**February 2019**

**ASPIRE – ACHIEVE – THRIVE – ENJOY**

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| ***Real Life Superheroes***  http://www.greatlinfordprimaryschool.co.uk/uploads/1/1/1/2/11125524/img-20190128-133248.jpgWe recently had a visit from our local PCSOs who spent lunchtime out on the playground with the children. They then visited our Foundation children in their classroom as part of their Superheroes project and talked about what their job involves and how the children can keep themselves safe. They brought along some spare uniforms and helmets for the children to try on.  This followed on from the Newport Pagnell Firefighters who had visited earlier in the week. The children got to sit in their fire engine and try on their helmets and then asked lots of questions. They learned lots of interesting facts.  ***http://www.greatlinfordprimaryschool.co.uk/uploads/1/1/1/2/11125524/img-20190131-132624_orig.jpg*** | |  | | ***Debating Club***  This week, we started a debating club. You are probably wondering what does debating mean? This means when you discuss a subject and we talk about lots of different things!  Miss Parish holds this club every Tuesday at 12:30 in her classroom. Our ambassadors will be going to the club to get an inside view of what happens during debating.  One ambassador said, “The debating club is a great way to understand politics, and if you have a dream of becoming a politician your dreams will come true”. Another child also said, “This club is perfect for me as I love debating”.  Debating club will teach you all types of things. We hope that we will get more and more children to join the discussion!  **Written by our Roving Reports, Molly and Thadshana** | | | | |
| ***Snow Much fun!***  http://www.greatlinfordprimaryschool.co.uk/uploads/1/1/1/2/11125524/dscf8482.jpgAfter the recent wintry downfall, we all wrapped up warm and had some time outside on the field to enjoy the snow! We made snowmen and snow angels, had snowball fights and made footprint tracks. Then we had hot chocolate and marshmallows to warm up!  http://www.greatlinfordprimaryschool.co.uk/uploads/1/1/1/2/11125524/img-20190201-091823.jpghttp://www.greatlinfordprimaryschool.co.uk/uploads/1/1/1/2/11125524/dscf8490.jpg | |  | | ***Junior Rangers- Big Birdwatch***  C:\Users\Amackellar\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\FF18EPQW\robin[1].png  Our Junior Rangers recently worked with the Animal Society and Roving Reporters from our school to complete an hour of bird watching. The children wrapped up warm to carry out this important citizen science survey in the cold and rain, and were really excited to see how many different birds visit our school grounds. They have spotted all sorts of birds from seagulls to blue tits, seen a flock of starlings with too many birds to count and had a very close encounter with a robin who was very intrigued by Miss Smith's birdsong app! Our results will be sent in to the RSPB to be included in the nationwide survey. | | | | |
| ***Who’s Who at GLPS***  Safeguarding Leaders  Designated Safeguarding Lead - Tara Lovelock  Designated Safeguarding Governor - Barry Humphris  Deputy Safeguarding Lead - Alex Kerrigan and Michelle Gardner  Designated Safeguarding Support Team – Carol Mallett and Julie Newton  Looked After children at GLPS  Designated Lead - Tara Lovelock  Designated Looked After Governor - Barry Humphris  Deputy Designated Lead - Carol Mallett  Attendance and Punctuality  Attendance Officer – Julie Newton  Punctuality Officer / Family Champion – Carol Mallett  Attendance & Punctuality Governor – Barry Humphris | |  | | | ***Upcoming Events***  12th Feb Growth Mindset Parent Sessions  (*3.30 - 4.30pm)*  13th Feb Year 4 ‘Jungle Book’ performance  (*2pm and 6pm)*  14th Feb EYFS Superhero dress up day  14th Feb EYFS Stay and Play  *(2pm – 3pm)*  *15th Feb Home Learning Assembly*  *(9am in School Hall)*  *15th Feb Last day of Spring 1 Term*  *26th Feb Back to School – Spring 2 Term*  *(****\*Monday 25th is an Inset day****)*  *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*  ***Attendance***  For week ending 8 February attendance was 97.2%  Whole school attendance so far is 95.8%  The class with the highest attendance last week was Cedar (Year 1) with 100% Well done Year 1! | |
| ***Emergency Closure of School***  It is extremely rare, but there can be emergency situations when it becomes necessary to close the school, for example: flooding, gas leak, heavy snow, no heating in winter, etc. There are certain factors to consider in such circumstances. For example whether:   * There are enough members of staff to ensure appropriate, safe ratios * The school can provide lunch for the children * The school grounds are sufficiently safe * The school has sufficient heating * The school has electricity/water across the site * External agencies, e.g. police, local government, motoring organisations, etc, are advising against travel in our region.   Where school is open and pupils do not attend, this will be recorded as an ‘Unauthorised Absence’.  If, for the reasons outline above, the safest or most practical judgement is to close the school, a ‘Closure Day’ will be declared via the Milton Keynes Council website as soon as possible and normally by 7am on the day. You can subscribe to receive free text message and email alerts via the Council’s website. You will also be notified via School Gateway.  All parents are expected to have emergency plans in place so that children are not left in school for prolonged periods of time in the event of a school closure during the day. | |  | | ***Online Safety***  Video games are among the most – if not THE most – popular entertainment medium for young people and children are graduating to online gaming at an ever earlier age. With voice chat, online games like Fortnite and FIFA are evolving into social spaces where children meet with their friends – and make new ones.  It can be great fun, but it’s important that parents are aware of how to manage the associated risks. Have a read of ParentZone’s latest advice for parents on how to keep their children safe when using in-game chat functions here: [www.parentzone.org.uk](http://www.parentzone.org.uk).  ***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***  ***Mosaic Artwork***  D:\DCIM\197_FUJI\DSCF7427.JPGWe would like to express our appreciation to one of our Year 6 students, Lucy, and her mother, Louise, for the magnificent mosaic which is currently displayed on the outside corner of the hall in the School car park. | |