



Great Whelnetham CE Primary School
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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you enjoyed the recent Easter break and have been able to spend some extra time with family and friends. We have been extremely busy in school and are looking forward to all that we have planned in the upcoming months of the summer term.

Performance Opportunity at St Edmundsbury Cathedral - Noye's Fludde

*I am delighted to announce that our current Year 4/5 pupils will be working alongside other schools with Bury Cathedral music team to perform an opera for children and adults by Suffolk-born composer Benjamin Britten. This incredible piece of music tells the story of Noah's Ark and features roles for children singers, many of whom play the roles of animals. The dates of the performances are **Friday 15th and Saturday 16th November** at the Cathedral. Singing workshops will commence at school from May, so that we are familiar with the music by the summer holiday, and from September work will commence on the production side. We are thrilled to be involved with this exciting project in conjunction with Arts Council England.*

Eco-Council Update

The Eco-Council have enjoyed continuing their hard work over the summer term. We delivered a whole school assembly, improving understanding on how we can make a positive difference – being eco-friendlier. Our focus was linked to waste, energy use, recycling, water use and protecting animals and wildlife. We have been delighted to see birds using our bird house to lay their eggs and we are awaiting the arrival of their chicks. We have updated photos to our school Facebook page so please do go and have a look. Over the next few we will be working on our application to try and achieve our Eco-Schools award! Our next job in this connection is to run our annual class competition to involve the whole school in thinking about their eco-footprint.

Year 4/5/6 Summer Production – "Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies"

This month, Owls and Swans classes will be participating in a very exciting audition process to select our casting roles for the Key Stage Two production. We are delighted to announce that this year's performance is "Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies!" [Journey into the depths of Sherwood Forest and discover the hilarious truth behind the legend of Robin Hood in this great musical comedy!](#) From the writer of [Pirates Of The Curry Bean and Porridge](#) comes a toe-tickling tale of tights, fights and footlights. And living and writing in the heart of [Sherwood Forest himself, who better than best-selling author Craig Hawes to lift the lid on the legend you thought you knew!](#) We have begun listening to the songs to the musical and will be starting our script work in the coming weeks!

School Library

Thank you all for attending the book fair in school before Easter, we raised over £190 to update our library with new and exciting books. I am looking forward to sharing these with the children.

If you would like to visit the library – it is open every Friday after school from 3:15 – 4:00pm. Enter through Miss Tyler's classroom. It has been wonderful to see so many of you exploring and enjoying books and taking some home to share with the wider family.

Mr Varela recommendations:

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Key Stage Two page turner = Brightstorm (Vashti Hardy).
Nonfiction fun = The Search for Tutankhamun (932)
Family share = Fantastic Fairy Tales pop up book

SEND Update

SEND HIGHLIGHTS

This half-term we are raising awareness across our school community for 'Mental Health Awareness Week' along the theme of Movement: Moving for our mental health. We know the importance of looking after our mental health and we want to encourage everyone to find those moments of movement in their daily routines to help improve our mental health.



During the week we will be taking part in a range of exciting movement activities, these will include:

Friday 17th May – Dress up to move Day - £1 donation to go to our chosen charity the RSPCA

Monday 20th May – Daily Mile Monday

Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd May – Sponsored Skipping all money raised to the PTFA

Thursday 23rd May – Yoga Day

SUFFOLK PARENT CARER FORUM

This term there is an 'OPEN EVENT' on Wednesday 19h June to meet professionals within the area of SEND for all families in Suffolk.

Who are Suffolk Parent Carer Forum?

'We are a group of parent carers who have come together to build the forum so that we can help shape the provisions and services our children and young people with special/additional needs and/or disabilities access.' (SPCF)

If you would like further professional advice or support for your child, this may be the event for you.

Suffolk Parent Carer Forum
OPEN EVENT
Meet professionals in SEND & Mental Health from Suffolk County Council, Health Services, Voluntary Sector and more
Wednesday 19th June
10:30 – 1:30
United Reformed Church
Ipswich St, Stowmarket
IP14 1AD
Information Stands | Presentations | Refreshments Provided
Free Attendees draw to win an Amazon Voucher
Working towards a brighter future for Suffolk's children and young people
Suffolk Parent Carer Forum, Brightspace, 160 Haslegh Road, Ipswich, IP2 0HH
01473 760933 | info@suffolkpcf.co.uk | www.suffolkpcf.co.uk

Safeguarding Updates

The safeguarding update this month is in relation to the online game, Roblox, which we know many of our children enjoy playing. The link below provides an informative video from 'Internet Matters' about Roblox and also includes advice and tips on how to keep your child safe whilst playing this game. If you have any questions about online safety, please speak to Mr Varela who is our Online Safeguarding Lead. Alternatively, if you have any questions relating to any of our safeguarding features please do come and speak to Mr Varela or Mrs Flatman.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWzhE8fUi7E>

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Dates for your Diary

Week commencing 13th May – Key Stage 2 SATs Week

16th May – Special Menu Day with prizes available – details to follow

17th May – Mental Health Week – see separate letter for details

21st May – African Dance and Drumming Day

22nd May – Y6 post SATS trip

24th May – Last day of Term

3rd June – Children return for Summer Term Two

18th June - Anglo Saxon Experience Day (whole School) - Spinning Wheel Theatre

27th June – Whole School and Class Photos

9th July – KS2 Afternoon performance – Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies

10th July – KS2 Evening performance – Robin Hood and the Sherwood Hoodies

12th July – (Morning) Y6 Leavers service

12th July – (Afternoon) Rocksteady concert and Summer Fete (PTFA)

19th July – Last Day of Term

Best Wishes

Bobby Varela

Head of School

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