



Great Linford
Primary School

St Leger Drive
Milton Keynes
MK14 5BL

Dear Families,

I spoke with many of you last week at the school gates but I also wanted to write to you to welcome you back to a new academic year.

An Igniting Start!

Last week got off to an exciting start with 'The Great Fire of London' in year 2 and 'The Greek Day' in year 4. The children really enjoyed themselves – these ignite days help bring History alive and will encourage our children to become interested in History throughout their lives. Thank you so much to all of the families who helped us to support this day financially, without this support we could not afford to run days like this.

Communication

Every morning and after school each day, Carol Mallet our Family Champion is always on the playground to enable you to pass messages to staff or discuss worries. Please always talk through any concerns however small and we will try and find solutions. If you have any ideas about how we can improve our school in anyway please also share this with Carol as we need the voice of the community to help us grow. I will also be on the playground most mornings to welcome the children and listen to your ideas and concerns. It is also essential that you register with parentmail as we are aiming to become a paperless school in terms of written communication by October 2017.

Curriculum Information Sessions For Families

These will be held over the next two weeks. It is extremely important that you attend these sessions (there is cake!) These sessions will enable you to learn about the projects and learning expectations for the year. Miss Lovelock will look after the children during these sessions until you pick them up at 4.15. We hold these annually and the feedback from parents last year was really positive.

Ofsted

We are expecting an inspection this term. We will notify you the day before the inspection takes place. The inspector will be on the playground before and after school. Please help support our school by speaking with the inspector about the strengths of the school. They only have about a day to collect as much information as possible. When you have a moment before the inspection, please could you also support the school by completing the survey on parent view <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Head Teacher	Tara Lovelock BSc(Hons) PGCE
Assistant Head	Alex Kerrigan
Finance Manager	Laurie Mills
Admin Manager	Julie Newton

Telephone	01908 605027
Facsimile	01908 231672
E-mail	office@greatlinfordprimaryschool.co.uk
Website	www.greatlinfordprimaryschool.co.uk



Volunteers

We desperately need some more volunteer readers in school. These volunteers make such a difference. We have Dads, Mums, Grandads, and Grandmas – please come and join us! Speak with Carol and she will help organise a DBS check and your induction training.

Sharing our results from last academic year

At the end of Foundation stage and Year 2, we have to make statutory teacher assessments of how your children are performing against National expectations. In Year 2 teachers use SATs tests to inform their judgements but do not rely solely on the test outcomes when making their final teacher assessments. Results of how children did nationally in 2017 have not been published yet, but we can compare ourselves to national 2016 results.

Foundation Stage Teacher Assessments

	Great Linford Primary	National 2016
Children achieving a 'good level of development' (the expected standard across 12 of 17 the early learning goals)	76%	69%

End of Key Stage 1 Teacher Assessments (Year 2)

	Great Linford Primary	National 2016
Expected standards		
Reading	75%	74%
Writing	66%	65%
Maths	75%	73%
Greater depth standards		
Reading	27%	24%
Writing	18%	13%
Maths	27%	18%

At the end of Year 1 children take a statutory phonic screening check to test their ability to read both real and 'alien' words (words that are made up) phonetically. Again, results of how children did nationally in 2017 have not been published yet but we can compare ourselves to national 2016 results.

Year 1 phonic screening check results

	Great Linford Primary	National 2016
Children who passed the check (achieving a mark of 32/40 or more)	84%	81%

At the end of Year 6 children sit the end of Key Stage 2 SATs tests to show how well they are performing against national expectations. Results of how children did nationally have been published for us to compare ourselves to.

End of Key Stage 2 (Year 6)

	Great Linford Primary	National 2017
Expected standards		
Reading	87%	71%
Writing	80%	76%
Maths	83%	75%
Grammar, punctuation and spelling	83%	77%
Greater depth standards		
Reading	20%	25%
Writing	20%	18%
Maths	15%	23%
Grammar, punctuation and spelling	30%	31%

As a school, we are judged on the progress we make with our children across Key Stage 2. The progress we made this year was **above** that of other schools nationally. The table below shows on average, how many more marks our children achieved on the tests than children similar to them nationally.

	Progress A positive score= children performed better than children nationally A negative score = children did not perform as well as children nationally
Reading	+3.1
Writing	+3.1
Maths	+1.5

The results above are a credit to our school and our families. Without the daily dedication of the children, staff and parents working together in partnership we would not be able to achieve these results.

Last year we won the award for the most Inspirational School in Milton Keynes, thank you to all of the families who voted – it is such a privilege to be the Head of such an exciting forward looking school!

I look forward to greeting you on the school gates. Enjoy the Autumn Term,

Warmest Wishes

Tara Lovelock