



Great Whelnetham CE Primary School

Stanningfield Road, Great Whelnetham, Bury St Edmunds, IP30 0UA
(01284) 386203

Executive Head Teacher – Mrs. Claire Flatman

Head of School – Mr Bobby Varela

office@greatwhelnethamprimary.org.uk

Website: www.greatwhelnetham.suffolk.sch.uk

6th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are already closing in on the end of this half term. The children and staff have all been working incredibly hard and have thoroughly enjoyed their teaching and learning. Particular highlights have included, Larks Victorian day, some amazing writing in Robins inspired by their cathedral trip, some wonderful 3D Egyptian fact files in Owls and the immersive work of Ancient Greece in Swans!

Safeguarding

This month's safeguarding update is linked to online safety. More and more pupils in EYFS and KS1 now have their own devices. Please watch the video and follow the top tips for keeping them safe online. The internet can be a fantastic resource for recreation and learning when used safely. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact staff for extra support.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3OF-NWDzGo&t=1s>

Sport at Great Whelnetham

We have had a fantastic start to the school year in relation to sports. The children have enjoyed before and after school clubs, including rounders, football, gymnastics, and dance. Swans have received specialist coaching to enhance their tennis skills. Already this year, we have entered the cross country, football, quick sticks hockey, and have many more booked in the diary. A special mention to Edwyn, Daisy, Harley and Ellie who won the recent hockey tournament scoring a total of 10 goals and conceding 0! Also, Good luck to Alfie (Y6) who qualified for the county events after his impressive display at the recent cross-country event. We are so proud of you.

Library Update

We have been delighted to add to our book collection already this term – enhancing our fiction books with some fantastic literature. Thank you to the 'Norfolk Children's Book Centre' for their recommendations and quick delivery of these books. Classes continue to take weekly trips to the library to explore and choose books they would like to take back to their classrooms. We also open the Library every Friday where families are welcome to come and explore the books and rent them out. Pupils are also enjoying visiting our 'pre-loved' section where they can choose a book to keep and add to their home book collection.

Thank you

We would like to give a massive thank you to Mrs Fisher who has been an integral part of the Larks team over the last 10 months. She has worked brilliantly with pupils, staff and parents. We wish her well in her new job as a 'residential support assistant' when she leaves us later this month. We will miss you. Interviews are set to take place next week and I look forward to updating you on our new appointment.

Great Whelnetham Church of England Primary School is part of the All Saints Schools Trust.

A charitable company limited by guarantee.

Registered in England and Wales. Company Number: 11216388

Eco Council

I am looking forward to working with the Eco-Council again this year to continue our progress in developing the school and becoming more Eco-aware. I will be taking applications for new members so please speak to your children if you think they would be interested. I will be doing a special launch assembly this on Monday 9th October. One of our main focusses this year will be to develop the pond area in school to enhance our provision of science including, lifecycles, micro-habitats, pond dipping and much more. If you think you have some skills that could support us, we would love to hear from you!

Math's Open Morning

After the success of our reading morning last year, Mr Sharp will be running a Math's Morning on Tuesday 17th October. There will be refreshments from the PTFA, an information/question session with Mr Sharp about maths across the school and then some time to go and see maths in action within the different classes! Mr Sharp will be writing to you next week with more details but we hope to see you then.

Dates for your Diary

10th October – Robins Escalater trip (careers day)

17th October – Maths Open Morning

20th October – Harvest Assembly at the Church

5th December – Whole school Panto Visit

12th December – KS1 Nativity (evening and afternoon performances)

13th December – Christingle Service

Yours Sincerely

Bobby Varela
Head of School

Great Whelnetham Church of England Primary School is part of the All Saints Schools Trust.

A charitable company limited by guarantee.

Registered in England and Wales. Company Number: 11216388.