



# GHPS Update

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June

Dear Parents and Carers,

Where has the sunshine gone? This week our school has continued to adjust very well to our newer COVID secure systems and despite the heavy downpours we have still managed to enjoy lots of time outdoors in between the showers.

A huge thank you to all adults who come onto the school site for their responsible attitude to following our systems and keeping a respectful distance between each other. I also appreciate the efforts you have been going to in order to keep to time and arrive and collect promptly – this is really helpful to us as we adjust to more site users.

As you know we are continuing to work hard for all of our children, by reducing class sizes to pods of 15 we have doubled the number of staff needed to teach the pods. This leaves us with less staff to support pupils learning at home, however we continue to provide home learning resources to all pupils who need them. I would like to thank the hardworking, dedicated staff who have been working throughout the pandemic and who are now stepping up even further to support our children here at GHPS.

As we reach the final weeks of the term please keep up the learning momentum for pupils at home – you have come so far – please keep up the efforts. There is so much learning being published online from the [BBC](#) and the [OAK ACADEMY](#) I would advise you to look at these offerings alongside the structured lessons provided by us. I hope you will enjoy the 'virtual' visit by the children's author A F Harrold this week (information can be found later in this newsletter).

It has been wonderful to hear about all you have been achieving both in school and at home. In particular I would like to mention:

**Erin** (Y6) for her hard work at home and a beautiful poem and **Kyle** (Y6) for challenging himself all week in school and including everyone in games at playtime. **Daisy** (Y6) and **George** (Y6) for always being ready to learn and working really hard since being back in school. **Darcie** (Y5) and **Amelia** (Y5) who have both been keeping active by going on bike rides with their families, hopefully they haven't been caught in the rain! **Evie** (Y5) and **Ben** (Y5) have both shown determination and enthusiasm answering challenging maths questions. **Amelia** (Y4) for her very informative and colourful leaflet about healthy eating. **Jimmie** (Y3) and **Sebastian K** (Y3) for their fantastic reading on Bug Club this week! **Skyla** (Y2) has been very busy drawing her super beach scene of Durdle Door and **Ella** (Y2) who has completed some fantastic seaside topic learning and reading comprehension. **Alex** (Y1) earns a big well done for his super reading and blending this week.

Finally, to all children who have returned to school, a big well done for adjusting to the new rules and changes to the school environment. Children have been focussing on their reading, writing and maths and have been working together, showing GREAT teamwork.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch by emailing the school office: [GHPSOffice@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:GHPSOffice@maidenerleghtrust.org)

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R Ferris".

**Richard Ferris**  
Headteacher

**Thinking and Learning Together**  
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### Virtual School Sports Challenge

This week Mr Roberts would like to apologise for missing out a cricket score in last week's newsletter! Sorry **Jacques** (Y6) and well done for your achievement in the cricket challenge!

The scores for the Enduro challenge have been coming in and the best in KS2 is awarded to **India** (Y4)! We also had an entry this week from **Dexter** (Reception) who tried the KS1 challenge and managed to get the best time by just one second! A special mention goes to both **Skyla-Rose** and **Ynette** for always finding the time to enter the challenges and send in their scores, GREAT dedication.

Don't forget to send your scores in to Mr Roberts via email at [GHPSOffice@maidenerlegitrust.org](mailto:GHPSOffice@maidenerlegitrust.org)

*Keep up the GREAT effort, stay safe, active and healthy.*

### Virtual Author Visit

We are delighted to be able to tell you that our partners at 'ABC to Read' have shared with us details of their "virtual" author visit. Usually when we are in school, we would invite authors to come and visit the children to speak about their books, themselves and how they became an author. Meeting a real live author can increase children's interest in books, help them understand how books are produced and boost the confidence of any aspiring writers that we may have. We hope this will be a wonderful alternative in the current circumstances:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5P74uIlXhrY&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5P74uIlXhrY&feature=emb_logo)

ABC to Read are pleased and proud that A.F. Harrold has agreed to be one of their charity patrons and lend his support.

A.F. Harrold is a poet, performer and children's novelist who has lived in Reading for the last 25 years. He's a regular visitor in schools, talking about poetry and about his books, such as the hilarious Fizzlebert Stump and Greta Zargo series.

He's also written some stranger, spookier novels (9+), such as the award-winning books The Imaginary and The Song from Somewhere Else, illustrated by Kate Greenaway, Medal winning Emily Gravett and Levi Pinfold respectively. With his background in slam poetry and comedy he is a lively and interactive performer and has been the guest of literary festivals around the UK and abroad. He has a beard and a hat and a website: [www.afharroldkids.com](http://www.afharroldkids.com).

We hope you and the children will enjoy this!

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