



GRANTA GAZETTE

Your roundup of news and tips to keep you well informed



Message from the Headteacher

It is wonderful to see all our students returned from half-term break. The start of Autumn 2 has been a successful one, with the reintroduction of our after-school club provision. Well done to Alistair, Jo and the team for organising it

so well! We are looking forward to a half-term full of exciting learning opportunities and new, fun experiences. During November, classes have been celebrating Children in Need, as well as learning about the history of Guy Fawkes, the story of Diwali and the significance of Remembrance Day. Teachers have been planning engaging lessons

focused on our newly developed life skills curriculum, alongside our other core and creative subjects. We will be sharing information about our plans to further develop the curriculum in due course so please keep a look out on your emails and do update us if your email address has changed.

Ruchi Datta, Head teacher

Happy Diwali

We have been learning about Diwali through the story of Rama and Sita. Students made rangoli patterns out of Numicon and out of natural objects in Forest School and we designed henna patterns for our hands!



Remembrance Day



During the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day, our students took part in making poppies for displays within their classrooms and around the school, to show their support for everyone who gave their lives during the war.



Key Message

On Thursday 19th November, the school had a supportive visit from Ofsted, conducted remotely. This was not an inspection, but a review of how the school has managed in returning students following the major lockdown. A letter of their findings will be published in due course.

Magic Carpet

We are always looking for ways to enhance our students learning and development and offer equipment that stimulates their imagination and fuels creativity. With this in mind and a sizeable grant received from both the Lord Taverners and our Friends of Granta School, we were able to purchase a SENSE portable interactive floor projector (magic carpet). Fitzebra have been making use of this during November for their Disney topic. It has been wonderful to watch the children interacting with even the smallest of movements, inspiring them to explore and gain a greater level of independence.



E-Safety Tips

Put yourself in control

Make use of the parental controls on your home broadband and any internet-enabled devices. Find out how at your broadband provider's website or by visiting internetmatters.org.

Search safely

Use safe search engines such as swiggle.org or kids-search.com. Safe search settings can also be activated on Google and other search engines as well as YouTube. You can find out more at google.co.uk/safetycentre.

Agree boundaries

Be clear what your child can and can't do online – where they can use the internet, how much time they can spend online, the sites they can visit and the type of information they can share. Agree with your child when they can have a mobile phone or tablet or put it on a home visual timetable.

Check if it's suitable

The age ratings that come with games, apps, films and social networks are a good guide to whether they're suitable for your child. The minimum age limit is 13 for several social networking sites, including Facebook and Instagram.



Children in Need Pyjama and 'Onesie' day'

Penguin Class Pudsey Fun

Penguin class had great fun during their PE lesson, learning new ball skills with Pudsey bear. They learnt how to score a few goals, dribble a ball between the painted road marks on our playground and bounce them all whilst Pudsey bear looked on smiling!



Seahorse Class Forest Fun

'If you go down to the woods today you're in for a big surprise!'

Seahorse class took part in a Bear hunt in our Forest school as part of our Children in Need activity week.



On Friday 13th November, we invited staff and students to come into school dressed in a 'onesie' or pyjamas in support of Children in Need. What a fantastic array of colours and designs we had! Classes took part in activities on the day, including Coral class who had a pay and play afternoon for their students. Starfish class completed their challenges at home over the weekend, asking their parents/carers to sponsor them to take part in 'Act Your Age' challenges, all of which added to our grand total. The day was a huge success and we raised over £600. Thank you to everyone who took part and donated to this worthy cause.



'Five to Thrive'

During the week leading up to Children in Need pyjama and 'onesie' day, students took part in various activities as part of the 'Five to Thrive' week, focusing on wellbeing through exercise. Darwin and Pemberton students completed their activity of cycling 13 laps of our car park in the space of 10 minutes, which is the equivalent of 1 mile. A particular mention must be made to Emily, who has not had the confidence to ride before, but managed to complete her laps in the allotted time. Well done Emily, what a fantastic achievement!



Diary dates

- ☐ 26th November Virtual Parents Evening
- ☐ 11th December Christmas Jumper Day
- ☐ 14th December Virtual Christmas Panto
- ☐ 17th December Christmas Lunch

