Guillemont Junior School
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Headteacher: Mr Denis Foster MSc PGCE

Headteacher's weekly newsletter (N°21)
10th February 2023

- Thank you to everyone that attended the parent and teacher meetings this week. We hope you found it informative. As Miss Thomas was not in school this week, her parent's evening will be held sometime after half term when Miss Thomas is back in school. We will notify you of the dates as soon as we can.
- I would like to congratulate Class KT. Miss Thomas has been absent from school and they have coped well with their cover teacher and a supply teacher. We hope Miss Thomas will return after half term.
- Following a meeting with concerned parents, I need to bring to your attention a safeguarding issue regarding the use of the internet at home. Several children in Yr6 are members of a WhatsApp group called Yr6 G and C. This group's membership has been extended to Yr9 pupils. The language and images being shared is not appropriate for our Yr6 children. This is a matter for parents and carers to deal with, so please make an informed decision about this group and monitor what they are doing. There is also another group with a boy's name as the group name. Some of the exchanges are unkind towards other children in our school and I would ask you to also be aware of this and talk to your children about what is being said. I appreciate that many children are not using WhatsApp groups, but this is a good opportunity to remind you that monitoring your children's activities on the internet, and setting parental controls, are really important. Thank you for your support.
- We have noticed that some children are bringing into school Pokémon cards again and this is causing an issue amongst the children. Please keep these cards at home to avoid any disagreements, losses and accusations of stealing. Thank you for your co-operation.
- On Tuesday 21st February 2023 we are offering a themed Pancake Day school meal. The choices available will be Hotdogs and crispers, tomato pasta or a jacket potato with various toppings. Dessert will be pancakes with ice cream or syrup. The cost of a school meal is £2.80. Please see the attached flyer.
- On Wednesday 1st March 2023 Hampshire County Council will notify the parents and carers of Yr6 children which secondary school their child has been allocated for September 2023.
- A letter has been sent out to the parents and carers of Yr4 this week about a day visit planned for Thursday 9th March 2023 to the FAST Museum in Farnborough. Payment for this visit can be made online via Scopay or cash/cheque at the school office.
- A letter has been sent out today with details of our Red Nose Day fundraising event for Comic Relief. We are **not going to be selling the red noses this year**. Instead, the School Council, in conjunction with the FOG Team, would like to organise the sale of t-shirts and decorating them in school to be worn at the school discos in March. Please see the letter for more details.
- A few reminders:
  - Monday 27th February 2023: Yr6 Bikeability training takes place during the week.
  - Wednesday 1st March 2023: KT class assembly. Parents, carers and grandparents are welcome to come along to watch at 2.45pm to 3.15pm in the school hall. Please enter school via reception. Please note there is no class assembly the week we return to school after the half term break.
  - Thursday 2nd March 2023: World Book Day. A £1 book token has been sent home that can be used at any participating bookstores and at our Book Fair.
  - **Thursday 2nd March 2023: The NEU plan to hold a teacher strike day**. We will keep you updated as much as possible as to how this will affect our school.
  - Friday 3rd March 2023 is the Andy Seed author visit. He will be talking to the children about inspiration for their own writing and also enthusing them about the joy of reading. He will also be signing pre-ordered books for the children. Please note that two of the books, 'Interview with Van-Gogh' and 'Interview with a Panda' will not be available until August 2023 and October 2023 respectively. They will still be signed by the author.
  - Friday 3rd March 2023: CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) event at Brighton Hill School, Basingstoke.
  - Thursday 9th March 2023: FOG Uppers (Yr5 and Yr6) Disco. More details will follow.
  - Tuesday 21st March 2023 to Tuesday 28th March 2023: Book Fair in school. Further details to follow.
  - Thursday 23rd March 2023: FOG Lowers (Yr3 and Yr4) Disco. More details will follow.
- Attendance Information: A reminder that 96% attendance and punctuality is the target. Attendance is a focus for the DfE and I will be updating you soon about changes to the way we monitor attendance. It's pleasing to see that attendance is improving following the bout of illness before Christmas. Overall attendance today is 93.2% with the national average being 93.4%.

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W/B. 6th February 2023	
Class	**% Attendance**
MC	98.5%
DB	98.2%
ER	97.7%
SD	97.5%
NB	96.4%
LA	96.0%
KT	95.6%
CJ	94.1%
MP	94.1%
AB	93.0%
YK	92.1%
EA	89.7%
EW	86.7%

- Congratulations to the following children that received an achievement certificate today.
  - Summer Facchini SD
  - Bobby Pitts SD
  - Sofia Pennesi CJ
  - Dominic Pressley CJ
  - George Lock LA
  - Daisy Hall LA
  - Jackson Long ER
  - Lacey O'Connor ER
  - Priscilla King YK
  - Sienna Bertoux YK
  - Harry Barnett EA
  - Oscar Mapp EA
  - Damien Moir NB
  - Rebecca Hapsa NB
  - Esme Mallett MC
  - Max Neumeister MC
  - Class DB
  - Qurat Hyder MP
  - Izzy King MP
  - Drew Crombie AB
  - Poppie Else AB
  - Eva Boorman KT
  - Alfie Hizzey KT
  - Harvey Noble EW
  - Hugo Banks EW

We wish all our children and their families a very enjoyable half term break. We return to school on Monday 20th February 2023.

Best wishes
Denis Foster (Headteacher)