

**GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL**  
**NEWSLETTER 2 SPRING 2019**

Spring 2: April 2019

<b>Term Dates</b>	
<b>SCHOOL TERMS &amp; HOLIDAY DATES</b>	<b><u>2018/2019</u></b>
<b>Spring Term</b>	Mon 7 January 2019 - Fri 15 February 2019
<b>Half Term</b>	Mon 18 February 2019 - Fri 22 February 2019
	Mon 25 February 2019 - Fri 12 April 2019
<b>Summer Term</b>	Mon 29 April 2019 - Fri 24 May 2019 <b><i>May Day Bank Holiday Mon 6 May 2019</i></b>
<b>Half Term</b>	Mon 27 May 2019 - Fri 31 May 2019
	Mon 3 June 2019 - Mon 22 July 2019
	<b>Remaining Inset Days 2018/19 Fri 12 April 2019, Monday 22 July 2019</b>
	<b><u>2019/2020</u></b>
<b>Autumn Term</b>	Mon 2 September 2019 - Fri 25 October 2019
<b>Half Term</b>	Mon 28 October 2019 - Fri 1 November 2019
	Mon 4 November - Fri 20 December 2019
<b>Spring Term</b>	Mon 6 January 2020 - Fri 14 February 2020
<b>Half Term</b>	Mon 17 February 2020 - Fri 21 February 2020
	Mon 24 February 2020 - Fri 3 April 2020
<b>Summer Term</b>	Mon 20 April 2020 - Fri 22 May 2020 <b><i>May Day Bank Holiday Mon 4 May 2020</i></b>
<b>Half Term</b>	Mon 25 May 2020 - Fri 29 May 2020
	Mon 1 June 2020 - Mon 20 July 2020
	<b>Inset Days to be advised</b>

**Dates for Diary**

**2019**

Tue 16 April	Reception 2019 Offer Day
Wed 1 May am	KS1 All Stars Cricket Assembly
Wed 1 May pm	KS2 Chance to Shine Assembly
Fri 3 May	<u>Last Day for Malawi Stationery Appeal</u>
Wed 8 May	Years 4 & 5 Chance to Shine Cricket commences
Wed 8 May	Y4 to Strings Explosion Warwick Arts Centre
Mon 13-Thur 16 May	KS2 SAT's Testing
Tue 21 May	Reception Visit to Butterfly Farm
Wed 22 May am	Tempest Photography: Class photos
Tue 11 June	Nursery Visit to Umberslade Farm
Mon 17 June	PTFA Discos: Ice Pops
Tue 18 June 6.30pm	Nursery 2019 Parents Meeting
Tue 18 June 7.30pm	Reception 2019 Parents Meeting
Wed 19 June	Year 2 Tri-Golf Festival at Tudor Grange

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Mon 24-Fri 28 June	Year 6 Residential Conover Hall
Tue 25 June	Year 3 Visit to Compton Verney
Mon 1 July	Animals in the Hand visit to Nursery & Reception
Wed 3 July	Year 4 Chance to Shine Cricket Festival- Berkswell CC
Thur 4 July	Year 5 Chance to Shine Cricket Festival- Berkswell CC
Mon 8 July 11.15am	Year 6 Leavers Assembly at St Martins in the Bull Ring
Fri 19 July	Year 6 Leavers Service at Hampton Village Church

**Class Assemblies**

Please see below for class assembly dates. On very rare occasions we may need to change dates but always do our best to give maximum notice and keep parents well informed.

Year	Date
R	Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2019
1	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2019
2	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2019
3	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2019
4	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2019
5	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2019
6	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2019

**Staffing Updates**

**Baby Morris Announcement:**

We are delighted to announce the safe arrival of baby "Matilda Morris" born early this half term. Matilda is beautiful and we are all very much looking forward to meeting her soon. We send our love and very best wishes to Mrs Morris and her family.

**Lunchtime Supervisors:** We are pleased to welcome back Mrs Tribe to our lunchtime supervisor team. Mrs Tribe will be starting back after the Easter break. We are also saying thank you and goodbye to Miss Jones who will be leaving our team at Easter.

**A Message from the PTFA**

Thank you to everyone who has supported the wonderful Easter Celebration Coffee Morning - we raised approximately £200 for Project ICT Innovation! (Final counting still to be done.) It was such a lovely morning: homemade cakes, amazing Easter bonnets, fantastically decorated eggs and the children's faces were a picture.

If you are ordering any new name labels please consider buying from [www.mynametags.com](http://www.mynametags.com). The colour stickers are fantastic and stick on clothes, shoes and equipment. Quote our School ID: **26751** and we will receive 20% of your order.

Another easy way you can join our fund raising is by doing your online shopping through [www.easyfunding.org.uk](http://www.easyfunding.org.uk). Just go to the website and search for George Fentham Endowed PTFA and you can raise money every time you shop online.



Don't forget to check Classlist for the winners each month. Please look out Shirley Chung or Rhona Cloke at the school gate to collect your winnings. If we don't catch up with you we will post or leave your winnings at the office for you to collect.

