are up and running and we will be setting Year 2 children up on this over the year. Later in the term we will have a reading session where you can come in and join your child to read in school.

Our International Primary Curriculum continues to be a highlight as well. There have been a variety of exciting entry points and our first trip takes place in two weeks' time. Do remember to check the website to find out the topic your child is learning about. Why not spend some time researching their topic at the library or on the internet – we would love to see what you have found out.

### Academy Premises

Please could we take a moment to remind parents about parking arrangements. We have made contact with Suffolk County Council regarding the issues in the car park and will continue to monitor this. Remember that this is school property and we must all behave in a manner that we would expect the children to. If there are concerns or incidents please report them straight to the office rather than address them publicly. It has also been brought to our attention that dogs are being left tied up near to gates. Dogs are not allowed on school property. Due to the size of the school there is a huge football leaving from every possible exit; therefore for the safety of the children (remembering many young children are cautious of dogs) and for the welfare of the dogs please refrain from bringing dogs when you drop or collect children. Remember if you do see anything that concerns you please contact the office immediately.

Thank you for your ongoing help and support – we very much appreciate it. Please do not hesitate to contact the school with any questions or comments.  
Naomi Brown (Principal) and Steven Vincent (Executive Principal)

### Dates For Your Diary

Please find general dates for the coming year/s below and details of events that have already been finalised. **We will send out additional diary dates for other events during the year once they have been confirmed.**

Also please check our web site [www.greatheathacademy.atrust.org.uk](http://www.greatheathacademy.atrust.org.uk) for further information about us. You will also find useful links to such sites as our uniform supplier and of course our Twitter Feed as well as have access to our calendar.

### 2019

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October – #Helloyellow day – more details to follow  
W/b October 14<sup>th</sup> ~ Parent/teacher meetings  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October ~ last day for pupils before the half term  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October ~ **INSET day** (3 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December ~ Last day for pupils before the Christmas holiday

### 2020

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January ~ **INSET day** (4 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January ~ School reopens for pupils after the Christmas holiday  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April ~ Last day for pupils before the Easter holiday  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April ~ School reopens for pupils after the Easter holiday  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May ~ May Day – **School closed** (please note change to Bank Holiday)  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May ~ Y6 Statutory Test week (Y6 pupils **MUST** attend school all week – **VERY IMPORTANT**)  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June ~ **INSET day** (5 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June ~ Y1 plus some Y2 Phonics screening (All Y1 and Y2 pupils in school this week please)  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July ~ Last day for pupils before the summer holiday

### New Academic Year

#### 2020

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September ~ **INSET day** (1 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September ~ School reopens to pupils after the summer holiday  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October ~ **INSET day** (2 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December ~ Last day for pupils before the Christmas holiday

#### 2021

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January ~ **INSET day** (3 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January ~ School reopens for pupils after the Christmas holiday  
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February ~ **INSET day** (4 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March ~ Last day for pupils before the Easter holiday  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April ~ School reopens for pupils after the Easter holiday  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May ~ May Day – **School closed**  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May ~ Y6 Statutory Test week (Y6 pupils **MUST** attend school all week – **VERY IMPORTANT**)  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July ~ **INSET day** (5 of 5) for staff – **School closed to pupils**  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July ~ Last day for pupils before the summer holiday