



NEWSLETTER

Dates for Your

DIARY



Tuesday 7th February

Safer Internet Day

Thursday 9th February

Last day for pupils before half term holiday—own clothes day for PTA fundraising

Friday 10th February

PD day—school closed to pupils

Monday 20th February

Return to school

Thursday 2nd March

World Book Day

W/b 27th March

Parent/carer evenings this week

Friday 31st March

Last day of school

Monday 17th April

First day back at school

Monday 1st / Monday 8th May

Bank holidays

Tuesday 9th —Friday 12th May

KS2 SATs week for Year 6 pupils

A message from the

PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents/Carers,

The Spring term has started well with children engaging with their new topics.

Over the Christmas break our art room had a complete refurbishment, with new flooring and storage. As soon as our new art stools arrive, we will use this space for art lessons. We cannot wait to see the amazing artwork the children produce.

Last week we had some enquiries into our assembly programme. I have added this to the website so that you can see what the themes are each week. This feedback has prompted us to have a subject focus in each newsletter. This

month is RE and PSHE. We will also use Classdojo to share with you what we have been looking at in assembly to support you with sharing messages with your child. Our assemblies are an important part of developing our British Values and our academy value of tolerance.

This month we are looking at Esafety as our safeguarding focus to coincide with the upcoming Safer Internet Day.

This term we have said goodbye to Mrs Rice and welcomed Mrs Leonard to our teaching assistant team.

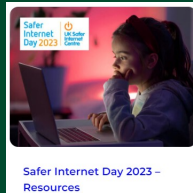
Naomi Brown
Principal



Safeguarding

Safer Internet Day

As you are aware, it is Safer Internet day on Tuesday 7th February and the main theme is "Together for a better Internet". To support this and provide you with up-to-date, and accurate information, Great Heath Academy has exclusive access to the Safer Schools App and this is a reminder that, as a parent, you have access to it.



What is the App?

The Safer Schools App is a digital safeguarding communication and training toolkit. It has been designed by safeguarding professionals to help make the entire school community safer online. The Safer School's App will help you educate, empower and protect your family with access to contemporary, credible and relevant content. Parents often raise concerns around online safety. The app has a whole section on this covering topics like social media, imaging sharing, gaming and harmful content to name a few.

The Safer School app is running a theme as part of the day called 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online.' <https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2023/01/26/safer-internet-day-resources-2023/>

Scan the QR code to download

the Safer Schools App for your device! Alternatively download straight from the App Store or Google Play by searching 'Safer Schools'



Brilliant Buddies

We have completed our buddy selection. This role was open to Year 5 children and the application process reflected that of applying for a job. The children had to fill in an application form, explain why they would make a good buddy. They were then invited to interview by the School Council. The potential buddies were asked a series of interview questions and their answers were written down. At the end of the process the answers were anonymously read out to the school council who scored each response out of 5. They ensured they applied a consistent and fair criteria to the answers. The children with the highest scores were selected as buddies.

It was a busy afternoon selecting and the school council were fascinated to hear that every member of staff who works at the school has gone through a similar process. They said it was hard to choose people.

Our buddies have been allocated a class from Nursery to Y3, who they will visit each week to support with learning or playing. Well done to all who applied and to the interview panel.

Lunchtime fun

We have replaced the lunchtime toys and the children have enjoyed creating new games with the equipment. They have been walking on stilts, flying Frisbees and launching balls in the air!

Our amazing PTA have also been very busy creating wet play boxes. They identified that wet plays can be difficult to resource and wanted the children to have a variety of fun things to do when they couldn't be outside. The children were very excited to learn about this in assembly and be delivered their boxes by the School Council. I don't think we've ever looked forward to wet play before!

A huge thank you to everyone who supported with creating these boxes and especially to the PTA members who have given up a huge amount of their time to make the boxes. The next PTA event is an own clothes day on Thursday 9th February—there will be buckets on the gate to collect any donations.



Quick reminders

Uniform

We are still having children wear a non-uniform hoodie or jumper on PE days—children need to wear their school jumper on PE days. Children must not wear football shoes/boots to school.

Gates

Our gates are locked at 9am. The gate opposite the office will be locked last to ensure everyone gets out. Children must be in school by 8.55am. Our school site is very big and you do need to allow time to get to and from classrooms.

Parking

As you know our car park has very limited space to park. Please be mindful of all members of our community. The disabled bay can only be used by blue badge holders—do not park cars over the yellow markings at all please. If there are any issues please report these immediately to the school office and do not confront other parents

Clubs

Clubs finish the week before half term

After half term we will have the following clubs:

- Sports club— Team Games
- Art club
- Choir
- Football club for Y4—6
- Boosters

Please make sure you sign up and pay for clubs in advance to secure your place

RE

Children learn RE throughout their time at Great Heath from Nursery to Year 6. The aim of our RE curriculum is to teach children about different religions to enable them to think and talk about religions in a sensitive and respectful way. Learning about different religions teach children the British values of mutual respect and tolerance. They learn through the 5 Es: Engage, Enquire, Explore, Evaluate and Express. Throughout their learning journey children will learn about Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism and Humanism.

Our RE curriculum is supported by our assemblies. Each half term we have a theme based around one of our school values. We learn about significant religious festivals from a variety of religions and we also learn about significant people. Our overview is published on our website in the RE curriculum section. Our assemblies are a chance for the school or Key Stage to come together to focus on a value or learn about someone or something new. We welcome outside speakers, including Open the Book who visit each half term to tell a bible story. Schools are required to hold collective worship that is of a broadly Christian character. We ensure that our assemblies allow children to be reflective of the themes we are focusing on and promote British Values regardless of whether the focus is religious.



Great Heath Newsletter

Jan 2023 | 5



GRE-office@attrust.org.uk



01638 713430



greateathacademy.attrust.org.uk



@GreatHeathAcad



Girton Close, Mildenhall, Suffolk, IP28 7PT

PSHE

Our PSHE curriculum is taught through the Jigsaw program. PSHE stands for Personal, Social and Health education and incorporates relationship education. Our PSHE education supports children's Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural learning and supports with promoting the British Values.

Each half term we have an assembly to launch the new Jigsaw topic. Each topic has an associated song that helps the children remember what the theme is about.

Through the lessons children learn how to keep safe and healthy, how to support their own well-being and how to form healthy relationships, among other things. Children learn how to be reflective and self-assess their own learning.

Our assemblies also complement our PSHE curriculum. We look at keeping healthy and keeping safe as well as developing our understanding of our school values: Growth, Resilience, Enthusiasm, Adaptability and Tolerance.

