

MARCH 2026

Gunthorpe C of E Primary School Newsletter

Dear Parents/carers,

The children have started Spring 2 well, coming back ready for a short but busy half term. With only a 5 week term we have plenty to pack in so please be sure to look at the diary dates at the end of the newsletter.

A reminder that this week we have World Book Day on Thursday. I sent a message out last week with more details but please send the children in wearing PJs and with their current/favourite bedtime book. Also this week, we have an after school rugby tournament that we are hosting. Some children who have been attending our after school Tag Rugby sessions will be representing the school. We would love as many families as possible to support the teams, FOGS will also have refreshments and snacks for sale so be sure to bring some cash! The tournament starts at 4pm on the village hall field.

As the good weather arrives (hopefully) it is great to see more children cycling and scooting to school. Could I ask that all children wear a helmet - even for very short journeys. This helps establish safe habits and is crucial in protecting children on the roads. I have received feedback from parents that sometimes children are cycling/scooting out from behind parked cars. I would be grateful if you could talk to your child about road safety and the importance of being vigilant, especially near parked cars. Our Bikeability programme, for children in Year 5/6 is also designed to develop these essential cycling skills and road awareness.

Take care
Mrs Brown

Pupil Parliament update

Our parliamentarians have been busy organising a film night for the children. We have agreed on 2 films to be shown on Thursday 12th March, after school. The chosen films are Minions: The Rise of Gru and Lilo and Stitch. The children can choose which film they would like to watch and tickets will be priced at £2 each. This is payable on Arbor via The School Shop. The children will also have a tuck shop open on the day, so children can bring in £1-£2 to buy some treats to watch with the film. We have also agreed that a pillow, blanket or small cuddly toy might be nice to have, whilst the film is on. Parents should collect the children from the hall at 5pm Bookings will close on Tuesday 10th so we can buy adequate stock.

The children will also be collecting for a chocolate raffle to be drawn at the Easter service. It would be great if you could send in some chocolate/Easter based prizes. We will sell tickets on the playground in the last week of the term.

Poetry Competition

Next week, we will begin the class judging for each year group. Your child will now have picked a poem that they are rehearsing. Please do not be concerned if your child is nervous. This is a normal part of the process and is perfectly natural for them to feel this way. We will be sensitive to their anxieties but experience shows us that this really does improve confidence and creates a sense of achievement in all the children. Please support your child by giving opportunity to practice at home too.



Mothers Day and Easter plans

We have 2 fantastic events planned before we break up for the Easter holidays.

Our first is a treat for Mothers and other females that are significant to the children. On Fri 13th March we invite them all to join the children in the school hall at 2.30pm. We will provide refreshments, celebrate our lovely female role models and the children can share a book and some time with those special to them. If any Dads, male family members are available to help serve drinks could you let me know.

Our Easter service is always very well attended and we look forward to seeing you this year on Thursday 26th March at 2pm. The children will be sharing the Easter story, singing songs and revealing the winners of our Chocolate Raffle. We will also have an Easter bonnet and Egg decorating competition which will need to be in school on the morning of the 26th for judging.



FOGS Update

At the recent meeting, we discussed the idea of taking the children to the Panto again, following on from the success 2 years ago. It has been agreed that FOGS will subsidise the cost of the trip and pay for the coach to transport us to and from Newark Palace Theatre. There will be more information in the Autumn but I am very excited to announce that this year we will be watching Jack and the Beanstalk. Thank you so much to all of you for your continued support.



Achievement and Awards Assembly

The Spring edition of this really enjoyable assembly will be taking place on Wed 11th March at 9am. As always, this is a time to celebrate children's success from outside school. Anything achieved since November can be brought in, certificates, medals, trophies, photographs are all welcome. Feel free to join us if you can and don't worry, there is no expectation to send anything in!



Parents Evening

We will be holding our Spring Parents Evenings during this half term. There are 2 dates available to meet with the teachers, either Monday 16th March or Wednesday 18th March. Slots will become live on Arbor for you to book from Wed 4th March at 4pm.

Monday: 3.30pm-5.30pm

Wednesday: 4pm-6pm

Slots are 10 minutes and we endeavour to stick to these times. If you know that you will need a longer conversation, please speak to the class teacher before the appointment.

Junior Masterchef

As I mentioned in the newsletter last month, our Junior children will be undertaking Junior Masterchef, which takes place in school every 2 years.

We will start the competition with all the Junior children involved. They will make pizzas during lessons, using a wide variety of toppings. This will then be judged by the teachers. This score will be added together with part 2. For part 2 we would like children in the Juniors to make something at home for the Comic Relief bake sale, it will be tasted (and judged) by our lovely cook, Becs and then sold to raise money.

The scores will then be added together and 8-10 children will make it through to the next round, planned for early summer.



Diary Dates

Wed 4th March – Tag Rugby Festival (on the village field) after school
Thurs 5th March – World Book Day
Week Comm 9th March – Class Poetry judging
Tues 10th March – Yr 3-4 Athletics after school
Wed 11th March – Awards and Achievement Assembly 9am
Thurs 12th March – MHST Self Esteem Workshop Yr 5-6
Thurs 12th March – Movie Night
Fri 13th March – Masterchef – All Juniors (in school time)
Fri 13th March – Mothers (and others) Day Event @ 2.30pm
Mon 16th March – Parents Eve (3.30pm–5.30pm)
Wed 18th March – PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education) Day
Wed 18th March – Dental checks for 5 year olds
Wed 18th March – Parents Eve (4pm–6pm)
Thurs 19th March – Flood Risk Workshop (Yr 5-6)
Thurs 19th March – Indoor Games Festival (After school Yr 5-6)
Fri 20th March – Comic Relief – Wear something Red
Cake Sale (as part of Masterchef judging, Juniors to bake cakes)
Mon 23rd – Rock Steady Concert @ 2.30pm
Tues 24th March – Queen/King Ball Festival (After school Yr 3-4)
Thurs 26th March – Easter Service @ 2pm
Fri 27th March – DaART Graduation for Yr 5-6 Parents @ 2.15pm
Fri 27th March – Last Day of Term

Summer Term

Mon 13th April – Back to school
Tues 5th May – Toothill Meeting for Year 5 parents (after school)
Thurs 7th May – Junior 1 Trip to Sherwood Forest
Mon 11th May – Thurs 14th May – Year 6 SATs Week
Fri 15th May – Newark Palace Theatre visit – Yr 5-6
Wed 20th May – Rec/Yr 1/Yr2 – Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
Wed 20th May – MHST Workshop on Body Image (Yr 5-6)
Fri 22nd May – Break the Rules Day (Last day of term)
Tues 16th June – Sports Day
Wed 24th June – Fri 26th June Year 5-6 Residential
Wed 1st July – MHST Workshop for Year 6 Transition to Secondary
Fri 3rd July – INSET Day
Wed 15th July – KS2 Production
Thurs 16th July – Yr 6 @ Southwell Minster
Mon 20th July – Milly Lawson (Creative Arts Officer Newark & Sherwood District Council) in
with J1 all day
Thurs 23rd July – Leavers Service
Fri 24th July – Last day of term

Next Year

Tues 1st Sept – Inset Day
Wed 2nd Sept – Children back in school
Fri 16th Oct – Inset Day