

GEORGE TOMLINSON NEWS

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful break and managed to relax with your families. It was lovely to see the children so happy to be back at school and hear about the wonderful things they got up to over the holiday period.

We've enjoyed settling back into school life this week and the start of the spring term.

We have been sending home data collection forms for each year group and everyone should have received them by the end of this week. Please ensure that when you receive your data collection form from school you check your details are accurate. We would like to get to a stage where we can email newsletters or class letters out as well as sending reminder texts regularly so that communication improves, however, many of the numbers we hold for you have changed. Many thanks.

On Thursday 12th Jan (next week) we are holding our Vision Launch night from 6-730pm in the hall. The PTFA will be serving drinks and snacks and we will share our new vision with you along with introducing the new SLT and discussing our progress and plans so far this year. We would love to see as many of you as possible here! It will be a great opportunity to come together as a community looking forward to our future at GT! Children are more than welcome to attend.

We had a wonderful morning welcoming in our dads, step dads, brothers, uncles, grandads and cousins to the school today! It was such an impressive turnout, with over 70 family members arriving and hopefully gave you an opportunity to see what happens in your child's class so that you have a better understanding of life at GT. We want you as parents to know what school is like for your child and feel that you can always ask questions or come and chat to us if you have concerns. We hope that by running these events this will happen. We will be holding a morning for mums and significant female family members to come in on Friday march 24th for the same experience. We look forward to seeing you there!

We welcome some new staff to our school this term, firstly Jess Mendelsohn who is our new Assistant Head in charge of EYFS, along with Pam Johnson our new Nursery teacher and Krissie Tuvey our new EYP in Nursery. We also are happy to welcome Vicky Wiley who is our Assistant Head in charge of Teaching and Learning, Paul Colebrook our new Year 4 teacher and Alice Rivett-Carnet a new teacher in Year 3. We hope you will introduce yourself to the new staff and make them feel welcome. We are very happy to now have a full SLT which gives us more capacity. We are very excited about what can be achieved this year!

As a school with strong community links, I am passionate about ensuring you as parents are able to access support from us. We are therefore rolling out a programme of parent coffee mornings, workshops, training and group sessions throughout the year run by our Assistant Head Vicky, our SENDCo Parisa and our EYFS Assistant Head Jess. A leaflet with the year's dates will be sent home next week and we hope that you will be able to attend some of the sessions you feel would be relevant. Responding to your feedback we will hold sessions in both the morning and evening so that working parents will also be catered for.

We are pleased to note that the school's punctuality records are improving. We close the gates just after 845am now and although I understand this takes some adjustment on your part, I hope you will appreciate that children who miss even five minutes a day are missing a significant part of their school life over a period of time. With a tighter schedule of activities happening now and phonics lessons for instance starting at 9am, children must be in school at 845am in order to be registered and ready for their groups so they do not miss crucial learning such as phonics. Thank you for your support on this matter.

This week we started our Daily Mile in most year groups and will start as a whole school fully next week! Thank you to Jake & Jadie for accepting the challenge! To get an entire school to walk or run a mile each day is a huge achievement and research shows that children who do so are more focused in class, more able to learn and are happier. We will update you weekly! We have also begun filming for GT TV! Videos of children giving updates about school life will appear on the website and already you can view two updates from our Sports Prefects there. We will be developing this throughout the year.

I was delighted to see that our Read Write Inc Phonics programme is having such drastic improvement on our pupil's reading skills. The data from the end of Autumn 2 showed that every single child made two steps progress in their reading with some making significantly more. We are very proud of our children's progress especially in such a crucial aspect of learning as reading! Our focus on reading within the school will be further strengthened by our Destination Reader guided reading scheme and by improving our book collection. Again a huge thank you to everyone who donated such beautiful books for our pupils!

We will start back with star of the week and Tea with the Head next week, as well as a weekly star of the week for EYFS on a Friday afternoon.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend with your families.

Verity Carter

Headteacher



Verity Carter
Headteacher



Matthew Laban
Associate Head



Chloe Alder
Deputy Headteacher

Weekly Events

Whole school star of the week assembly -
Every Friday at 9am

Head Teacher Drop in - Every Wednesday
9:15am-11am

Upcoming dates

Meet and greet Mr Colebrook Year 4 -
Wednesday 11th January 3:30pm

Meet and greet Ms Rivett-Carnac Year 3 -
Wednesday 11th January 330pm

School Vision Launch Night - Thursday
12th January 6pm - 7:30pm

Notices

2GB

We look forward to welcoming Mr Brown back to school on Monday 16th January 2017! The class will be covered next week by SLT and Ms Loonat until his return as Ms Frearson has started her new job.

