



## Gonerby Hill Foot Church of England Primary School

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# Gonerby Gazette

*February 2018*

It has been a short but busy term and it is hard to believe it is half term next week. We started the year making resolutions that help us be better people and many are doing their best to keep these up. Everyone loved Arts week and produced some fantastic work and it was wonderful to open the library – which gets very busy now! This week we have been thinking about e-safety for Safer Internet day and we would like to thank parents for ensuring their child returns the questionnaires that we sent out. With so much happening, there is a lot to report and we hope you enjoy our newsletter.

Here are links to the website for all this term's news stories which the children have helped write:

[Library Launch and Arts' Week – A Love of Literature](#) – presenting the children's recital of The Gruffalo

[Young Voices 2018](#)

[Curriculum Wow Days](#)

[Spring Term Curriculum News](#)

### **Learning and Pastoral Mentor**

Some parents may have already come across our new Learning and Pastoral Mentor who started with us this January. Mrs Shelton's role is to work with children who need a little extra social or emotional support. She can also work with parents too and sign post help available from other agencies that may be needed from time to time. Mrs Shelton is usually available after school; parents can ask at the office if they need to see her.

### **Swimarathon**

A huge well done and thank you to all 22 of the children who took part in The Rotary Club Swimarathon on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. We had a huge number of children who wanted to take part and it was great to take a full team. The children worked really hard, especially the Y3 children who took part for the first time, and between them they swam 356 laps of the pool in our time slot. Some children were a bit nervous and, near the end, were worn out but they kept on persevering and pushing themselves to the end. Overall, they will have raised over £1000 for local charities and deserving good causes which is amazing.

<http://rotaryswimarathon.org/>

### **FSA News** – from Sarah Marshall, Chairperson

I hope you have all seen the 'Thank You' posters displayed this term, thanking you for all your support for the Christmas Fair - we raised £1430 which is incredible!

Through your donations and support for all last year's events, at the end of 2017 the FSA were able to donate £6,500 to school which has helped fund furniture for the new library as well as new equipment for the children to play with at lunchtime. We have also recently donated more games to each class for wet play and bought the fantastic Christmas Tree that the children love decorating. We are now fundraising to add a climbing wall to the playground so the children will have a lot of fun during breaks.

It is fantastic to see that there has been an increase in the amount of parents using the Easy Fundraising website, as it is free to use and school get a percentage of what you spend so - Thank You! It can be used at all major retailers including Asda - so if you shop on-line, school could benefit greatly for just the click of one button. Please encourage your friends and family to join as well.

2018 will be a year we lose a few members of the FSA as their children will be leaving for secondary school. We are only a small team so this will impact on what we can do. If you wish to know more about the FSA, with no pressure to join, please contact me via the school office. Any support is always gratefully received and there is no pressure to offer more than you are able. There are currently several classes with no representative parents/carers, so it would be great to have some from those classes join us and have representatives for each age group.

Finally, I would like to send a huge THANK YOU to the FSA team for all the time they spend organising events and running them, as it is a real team effort. A big THANK YOU to all the parents that donate, bake and support each of these fundraising events too - these wouldn't happen without your help and we look forward to welcoming you to 2018 events.

Coming up soon:

- Our Film Night last autumn was extremely popular and we are holding another, after school on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Details to follow shortly.
- We have our Easter Bingo on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March and Chocolate Tombola on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March – all Easter chocolate and chocolate egg donations will be gratefully received.

### **Safeguarding**

We have a new [Safeguarding and Child Protection area on our website](#) so parents can find out more about how we keep and teach our pupils to be safe. There are also details of additional support on specific issues for parents.

### **Parking**

Like all schools, there is always the difficulty of finding a place to park while parents drop off their children but recently we have had a number of complaints about inconsiderate and often dangerous parking. Please note that we pass on complaints to the PCSO who follows them up. In the interest of safety and in not continually upsetting our neighbours, we ask that parents and carers think carefully about parking their cars at pick up and drop off times.

### **Music for Schools** – by Abigail & Sian, Year 5

On Monday, the 22nd of January, the Music Man visited our school to inform us about the variety of instruments we could have the chance to play. These instruments included the trumpet, clarinet, flute, and saxophone. We learnt about the different instrument families and which instruments belonged to these families. For example, the trumpet belonged to the Brass family but the clarinet and flute are part of the Woodwind family as they have reeds on them which are need to be able to play them. We also learnt that some instruments were named after the people who had discovered them. For example, the saxophone is named after a man called Adolph Sax. We really enjoyed learning more about all of these instruments and look forward to getting the chance to play them.

*Many parents attended the Music for Schools enrolment evening – if you were not able to make it and your child is interested in learning how to play a tuned instrument, you can contact the Music for Schools service via their website:*

[www.mfsf.org.uk](http://www.mfsf.org.uk)

### **Important Diary Dates**

- Break up for half term – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February
- Children return to school on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February
- FSA Film Night – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February
- School Nurse for REC and Y6 pupils - Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February
- Grantham Music Festival - Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March
- Y4 at Church Schools' Festival – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March
- Parents' Evening – 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> March
- Sport Relief – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

- FSA Easter Bingo Night – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March
- Y3/4 Performances – 2pm Monday 26<sup>th</sup> and 5:30pm Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March
- Easter Services and Chocolate Tombola – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March
- Easter holiday – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March to Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April
- Sam Ruddock, Paralympian assembly – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April
- Diversity Workshops for Y6 – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March
- Bank Holiday – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May
- Y6 SATs week – w/c 14<sup>th</sup> May
- Y5 Bikeability – 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May
- Class Photographs – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May
- Break up for half term – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May
- Children return to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June