



FRIDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2021

School Newsletter



www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk

Dear Parents,

Thanks again for donations for today's Harvest Festival, we were thrilled with the bumper collection of food items which will be collected by Maldon Food Pantry on Monday and will really benefit those in need within our local community.

Parents evenings are fast approaching, a reminder that Google Meet appointments with the relevant teacher(s) need to be booked in advance via the Parentmail app please.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards, Sarah Vass - Headteacher

COVID-19 Reminder Following the changes implemented by the Government with effect from 16th August, we have clarified the guidance for schools in respect of potential and confirmed cases of COVID-19. Please refer to the Parentmail dated 2nd September entitled 'Welcome back - Covid-19 Update' for the latest information, and if in doubt, please call the school office.

A PCR test is required if your child is displaying any of the recognised COVID-19 symptoms, a lateral flow test is not sufficient. LFTs are designed to pick up asymptomatic cases only. A negative PCR test will always be required before your child can return to school following a high temperature, new or persistent cough and/or a change in taste or smell.

Week commencing 11th October 2021:

Autumn menu: Week 1



There is an amendment to next week's menu - pancakes are not available and will be replaced with ice-cream roll.

Please be aware that we are currently experiencing some supply issues and consequently there may be a number of short-notice changes/substituted items from the published menus over the next couple of weeks. These will be kept to an absolute minimum and we apologise in advance for any inconvenience.

Kingswood 2021

'last week, Year 6 went on a residential trip to Kingswood. There were lots of fun activities that we did; Leap of Faith, canoeing, High Equilibrium, team work activities and many more. Personally, my favourite activity was the Leap of Faith. My reason for this is because it really boosted my confidence and I am now not really afraid of heights anymore. I had to climb a really high wooden pole (20ft in the air) and after the instructor counted down from 3 he said, "Leap of Faith!". Then I jumped off and tried to grab a metal pole—of course I had a harness on! On Thursday, we had a campfire and we did an ancient chant, Copy the action and Copy the voice songs, we ate sweets and two of the instructors (Alex and Sam) read each other's minds. Sadly, on Friday it was time to leave Kingswood and say goodbye. Happily, I hugged Mum and Dad when I got back and gave my brother his surprise gift.'

Tyler R, Y6

Photographs from this year's residential trip are available to view on the school website:

<https://www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk/kingswood-2021>

Morning Drop-Off

Our voluntary drop-off zone operates between 8.35 and 8.55am. Parents can pull in, children can get out and then parents can drive off. This really helps keep the traffic flowing for everyone and is working very well.

Miss Cleghorn has 3 lovely Year 6 monitors with her on the main gate who can escort younger children to their classroom safely. They are eager to help!

(Our Y6 monitors Teddy, Olivia, Adam)



Diary Dates:

12th October - Individual School Photos

W/c 18th October - Parents Evenings

25th—29th October - Half Term

1st November 2021 - INSET DAY (non-pupil day)

School Photographs -

Tuesday 12th October



A reminder that individual school photographs take place on Tuesday. Please ensure your child(ren) attend school in full uniform, ties are optional. PE days for YR and Y1 have been cancelled for Tuesday.

Family photographs will also be arranged (school siblings only).

Photographs will be available to view and purchase online in due course, further details to follow with access codes.

Lost Property - Clubs

A reminder that all clothing worn at school must be named, we have a large amount of lost property left over from school clubs!

Employment Opportunities at GTPS

We currently have the following vacancies if you would like to join our teams. Please contact the school office for an application form.

Catering Assistant (kitchen based)

Monday - Friday (Term time only), 11.30am - 2pm (12.5 hours)

The successful candidate would join our friendly and supportive catering team. The role involves undertaking clearing and cleaning during and after service, assisting with serving meals and occasionally helping prepare food. All training provided.

Mid-day Assistant

You would be part of a team helping to make lunch times happy for the children. You would be supervising in the hall, setting and clearing tables and cleaning the hall after service.

Ideally we would like to appoint someone for 5 days a week for 1 hour 20 mins a day, within the 11.45-1.20 window.

Please contact the school office for an application form or more information.