

Newsletter... Newsletter... Newsletter... Newsletter... Newsletter... Newsletter... Newsletter... Newsletter... Newsletter...  
**1<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

## Dear Parents/Carers

February seems to have flown by but has been packed with learning opportunities and activities throughout the school. March is looking to be another busy month of trips, parents' evenings, sharing assemblies and much more!

It was lovely to see so many of you at our recent Bug Club meetings, if you have any questions about Bug Club please speak to your child's teacher. Alternatively, visit the school website and have a look at our Parent Support Guides. They contain a range of information from Early Years to Year 3, with more being added regularly. These can be found by clicking [Information](#) and then [Parent Support Guides](#).

### REMINDER

**World Book Day is Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, when the children have the opportunity to come to school dressed as their favourite characters and we love to hear about the stories they enjoy the most. Don't forget the Book Fair is in school until Monday March 6<sup>th</sup> every day between 3.15pm and 4.30pm. Please pop in and have a look, every book bought helps our school.**

## Nursery (FS1)

In Nursery, we have been thinking about nursery rhymes. The children have been learning and singing 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star', 'Baa, Baa Black Sheep', 'Incy Wincy Spider', 'Humpty Dumpty' and 'Hickory Dickory Dock'. We are playing lots of rhyming games and listening to stories containing rhyming words. The children have been retelling the rhymes using the small world resources.



## Reception (FS2)

At the beginning of February, the Bracknell Forest Family Learning Team came to work with the Reception children, their parents and grandparents to make magic boxes. The adults spent the first part of the session finding out more about phonics and how the children learn to read, then the children joined them to make 'magic boxes'. They decorated shoe boxes with wrapping paper, glitter and stickers and filled the boxes with phonics resources.

The Reception children had an exciting start to their Pirates topic work with a special Pirate Day. All the children and adults dressed up as pirates to spend the day taking part in cross-curricular activities with a pirate theme. The children made treasure maps, telescopes, did pirate counting and read pirate stories. We even had a special outdoor treat where we sailed away in the pirate ship! You can find books about pirates on the Bug Club website.



## Year 1



Year 1 have had a great start to the new half term. In English, we are going to be learning the story of Cinderella and then changing the characters and setting. There could be a Fairy Godfather or perhaps two mean cousins. We are sure that some of the variations of the story will be very entertaining and are looking forward to exploring ideas together.

In Maths, the children are beginning to learn about multiplication. They have been exploring all the different equipment available to help them find the answers. They have been learning to talk about what they are doing and explain to others.



## Year 2

The children in Year 2 have been spending time looking at and learning about 3D shapes. They have enjoyed investigating which shapes they can make with clay and a given number of straws. The children discovered that making a cube uses twelve straws and eight balls of clay and they also made a variety of other different shapes.

We would like to say a big thank you to all the parents who managed to join us for our Stay and Learn morning. The children really enjoyed sharing some of their learning with you.



Year 2 have been very busy and have also had an amazing day out at Windsor Castle. The children were very interested in having a look around the state apartments and St. George's Chapel. They all learnt a lot about life in a castle. We all watched the changing of the guard and even had a march ourselves!



## Year 3

At the start of the month, Year 3 took part in a Maths workshop. The children used straws, counters and dice along with other things to discover a fun way to learn division. Every child should have come home with the information from the day so they could share with parents and carers. We would really like to thank those who could join us for the experience, the children love to have you involved in their learning activities.



In their English work, the children have been looking at emotions and how we express ourselves through facial expressions and body language. They have then used these emotions to role play parts of the play 'A Tune of Lies'. They have also learned how stage directions add more detail to the way a character speaks or acts within a play.





### Year 4

In Year 4, the children have been continuing their learning about the Ancient Egyptians. They have been writing Egyptian horror stories and have discovered all about mummification, which they all found very interesting.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, we were very fortunate to have a visit from the Legend Theatre Group and we had a whole day of activities with an Egyptian theme. The feedback we received from the children was very positive. Lucas said, 'I really enjoyed the stunning Legend Theatre Group because they were hilarious and were able to play lots of different characters'. Lucy told us, 'It was a really fun day. My favourite part was when the mummy did a rap'. The children all learned a great deal about the Egyptians and had a lot of fun doing so!

### Year 5

The children in Year 5 have been continuing their work on Romans. They have been looking at catapults and have spent time making their own and testing how effective they are. They are all very excited about their visit to the Reading Museum. It really is too good an opportunity to miss and is a fantastic place for us to be able to visit. The children will be working in small groups to explore the museum and will take part in Roman workshops to broaden their understanding of the topic. Keep an eye on the Year 5 blog on the school website for updates after the trip!



### Year 6

The Year 6 children have been getting to grips with measurement, multiplication, division, Greek myths and legends and are focused on their SATS coming up in May.

'In Year 6, we have been studying the ancient Greeks and their myths: such as Perseus, Medusa, Heracles, Hydra as well as Theseus and the Minotaur. We have watched myths on the internet. We have been primarily focusing on the heroes and beasts of Greek mythology by using mind mapping to generate an image of the heroes and beasts and then writing our own character descriptions.

For maths in Year 6, we have been converting a variety of units of measurement, on Friday that involved drawing on the playground (yes, drawing on the playground – you heard us correctly)! The lesson included using chalk and a metre stick; we converted metres into centimetres and millimetres to familiarise Year 6 with converting different amounts of measurement. One group managed to reach 32 metres by going 1 metre across the Year 5/6 playground each time converting the metres to centimetres and millimetres.'

- By Hayden and Edward



### Rainbow



In Rainbow, we have had to say goodbye to Daniel, who has moved into his new setting. However, we have said hello to our two new boys. We welcome them both and look forward to learning all about them.