Dad's Day Success

Dad's Day was a great success with a wonderful turnout of 75 family members! We have received positive feedback from the family members who attended today. Below are a few comments written on our feedback forms:

What did you enjoy most about today?

"It was nice just being here, every minute of it was fantastic!" – Y5 Parent

"The interaction, reward & recognition and the great number of different learning styles." – Y2 Parent

"The creative aspect, giving them freedom to explore" – Y3 Parent

Did you learn anything by being in your child's class today, if so what?

"Seeing how the children learn together. How the Teacher encourages them to listen, then speak, then write, draw and colour in"
–Y3 Parent

"The huge role the Teacher plays in engaging the class and motivating the kids to learn." – Y2 Parent

If you were to come to another morning at school, what would you like to see?

"More of the same would be great!" – Y6 Parent

School Vision Launch Night!

Thursday 12th January 2017
@6pm – 7:30pm
VISION LAUNCH NIGHT
The votes have been counted!

We have formed our completed vision for the school and would like to celebrate this at a vision launch night on January 12th at 6pm in the school hall

Join us to celebrate our vision and the start of a very bright and successful future for George Tomlinson, moving forward as a community!

There will be food and drinks provided by the PTFA and all sales will go back into the school.

We hope as many of you as possible can join us for this celebration.

School Vision – Your Vision

Admissions for Reception 2017/2018

The closing date for Reception Applications for 2017/2018 is **Sunday 15th January 2017**. Please note that if your child currently attends our Nursery, you must still apply to the Borough.

To apply online, please visit the Waltham Forest website www.walthamforest.gov.uk, alternatively you can visit the Town Hall to collect a paper application at 701 Forest Rd, Walthamstow E17 4JF.

Holiday Club



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.30-9.00	Meet & Greet-Free Play and Registration. (Board Games, Home Corner, Construction Zone, Arts & Crafts)	Meet & Greet-Free Play and Registration. (Board Games, Home Corner, Construction Zone, Arts & Crafts)	Meet & Greet-Free Play and Registration. (Board Games, Home Corner, Construction Zone, Arts & Crafts)	Meet & Greet-Free Play and Registration. (Board Games, Home Corner, Construction Zone, Arts & Crafts)	Meet & Greet-Free Play and Registration. (Board Games, Home Corner, Construction Zone, Arts & Crafts)
9.00-10.00	Team games	Team games	Team games	Team games	Team games
10.00-10.30	Break- snack & free play	Break- snack & free play	Break- snack & free play	Break- snack & free play	Break- snack & free play

10.30-12.00	Singing sensations OR Sports game (rounder's/cricket)	Just dance OR Table tennis tournament	Arts & crafts OR Football tournament	Baking (pizzas)	Baking (cakes, cookies) OR Arts and crafts
12.00-13.00	Lunch- outdoor play	Lunch- outdoor play	Lunch- outdoor play	Lunch- outdoor play	Lunch- outdoor play
13.00-14.30	Team quiz & biscuit decorating	Cinema & popcorn	Sports day/ team sports	Face painting & assort courses	Gymnastics- wall bars
14.30-15.30	Free Play (Board Games, Home Corner, construction zone, outdoor play)	Free Play (Board Games, Home Corner, construction zone, outdoor play)	Free Play (Board Games, Home Corner, construction zone, outdoor play)	Free Play (Board Games, Home Corner, construction zone, outdoor play)	Free Play (Board Games, Home Corner, construction zone, outdoor play)
15.30-16.30	Sports activity & free play	Sports activity & free play	Sports activity & free play	Sports activity & free play	Sports activity & free play
16.30-17.30	Arts & crafts Or Constructive play	Arts & crafts OR Constructive play	Arts & crafts OR Constructive play	Arts & crafts OR Constructive play	Arts & crafts OR Constructive play



E-Safety & Monitoring at home

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing to you to express my concern about our pupils' use of social media applications such as WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram, usually on their mobile phones. As an example, it has been brought to my attention that some children are experiencing bullying and receiving abusive messages on WhatsApp. As a school we cannot police how children use their phones or computers at home.

I want to request that you speak to your children about the seriousness of sending unpleasant messages online and the effect that it can have on others. I'd also urge you to be aware of what is on your child's phone and make sure that they tell you if they receive anything that makes them feel upset.

At our school, we teach children about the importance of being safe online so that they will have the tools to know what is and isn't acceptable. The way that children use social media is changing quickly and we need to work together with parents to protect them.

As a school we take bullying incredibly seriously and want all children to feel safe and happy. My hope is that we can work together on this to make sure that social media is only used in a positive way and brings benefits to our pupils.

Please see below link for a recent Facebook page for Parents providing information on cyber bullying.

<https://www.facebook.com/safety/bullying/parents>

We would to thank you in advance for your support with this matter. Kind regards,

Verity Carter
Headteacher