Weekly Newsletter

Tuesday 14th September 2021

Dear Parents,

A belated warm welcome back to our new school year. I would particularly like to wish a very warm welcome to Annaliese, Bodhi, Caden, Eliza, Grace, Monty, Oscar, Phoebe, Stanley and Tommy, who have joined us in Ducklings Class this year; and also to Damir, Gracie and Ronan, who have joined Sparrows Class; Charlotte, Isaac, Esme and Isla-Mae who have joined Robins Class; and Jacob, Matilda, George and James who have joined us in Woodpeckers. We hope that all of our new families and children will be very happy at Great Tey.

Although we have come back to a greater sense of normality, with an end to 'bubbles', Covid has nevertheless made it's presence felt already this year, with our first positive case amongst the children. We are trying to prevent any outbreak through ventilating the classrooms and continuing with regular handwashing, but please do be vigilant and keep children at home if they are ill, booking a PCR test if you are at all concerned that Covid may be a factor. Home lateral flow tests, whilst useful, are not always accurate and it is worth remembering that they are intended for use in asymptomatic circumstances - where any symptoms are present, PCR tests should be taken. It is also worth remembering that the main symptoms - cough, temperature, loss of sense of taste or smell - have not always been present in children who test positive; sometimes they only show signs of tummy upset or headache. It is all a bit of a quagmire, but at least we can take heart in the fact that Covid no longer seems to be the horrifyingly fatal disease of a year ago - children in particular seem able to catch it without becoming too unwell. I attach a flow chart which may be helpful if you are concerned about what to do about testing and isolating; please do phone if you are worried.

On a more cheerful note, our Y6 children did brilliantly during the Level 2 Bikeability course and many of our younger children also did fantastically well on the Learning to Ride course - well done, everyone!

As ever, all the best to all of you from all of us, Lucy Overton

GREAT TEY Church of England PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Tel: 01206 210415 **Head Teacher :** Mrs Lucy Overton

Diary Dates

New or changed dates in red

Monday 20th September - Clubs start

Tuesday 28th September - non-uniform day in aid of Friends of Great Tey Primary (PTA)

Monday 11th October - Bags2School (black bags of unwanted clothes can be left beside the PTA shed in the days leading up to this, thank you)

Mon 25th October - Friday 29th October - Half Term

Mon 1st November - Non-Pupil / Staff Training Day

Tues 2nd November - School Photographs

Friday 5th November - Flu Immunisations

Friday 19th November - Children in Need Day

Friday 17th December - final day of Autumn term

Tuesday 4th January - Non-Pupil / Staff Training Day

Wednesday 5th January - first day of term

Monday 14th February - Friday 18th February - half term

Monday 21st February - Non-Pupil / Staff Training Day

Friday 1st April - final day of Spring Term

Tuesday 19th April - first day of Summer Term

Monday 2nd May - Bank Holiday

Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June - Half Term

Wednesday 20th July - final day of Summer Term

Thursday 21st July - Non-Pupil / Staff Training Day

Friday 22nd July - Bank Holiday

Please, please put names in children's clothes - we are already building a small mountain of lost property!

PTA News

The PTA have changed their name to

FRIENDS OF GREAT TEY PRIMARY

We will continue to raise money and support the school as we always have, with our current fundraising efforts going towards IT equipment, but by being a 'Friends' group we can now welcome members of our community onto the team as well.

This could be an aunt, uncle, grandparent or friend of a pupil at our school. Members of the local community are also welcome to join us, maybe their child came to the school years ago and they now have some spare time on their hands and would like to volunteer.

You might have a family member who does not live locally but would like to help—there are still things they can help with, research, form filling, contacting local businesses for prizes, creating items to be sold or used as prizes, accounting, advertising, designing, using a skill we do not even know that we need! Or just to join our team to talk though ideas, sell ice creams and be hands on with getting things done!

Please do mention to your friends and family, and of course please consider if you can help —any time or help that can be offered is always appreciated. We hold about 1 meeting each half term, either in the afternoon before pick-up or in an evening at the local pub, although attending a meeting is not essential as we have learnt this past 18 months a lot can be organized over an active What's App group!

If you would like to join us, let us know what you can do to help from afar, or to let us know you will happily help run a stall for half an hour or so at an event, please either message or email your details to us.

Pta.greattey@gmail.com

07506 127657

Cuddly Toys Wanted!

We are looking for good quality cuddly toys for our stall at the church fete. If you are able to donate any, please leave them in sealed black bags (in case of rain!) outside the PTA shed before Friday 17th September, please.

Ice Creams

Ice creams will be on sale after school on Fridays