We would like to thank our parents for attending our coffee morning in our new building. It was wonderful to see so many of you there and we hope you enjoyed looking through the Profile books and joining in with the singsong!

This term we are exploring the weather and have been learning songs and reading stories to go with our new theme. We are continuing with our tooth-brushing program, which has proved to be very successful. The children have brushed looking at their reflections and experimented with their brushes.





## PE Department News **Indoor Athletics Tournament**

The children in Year 4 have spent a half-term practising events for the Indoor Athletics Tournament. They have been taking part in long jump, high jump, speed bounce, javelin, chest push and triple jump. It was a very difficult decision, but Mr Roberts chose six each of the best boys and girls to make up the Great Hollands team. We did need to call upon a last-minute replacement on the morning of the tournament but they all performed brilliantly. Some events were won, some events were lost but the children never gave up and always continued to give it their best effort.

We were one of twelve schools who took part in the event in the morning and there were twelve more schools doing the same thing in the afternoon. The children know that they didn't win and that they didn't come last overall, but we won't know exactly what position our team came in until later in the week. All the children showed excellent sportsmanship and team spirit and had a very positive and fun time at the tournament. Well done everyone!

### Parent Email

In an effort to reduce the amount of paper we use as a school, we are using our email system regularly for letters and other communication. However, we still do not have email contacts for a number of parents. If you have an email address but have not been receiving school emails could you please pop into the office, give us a call or fill out the feedback form to update your details.



### Parking

We have had reports of inconsiderate parking in Wordsworth, both on the grass areas and in residential parking bays. If you drive your children to or from school could you please utilise either of the large public car parks that we are very fortunate to have so close by.



### Lunchtime Controller Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a Lunchtime Controller in school. The position involves supervising the children while eating lunch and playing outside in the playground. If you are interested in becoming one of our fabulous lunchtime team or if you have any queries, please pop in to the school office to pick up an application form.



**Highest Attendance in February: 2VE 99.1%**





## FROGS News

Firstly, we would like to thank you all for your continued support in the events that we run. The Valentines Disco was a great success, we hope the children had as much fun as we did and we would like to say a special thank you to Rachel and Rachael who stepped in at short notice to DJ when Mr Roberts was unwell.

Don't forget the Usborne Sponsored Reading Challenge running until 5<sup>th</sup> March. We hope the children are enjoying the challenges. We would love to be able to provide the children with lots of lovely new and exciting books to read and explore at school so if you could return all sponsorship money to school by Friday March 10<sup>th</sup>, we will be able to get the books ordered.

**Our next event is the Film Night for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 on 10<sup>th</sup> March. We will be showing Trolls and tickets will be £3 each, which includes hot dog, chips and a drink.**

We've already been in touch with the Easter Bunny and placed our order for eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt on 14<sup>th</sup> April. Tickets are £2 each including an egg and letters will be coming home soon, so please come along and eggs-plore the course!

Also, we have teamed up with Easy2Name, a label company who stock a variety of iron-on, stick-in, sew-in labels for school uniform, water bottles and book bags. Every time you order, make sure you use our special school code **FROGS RG12** and you'll be helping to raise money for the school. Flyers will be on their way home very soon.



Finally, if you enjoy a day at the races, Ascot Race Course are holding a special Family Race Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2017. We will be sending home a flyer soon with all the details. For every ticket sold using the Great Hollands promotional code we will receive a percentage of the ticket price.

The PTA cannot continue their fantastic work without support from all of us. If you would like to offer your time at future events, please give your name to the office, reply on the feedback sheet, contact their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfGHPS/> or send an email to [frogspta@gmail.com](mailto:frogspta@gmail.com) – they will be delighted to hear from you!

# March Newsletter Dates



Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May**

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July**

World Book Day

Year 1 Sharing Assembly – 9.15am

Year 1 Trip to Windsor Castle

Local Councillors visiting Year 5 – 1.00pm

Year 4 Sharing Assembly – 9.15am, followed by Stay & Learn until 10.15am

Year 2 Sharing Assembly – 9.15am

FROGS Film Night (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) – 3.15pm-5.45pm

Year 6 Drama Workshop at EPCS – 11.30am-2.30pm

Parents Evening – 3.30pm-6.00pm

Year 3 Stay & Learn – 2.15pm

Parents Evening – 6.00pm-8.00pm

Year 1 & 2 Banquet Day

Local Councillors visiting Year 5 – 1.00pm

**End of Spring Term - school finishes at 2.15pm**

FROGS Easter Egg Hunt – 10.00am-12.00pm

Good Friday

Easter Monday

**INSET DAY – School Closed**

**Start of Summer Term – doors open at 8.40am, school starts at 8.50am**

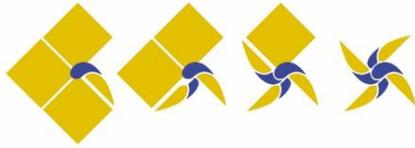
**May Day Bank Holiday**

**YEAR 6 SATS - ALL WEEK**

**Spring Bank Holiday**

**HALF TERM**

**End of Summer Term - school finishes at 2.15pm**



Great Hollands  
Primary School

Wordsworth, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 8YR  
Web: [www.greathollandsprimary.co.uk](http://www.greathollandsprimary.co.uk)

Tel: 01344 424911  
Headteacher: Richard Ferris

## Feedback Form

Please let us know your thoughts on school life... You can tell us anything, for example:

Well done, I really like...

Please pass on my thanks to...

My child says it is really good when...

I would like more information on...

Can I have some help with...

I am unhappy about...

Please try to improve by...

I can help in the school with...



My child is in Year \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)