



# Great Ponton News

Term 1 2023

## Headteacher Messages

Happy New Year and welcome back. I hope you all had a great Christmas and a good New Year too. It was super to spend time with family and friends, but it is also lovely to be back with the children. We have got lots more exciting learning for the children this term. The staff will be informing you all about what is happening in your child's year group. So, please have a look on Class Dojo to keep up to date.

## Food and Drink

We ask that if you send your child to school with a packed lunch that you involve him/her in making healthy choices. We are delighted to see that the vast majority of lunchboxes are already packed with healthy options which the children enjoy.

**Some suggestions for a healthy lunchbox** Sandwich/Wrap/Pasta, Cubes of cheese/Sticks of carrot, celery etc Fruit Yogurt, Crisps (low salt, reduced fat options are best), Snack bar—a healthy option is good, Small piece of cake, bun, flapjack.



**Please do not** send in chocolate bars or any food that contains nuts ie Nutella.

Please make sure that the children only put water in their water bottles, no juices please.



## **Safeguarding**

Please contact the school if you have any safeguarding issues or concerns, even if your child(ren) are not at school.

There are now three **Safe-guarding Officers** at Great Ponton CE Primary School: Myself, Mrs McDonnell and Miss Weatherstone. Please contact us, we are still here for you.



The school will support you and your child(ren) if you would like advice or support at any time. Please look after yourselves and each other in these tricky times.



## **Contact Details**

School telephone: 01476 530306

School email: [kym.morrisroe@greatponton.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:kym.morrisroe@greatponton.lincs.sch.uk)

School Website: <https://www.greatpontonprimaryschool.co.uk>

## Eye Tests

Please could I encourage you to get your child(ren's) eyes tested. We are seeing an increasing number of children struggling at school when trying to read.

## Welcome

I hope you join me in welcoming Mrs Rose to our team as a midday supervisor.



## Half term

We break up on Friday 9th February 2024 and return on Monday 19th February 2024.

## Ofsted

Hopefully you have all now have seen our recent Ofsted report. I would like to thank you for all your support and congratulations, it means a lot to us all.

Please, can you also spread the word about our amazing school to anyone looking for a place for their child, particularly EYFS September 2024 starters.



## Christian Value

Our CHRISTIAN VALUE this term is **HOPE**

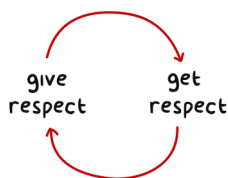
*"Hope in God's future for the world. Offering forgiveness, overcoming suffering and the possibility of redemption and new life"*

Isaiah 44:22

We have six Christian values through the school:

**FRIENDSHIP RESPECT  
DIGNITY**

**WISDOM PEACE HOPE**



During the course of the term we will be talking to the children about what respect is and how we display respect and also looking at the idea of giving respect and getting respect back.

We will be looking at how respect feeds into our school rules and behaviour expectations.

The school governors have introduced a trophy to be handed out at the end of every term for a child displaying the school value.



### **Pupil Illness**

Please remember that if your child is sick he/she should remain off school premises for 48 hours to fully recover and to avoid spreading the bug to other children. Thank you for co-operating with this important matter of sickness.

Please inform school if your child is going to be absent. On the first day of your child's illness, telephone the school and leave a message on the school answerphone. If it becomes clear that your child will be away for longer than expected, phone the school as soon as possible to explain this.

### **Dates for your diary**

Please see below for key events coming up this half term;

#### **January;**

8th Athletics club starts

9th Swimming commences for KS2

11th Sam Ruddock assembly

15th Clubs begin (athletics has already)

15th Online Safety Workshop

17th Dai Greene assembly

18th Governors meeting

19th Sportshall athletics KS2

24th Boccia competition

1st **February** Rowing competition

2nd Swimarathon

9th last day of term

### **Informing teachers:**

Please can you make sure that you inform the teachers of any accidents/injuries/situations/issues that occur at home and that might or does have an impact at school.

For example, if your child has banged his/her head at home and has been to the doctors or hospital etc, please let us know so we can keep our eyes on them. Communication regarding these issues are paramount, please share this important information with us.

## Class information

### EYFS, Year 1 & Year 2

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful Winter break. I am really looking forward to this up coming term, our topics are as follows; Year 1/2 - Animal Planet, EYFS - Past and Present. We have lots of exciting things coming up this term so please can an eye on our class dojo page for updates, including story-telling week, stay and read, world book day and much more!



