

## Newsletter April 23rd, 2013

### Science Museum Trip

Year 5 and 6 had a fabulous day out at The Science Museum in London. The children enjoyed exploring the Space Exhibition and had a thrilling 4D cinema experience on the Legends of Apollo. After lunch, and a very long flight of stairs, the children had great fun in the 'Launch Pad'. Here they were able to try out many different practical experiments which included: water powered rockets, generating electricity using hydro power, centrifugal force and sensing sound through teeth. A long but fun filled day and many of the children have expressed an interest in visiting the museum again outside of school.



### River Ouse Trip

On a very cold day in March, Year 5 wrapped up and set off to visit the River Great Ouse in Buckingham. We observed many of the features of rivers that we have been learning about this term in Geography. Back at school, the class produced some lovely descriptions and illustrations of their observations of river features and wildlife.



### PROJECT: ACORN - PAINTING PARTY



18<sup>TH</sup> MAY FROM 1PM

Parents and friends of Great Horwood are invited to join us for a painting party on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 1pm. We will be white washing the Year 6 classroom prior to a reading book inspired theme chosen by Year 6 children being applied! Please come along and help if you can lend a hand with painting, plastering or providing refreshments!

### ALEXANDER'S FUND

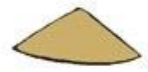
Great Horwood School are supporting a fund raising campaign for Alexander from Aylesbury, a year 2 boy who requires urgent medical treatment. A donation of any amount is welcome this Wednesday in school as we join in 'Wear a Hat Wednesday'. Find out more about Alex by visiting: [www.alexandersfund.net](http://www.alexandersfund.net)



## Wear A Hat Wednesday!



Wear a hat to School,  
College or Work  
this Wednesday  
24<sup>th</sup> April



to help raise  
money for



### Alexander's Fund

All donations gratefully received

[www.alexandersfund.net](http://www.alexandersfund.net)

<https://www.justgiving.com/treatmentforalex/>





## CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

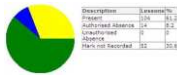
Tempest Photography class photo orders will be sent off by courier on

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2013.**

Copies of the photos are available in the school reception area for you to view.

## THE LEARNING PORTAL AND YOUR CHILD'S DATA

The provider of ICT services to schools in Buckinghamshire has recently changed and the uploading of pupil reports is not currently working as it should. As such, we will let you know as soon as the Learning Portal is ready for parents to access the latest pupil data. Meanwhile, you can login and check on attendance data and the number of Golden Book, Merit Certificates or Headteacher awards your child has received.



Great Horwood School has subscribed to the popular MyMaths website. This site allows our children to login, using a password and username that will be distributed shortly, and complete activities related to learning in school. Teachers will be setting homework tasks using MyMaths in future weeks, and we appreciate that access to the internet is required for this; as such, children will be allowed to use the computer suite after school by arrangement if access is an issue. MyMaths also requires Flash installed on the machine to operate, meaning mobile devices such as iPads will need to use an app such as Photon Flash Player.



## PTA FUNDRAISING

The PTA would like to thank everyone who helped with 'Bags to School' – a wonderful £396 was raised in total! A huge thank you to everyone who enjoyed running in the Fun Run. Despite the snow, over one hundred and thirty runners completed the 5km route, all deservedly receiving a medal at the end. Special thanks go to Sheila Landymore for doing such a fine job of organising the event.

Look out for a date for PTA organised 'Bingo' coming soon!



## Our Amazing Dancers!

Congratulations go to our amazing dancers for finishing an admirable second in the Buckingham Dance Festival. The children spent a huge amount of time working on the dance routines, and thanks go to Mrs Davies, Mrs Springall and Mrs Evans for supporting and training the team so very well!





## SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

### Fundraising

The school council are working hard to raise money for the following:

- Dogs Trust
- Chick Hatching Experience
- Web Cam for our Nature Area

A 'coin race' is currently running in each classroom, with a prize for the class who collects the most small change. We will be coin collecting until 12<sup>th</sup> May.

### School Shop

The school shop now sells whiteboard pens (50p) and handwriting pens (£1).

### Playtime

The school council organised the rota for the adventure playground.

### Cloakrooms

The council suggested the idea of lockers for cloakrooms. It is to be investigated further how much this will cost.



KitAid is a charity that collects clean unwanted kit (shirts, shorts, boots, gloves, shin-pads) to give to children living in the poorest parts of the world. There is a collection point in the school office if you are able to donate any kit to this wonderful cause.

### Comic Relief Success!

Thank you to everyone at Great Horwood School who contributed cakes and other goodies to help with the fund raising activities for Comic Relief organised by Year 6. The school has raised an incredible amount - £352.28!



### School Development Priorities

The development points from our Ofsted inspection correlate closely with the development points we had identified for our work in the Spring Term. We will be spending the summer term continuing to work on the same targets to ensure that, when we have met the targets, they are fully embedded in daily school practice.

#### Summer Term Development Priorities: Improving Teaching and Learning

- To secure effective use of differentiation to support and challenge all pupils

#### Accelerate Progress and Raise Standards

- To ensure developmental marking impacts on pupil progress
- To ensure the curriculum meets the needs of our pupils, spotlighting applying literacy and numeracy skills in other subject areas.

As always, we are keen to hear from our whole school community on how we can improve our school.

#### **Message to Cross Country Runners**

The Cross Country Championship has been rescheduled to this Saturday, 27th April, with children encouraged to arrive at 11am. The Championship has been moved to Wendover Junior School. Please drop a note into school letting Miss Miller know if your child can attend.

### TERM DATES

#### **Summer term - 1st Half**

School closes on the afternoon of Friday 24th May 2013

#### **Summer term - 2nd Half**

School opens on the morning of Tuesday 4th June 2013

School closes on the afternoon of Wednesday 24th July 2013

#### **In-Service Training Days for teachers:**

Monday 3rd June 2013