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February winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> - 31 - Shirley Chung - £25  
2<sup>nd</sup> - 62 - Rebecca Roberts - £15  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 38 - Simon Jephcott - £10

Don't forget to check out [www.classlist.com](http://www.classlist.com) to keep up with the latest news and events.

The PTFA's success is dependent on your continued support and engagement. So far this year we have funded 3 new interactive whiteboards but have plans for more... We particularly need support from parents in Foundation and KS1 for the PTFA to be sustainable going forward for future years. If you would like to get more involved, any help big or small is appreciated, please contact us: [gftfa@gmail.com](mailto:gftfa@gmail.com) or via [www.classlist.com](http://www.classlist.com). Or just turn up at our next meeting. We look forward to meeting some new faces. Thank you!

**Date of the next meeting: 8:00pm - White Lion - Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019.**



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School and Sports Events

**Nursery:**

**Phonics 'Inspire' Workshop**

Parents joined the Nursery class on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April for our annual Phonics Workshop. This was an opportunity to find out about phonics, a vital skill for learning to read and write. We discussed the teaching of phonics in school and how to support children's development at home. However, most of the morning was devoted to working with the children on a carousel of 20 varied phonics activities.

**Playhouse Theatre**

Nursery children loved the production of 'Things that go bump' that we experienced when the Playhouse Theatre Company visited in February. The show was very interactive and allowed the children to play a role in determining the storyline. All of the children had a wonderful morning and were very engaged in thinking about how we can tackle situations that might make us apprehensive.

**Mothers' Day Celebration**

Nursery children were in good voice when Mums visited us to hear the children sing some of their favourite songs that show some of their learning this year. The children then proudly presented their visitors with a portrait of their mothers and some daffodils.

**Reception:**

**Class Church Visit**

Reverend Stuart from Hampton Church invited Reception children to visit him at the village church last month. They enjoyed their tour of the building and were particularly taken with the view from the pulpit! The children then helped Rev Stuart to tell a Bible story before walking

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back to school, noticing the signs of spring as they listened to bird song and spotted blossom on the trees.

**Gymnastics**

Reception class have really enjoyed their Gymnastics PE lessons. They have learnt how to balance and keep a strong core, use a beam or bench to balance along, roll in lots of different ways, such as a sausage roll and an egg roll and how to put their body in a curve or arch shape. The children have all made progress with their gross and fine motor development during these sessions.

**Year 1:**

**African Safari Explorer Day**

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, Year 1 took part in an African Safari Explorer day. All the children came to school dressed as explorers ready to learn amazing facts about the African Savannah. Each child was also given a special explorer badge and a folder to help fire their imagination.

There were opportunities, throughout the day, to find out about all the different animals that live in the different parts of the continent. Using their shoe boxes, which they brought in, the class made some super safari or rainforest dioramas. This linked in with our Design and Technology unit of work very nicely.

In the afternoon the class were able to touch and hold a variety of animals, native to Africa. These included a rock python, a white pygmy hedgehog, a tortoise, and a barn owl! A fun day was had by all! A big thank you to the George Fentham Trust for funding the visit made by the Animal Lady.

**Phonics Workshop**

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March, in the afternoon, Year 1 hosted an Inspire Workshop on Phonics. Parents were invited in to find out more about how their child is taught phonics and how they can support them at home. The afternoon was a hive of activity when the children were all able to join their parents, taking part in fun and creative games all linked to learning phonics.

**Year 2:**

We've had a great half term; Setting light to our Tudor Houses as the culmination of our topic on The Great Fire of London, exploring the Digestive System and meeting Harold the Giraffe on the Life Bus during Health Week, making our own 'moon buggies' to help Bob, the Man on the Moon as part of our English/Reading focus and producing our own Icons in RE. (We'll be visiting the Church early in Summer 1 to examine the real ones.) We're now looking forward to our Tri-Golf sessions and Tournament at Tudor Grange Golf Club, our visit to the Thinktank for Science and our new topic on A Midsummer Night's Dream.

**Year 3:**

**Geography**

Over the last half-term, Class 3 has been learning about their local area in Geography. They consolidated their learning through taking a field-trip around Hampton-in-Arden. The children were tasked with identifying the human and physical features within the area, observing how housing had changed over time and finding out what facilities the town provides for its occupants. Many of the children live in the local area and it made them think about the things that they see on a daily basis.

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**Year 4:**

**Emma Bridgewater Factory**

Year 4 had the most marvellous opportunity to complete their Art topic with a visit to the Emma Bridgewater Factory in Stoke. One of the artists they studied was Clarice Cliff and to be able to make a piece of art work on pottery was a fabulous experience. The children planned their art work on the theme of Journeys and everyone commented on how delightful the class were. We were so proud of them - well done Year 4!