### Year 3/4

Welcome back to all the children, parents and families of Year 4, I hope you all had an enjoyable Christmas holidays, with lots of fun and memories made.

In Year 4 this term we are focusing on 'Crime and Punishment' and 'Plants of the World'.

In History we will be looking at how Crime and Punishment has changed through time.

We will be focusing on Local Significant Individuals which will include Edith Smith and Margaret Thatcher.

In Geography we will be looking at types of settlement, land use and economic activity.

In English we are working with different texts which include 'The Selfish Giant' and 'Cinamon'.

During our Maths lessons we will be focusing on Number and Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Fractions, and Statistics.

We are working hard on our times tables, please remember to use our TTRS to help us with our times tables practise.

In RE we will be exploring Christianity focusing on the big question 'Why do we celebrate?'

Our unit of work this term in science is all about 'Habitats'. We will be habitat helpers and exploring and finding out about different habitats.

We are continuing to encourage and promote our love of reading, giving the children opportunities to read throughout the day and we will have our reading for pleasure session each day.

PE Days this term are Tuesday and Friday. We will be working on Swimming and Gymnastics.

Homework Day is on Tuesday and to be returned on a Monday.

Keep an eye out on Class Dojo to make sure you see messages and to see what amazing work we have been doing in class.

### Year 5/6

Welcome back to all the children, parents and families of Year 5 and 6, I hope you all had a wonderful time over the festive holiday and made lots of fun memories.

In Year 5/6 this term we are focusing on 'Sprites and Spirits' focusing on the Maya Civilisation, within our History lessons.

In English we will be working on analytical essays and playscripts which will include Rain Player and The Tempest.

In Maths we will be focusing on 'Number and Place Value, Geometry, and Statistics. We will be focusing on our times tables this term, expanding our knowledge, and introducing new facts.

In Science we are working on 'Forces'.

In RE we will exploring Salvation in Christianity.

In Art, we will be learning all about the drawing technique of chiaroscuro and creating our own art.

PE days this term are Monday and Tuesday. We will be working on dance and swimming.

Homework day is a **Tuesday** and to be returned on a **Monday**.

Keep an eye out on Dojo to make sure you see important messages and to see what wonderful activities we have been doing in school.

THIS  
IS THE BEGINNING,  
OF ANYTHING  
YOU  
WANT.



# How can I help my child **SUCCEED** in school?



Stay involved and feel free to  
contact your child's teacher  
with any questions or  
concerns.

Ask your children  
about school and  
encourage them to talk  
about their day.

Do not talk negatively  
about your child's  
teacher or school.

Read with your  
child **every** night.

Make sure your child is getting plenty of  
sleep and is ready for school each day.

Help your child  
with his/her  
homework  
**every** night.

Teach your children to  
be responsible for  
their actions and their  
schoolwork.

## **Sporting News**

Last half term the children took part in a range of sporting events and delivered some great successes, particularly in the table tennis. This term there will be opportunities to take part in the following sporting events;

Sportshall Athletics

Boccia

Rowing

New Age Kurling

Swimarathon

The school has three Bronze Ambassadors; Millie, Hannah and Eddie.

Their job is to help promote PE, Sport and a Healthy Lifestyle. They are also the link between the children and staff, so if your child has any ideas of how to improve PE or sport within the school then get them to share their ideas with the Bronze Ambassadors who will pass it on.

We will be holding a number of House Competitions this academic year and not all sport, so there will be something for everyone.



## **Celebrations/Congratulations**

Once again as we move through the term and year, I want to be able to fill this section with the successes of the local community so if your child, yourself, the staff or anyone in the local area deserves a shout out then please let me know so we can all celebrate the wonder people in our community.

It has been wonderful to hear about all the children's successes outside of school. I am always blown away with regards to how amazing our children are. Last term we heard about children who won art competitions, those who got merits and distinctions in dance & gymnastics, swimming achievements, football awards and martial art successes, to name just a few. We honestly do have a great group of children at Great Ponton.

## **School Holidays**

Please can I encourage you to take holidays during the holiday periods? The children's absence does impact on their learning. Please follow the correct procedures and complete a Holiday Request Form (available from the Office). I will send a reply back informing you of the decision. Thank you.