



Little Gaddesden C of E Primary School

Headteacher: Lorna Elkes

Newsletter 22nd October 2020

Dear parents and carers,

Already we are at half term! Despite all the changes and adaptations the team have worked incredibly hard to ensure that the children have as normal an experience at school as is possible.

Big Draw

Last Friday, the children in classes 1 and 2 took part in the Big Draw. This year the focus was the 'big green draw' thinking about 'a climate for change' to highlight the relationships between people and our living environments. We focused on trees and the wide range of nature around us. I think you'll agree, the children created some amazing work helped by several parents to whom we are very grateful.



By using a range of techniques, the children enjoyed making their own natural woodland animals, and creating leaf outlines in autumnal colours.





Using chestnuts and horse chestnuts to create marbled images with paint as well as our collective 'big' drawing...



BBC Ten Pieces

On Thursday pupils from classes 3 and 4 were virtually joined by Nigel Goodwin, a violist with the BBC orchestra. After some warm-up activities of us clapping musical beats and pulses, he explained how string instruments produced sound and the difference in pitch of violins and violas. He also played extracts from Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker and Elgar's Enigma Variations, enlightening enwrapped pupils about the stories behind the music, before answering our many questions.

I liked how he made the low notes, because of how calm it sounded and how slow. It was good to see how the viola was made, but how does the air get through the holes?

I was fascinated when I found out that the orchestra had 56 people in it!



I was fascinated that there were over 1000 notes that the viola could play. Also it was weird that Elgar didn't name his thirteenth piece in the Enigma Variation.

I enjoyed hearing that the viola was lower than a violin.

Google Classrooms top tip

Before logging onto Google Classroom at home, make sure that other gmail users have logged off first. Please also remember that the children's accounts do not have email function.

Pupils progress meetings for parents:

Please see attached [letter](#) for details.

New School Menu

The school menu will be changing after half-term. Please click on the attached link to complete the [form](#) to let us know your child's choices for the next half of term. Please complete a form even if your child is having a packed lunch every day. If you have any queries, please contact the Office.

Yoga After School Club

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, a Yoga club will be running on a Monday after school after half-term. The club is for children in classes 1 & 2 and more details including the prices and how to book, are on the attached [leaflet](#).

Enjoy the half term break and an extra hour of sleep this weekend!

Lorna Elkes
Headteacher