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| **Little Gaddesden C** |

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Dear Parents,

**Science**

**Science Ambassadors -**  Welcome to our Science Ambassadors, Maiya and Alfie. They are going to play an important role in the promotion and development of science across our school as we work towards the Primary Science Quality Mark. Their responsibilities will include:

attending meetings to discuss ways to improve science

producing a termly science newsletter for pupils

holding ‘pupil voice’ sessions to take into account the views of other children

helping to plan and organise ‘science week’ at the beginning of March.

They have had their first meeting with Miss Allen and are off to an enthusiastic start.

**Science Principles**  - please find our science principles attached. These have been adopted as a whole school and are on display in every classroom. They highlight the 5 most important areas for the teaching and learning of science in our school.

**Speaking to your child’s teacher**

We thought it might be helpful to clarify the process for parents or carers wanting to speak to your child’s teacher. Staff are always happy to discuss any concerns or queries with parents but are usually very busy in the morning getting ready for the day ahead. We ask that you please contact the Office to make an appointment either via email or over the phone. They will be much better prepared for meeting you if they have notice.

**Class Assembly – reminder**

Just a reminder that **Class Two** will be having their Assembly on **Wednesday 20th November** at 9.0am and **Class Four** will be having their Assembly on **Thursday 21st November** at 9.0am. All are welcome.

**Term Dates & INSET dates**

The school is entitled to one more INSET day this year. As we will have a new Headteacher in April, the school will have two INSET days on Monday 20th **and** Tuesday 21st April. This will give the team the opportunity to get to know each other before the term begins for all children on Wednesday 22nd April at 8.50am.

For 2020/21, there will be an INSET day on Wednesday 2nd September with the children back in school on Thursday 3rd September. We will have a second INSET day on Friday 23rd October, preceding half-term (Oct 26th – 30th). The school will break for Christmas on Friday 18th December returning to school on Tuesday 5th January 2021 (Monday 4th January being an INSET day).

**Dinner Payments**

Dinner money letters have come home today with those children in Class 3 & 4 who have school dinners. Please check their bags. Payment for this half- of term (4th November – 20th December) is due by Friday 29th November and we ask parents to please pay promptly as chasing payments takes up a lot of time.

Our preferred method of payment is online via your School Gateway account. The amount due for this half-term has been highlighted in the letter. Please overtype this into the amount box on School Gateway to pay the full amount due.

See over for a message from The Friends

Yours sincerely

**Charis Geoghegan**

**Headteacher**

**Message from the Friends**

**AGM meeting**

Thank you very much for all those who joined us at the AGM meeting on Tuesday this week!  We had a very busy meeting: we adopted the new constitution, appointed our new Treasurer, Mark Newbury, reconfirmed our current committee members and agreed the accounts.  We also discussed the forthcoming events including the Christmas Fayre.... details below!

**Film Night: Friday 29th November**

Our next Film Night is Friday 29th November and, with Christmas in our sights, we will be showing Arthur Christmas! We have organised online payments through School Gateway until 3pm on Wednesday 27th November, after which cash only please to a committee member.  Please remember to hand in a signed consent form to a committee member or class rep - we require these for every child attending!

**Christmas Fayre: Sat 7th December 12pm - 2.30pm**

With Christmas just around the corner (!), we turn our attentions to our Christmas Fayre!

Your Year Reps will shortly contact you with details of the roles and responsibilities allocated to each Year to assist in the organisation of the Fayre. By way of a heads up, Years 5 & 6 have been jointly allocated Games Room & Lucky Dip; Year 4 Bar & Cakes; Year 3 Santa’s Grotto; Year 2 Tombola (adult & children), Year 1 Food and Reception Face Painting & Crafts. A few key dates and stages in the run up to note:

**Friday 29th November:    Non-uniform day: Christmas Jumpers!**

Children may come to school in their most festive outfits (this is also Film Night)!  In exchange, please can you donate a gift for the Christmas hamper/tomobola as follows:

Class 1: sweet treats, including chocolates/truffles and biscuits

Class 2: Savoury crackers, jams, chutneys etc.

Class 3: Luxury toiletries, candles, gift items

Class 4: Wine, spirits, liqueurs, specialty non-alcoholic drinks

We will set out a table in the playground in the morning and afternoon on that Friday for all donations!

**Week commencing 2nd December: Playground Collections**

All this week, we will be collecting items for our tombolas: any unwanted gifts, bottles, new or good quality used complete games and toys and jars of sweets. Please alos feel free to donate any good to reasonable quality books as we will have a separate book stand at the Fayre where parents and children may purchase books.

**Raffle Ticket selling**

We will be sending home 20 raffle tickets in book bags to each family.  Your help in selling as many tickets as possible is, as always, much appreciated!  As usual, we will also be selling raffle tickets outside the shop on Sat 23rd, Sun 24th and Sat 30th Nov and Sun 1st Dec.  If you are free to man an hour slot please see Hannah Jarvis!  Alongside the usual raffle, we will be selling £10 raffle tickets for 4 people to go to the amazing Britain's Got Talent 2020 auditions! Roll up, Roll up!

**Pass The Party**

We would like to send a special thanks out to Carly Nair!  In October, she started a genius new initiative which involves lending out a party box full of essential childrens' party items.  It is a completely free community project but donations to the Friends of Little Gaddesden are gratefully received.  So far, Carly has raised an amazing £80 - spread the word! Flyer attached for more info!

**Christmas cards**

Hopefully your child came home with their Christmas card and order form.

Could you return your completed form with payment of cash or cheques made payable to:

**The Friends of Little Gaddesden school by Wednesday 20 November.**

Please consider purchasing as Christmas gifts for relatives, as all profits go to the school.