

Garden Fields J.M.I School

Townsend Drive
St. Albans
Herts
AL3 5RL
Telephone 01727 890440



Growing Hearts and Minds

- ◆ E-mail : admin@gardenfields.herts.sch.uk
- ◆ Website : www.gardenfields.herts.sch.uk



School Update: 9th September

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was great to be back into action this week with the first week of the school year!

Sadly, the week has finished with the sad news of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. In assembly today, we spoke about this and reflected on the Platinum Jubilee Garden Party that many of your children were involved in earlier in the year. We also spoke to them about the importance of talking to friends, teaching staff, support staff and family if they were upset.

Over the next week we will talk more about the Queen's momentous 70-year reign in assemblies and reflect upon her life.

House captains

Also, in assembly today a number of our children from year 6 who would like to become house captains this year, gave speeches to try and gets votes to be elected. Whatever the results – and we should find out the results soon – it was a very brave thing for them all to have done and we commend them all for their excellent speeches.

Curriculum Meetings

We are hosting a series of curriculum presentations for each year group (live again this year) over the next fortnight as follows:

Y6 - Monday 12th September at 9.00 a.m. in the Upper School Hall.

Y4 - Wednesday 14th September at 9.00 a.m.

Reception – Wednesday 14th September at 6.30 p.m. This will be together with PTA A.G.M. in the upper school hall, following which we will go to the reception classrooms.

Y2 - Thursday 15th September at 9.00 a.m. in the Upper School Hall.

Y3 - Friday 16th September at 9.00 a.m. in the Upper School Hall.

Y1 - Monday 19th September at 9.00 a.m. in the Lower School Hall (as it is School Photograph the photographer will be using upper hall).

Y5 - Tuesday 20th September at 9.00 a.m. in the Upper School Hall.



Parents going to the presentations in the upper school hall should enter via the upper hall doors (once we are ready as we need to put out chairs following the “before school” clubs).

For the Y1 presentation, we will meet you at the lower school entrance steps (near to Oak Class).

School Dinners and KS2 Snacks

Children in Years 3 – 6 can bring in a **healthy snack** to have morning break. We are seeing a lot of crisps, biscuits, chocolate bars and even sweets. Please provide your child with a piece of fruit/vegetable or a plain cracker for their snack.

Children who are not having a school meal should bring a healthy packed lunch. Please ensure packed lunches **DO NOT contain peanut butter sandwiches or nuts** of any kind as we have children in the school with severe allergies to these foods.

Fizzy drinks, sweets and chocolates (including chocolate bars) are also not allowed.

The lunch team have also asked that, for younger children, tomatoes and grapes are cut for the children as some are struggling.

Aspens, our new catering company have got off to a great start! Many thanks to our new head cook Mrs Long and to all her team for the excellent food that they have provided for the children (and some staff!) this week.

Please also note that each Wednesday, the roast dinner will include a halal version, even though currently this is not advertised on the menu.



Roof work

We were very pleased that our roofing work got underway in the summer. Our application with HCC was accepted about four years ago, so it was a relief to finally get this underway.

We estimate that the work will be finished by the October half term – and hopefully be finally leak free!

Mr de Bruin

Very sadly, our site manager Mr de Bruin, will be stepping down at the end of this half term.

Mr de Bruin has served Garden Fields for 12 years and made an enormous contribution to the upkeep, maintenance and security of a very large site. Mr de Bruin won't be too far away as he will be working for Batchwood School next door which will be nice. He will however be a very hard act to follow, and he will be greatly missed.

Global Wow Week

This week we held our global themed wow week. Each year group studied a country based upon them either:

- 1) Being in this December's football world cup finals
- 2) Being represented in our school community

You will probably be finding out more about this in your class blogs. But in the meantime, here is a photo of a couple of Avon class pupils snacking on a Polish open faced sandwich called a Kanapka:



Have a good weekend

Mr Farrugia