**Year 5:**

**Carmina Burana at Warwick Arts Centre**

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March, members of Year 5 took part in a fabulous performance of Carmina Burana at Warwick Arts Centre. This was the culmination of weeks of rehearsals in school with members of the Armonico Consort, a professional choir and orchestra who perform regularly around the country. In their weekly sessions, the children had been learning about breathing, posture and diction, and were trained to become leaders of musical groups themselves. The atmosphere in the Arts Centre was fabulous and the children thoroughly enjoyed putting all they had learnt into practice along with children from other schools. It was a unique opportunity for the children to perform in a professional venue, with experienced musicians and to have the chance to see a wide range of instruments performed live, something that they were all excited about! All children rose to the occasion, supporting each other and embracing the spirit of the occasion brilliantly. They were an absolute credit to themselves and their families, and Mrs Kermode and Mrs Bradburn were very proud of how they represented George Fenthal. A thank you to the George Fenthal Trust for contributing towards the transport to the Warwick Arts Centre.



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### Bikeability

Year 5 had a fabulous week of Bikeability in March. It was a valuable opportunity to learn about keeping safe on the roads and how to take care of your bicycle. The instructors were very impressed with the children's behaviour and all children who participated now know how to keep themselves safe out on their bikes, understanding the importance of good eye-contact, clear signalling and active listening. Congratulations to all children who took part. Their positive attitude and care for each other was lovely to see.

### Rainforest Man

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, Class 5 took part in the Rainforest Roadshow as part of our Rainforest topic this half term. Dave Shaw engaged the children with colourful photographs of his visits to Brazil, including fabulous close-ups of unusual animals, rare plants and smiling tribal people. The children were fascinated by tales from his travels as well as the animals Dave brought with him. These included a docile tarantula -which some children liked more than others! Well done to the whole class who not only held the tarantula gently but also held a fabulous orange, black and white milk snake. The icing on the cake was when Dave produced a very large blow pipe and proceeded to pop a balloon, followed by piercing Mrs Kermode's apple! The afternoon session involved making colourful tribal necklaces and trying some unusual foods (such as dried plantain, cinnamon bark and cocoa nibs). Many thanks to Dave for providing us with an engaging, humorous and thoughtful introduction to our topic. Thank you to the George Fentham Trust for funding this experience.

### Year 6:

#### **Church visit and visit to The National Memorial Arboretum**

In RE, this term, Year 6 has been investigating how we remember people we have loved. On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March, Reverend Stuart welcomed Year 6 to church to explore how people are remembered there. The children enjoyed looking at the memorial plaques and stones, stained glass windows and carvings. They were fascinated by the Heart Tomb, reputed to contain the

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heart of a Knight Templar who died on a crusade with Richard the Lionheart in the twelfth century. They then continued this work two weeks later, on 25<sup>th</sup> March, when they went to The National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. The children appreciated the wide range of designs and the clever symbolism included in the different memorials. They had a beautiful sunny, spring day for this visit!

**Flying the Flag for the Commonwealth**

Thank you and well done to all the children who entered this year's competition. Although we did not win this year, we had some fabulous pictures, posters and designs.

**Swimming**

The children in Year 3 have completed two full terms of swimming instruction and a high percentage have successfully passed the National Curriculum requirements. Some children have progressed further and have achieved additional swimming grades. It has been wonderful to watch all the children make progress and increase their confidence in the water.

**Next year's Swimming Lessons**

Swimming lessons for next year's Class 3 will commence early in September. Parent volunteers play a vital role in enabling our lessons to take place. All of our parent volunteers need to be DBS checked before they can accompany the children; this process can take a number of weeks to complete. If you would be willing to accompany the children on their swimming lessons can you please speak to the office, they will advise you on what paperwork is needed. The more volunteers we have, the better!

**Health Week**

Staff and pupils thoroughly enjoyed our annual 'Health Week' this half term. All classes visited the Lifebus, carried out follow-up work in class using 'Healthy Me Jigsaw' materials, had First Aid training from St John Ambulance and had the opportunity to visit the fruit tuck shop. The children also had the opportunity to challenge themselves physically and set themselves a personal challenge. We also have some Year 5 children trained as Play Leaders to support activities outside during the day. We hope that your child (ren) enjoyed this cross-curricular week and learnt more about keeping healthy and safe. Thank you to the Fenthams Trust for once again funding the Lifebus and St John Ambulance.

**World Book Day & Book Club**

**World Book Day:**

Thank you for your extraordinary efforts getting the children dressed up for our World Book Day. The children looked amazing and it was a delight to see them so excited about their reading. The afternoon was finished off with story time across the school. What an amazing day!

**Book Club:**

We have had another half a term's worth of Book Club meetings for Years 4, 5 and 6 Book Club members. Between us, we are reading a great variety of books from fantasy to mystery and even some horror too. Mrs Brooker is enjoying sitting with the children and reading her books too! Due to popular demand, Book Club will be running again next term and we will be sending a letter out asking for our George Fenthams Year 4, 5 and 6 Bookworms to sign up once again

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**Football Club**

Well, another fabulous half term of football for the children in the Year 5/6 Football Squad. After another round of close fought matches, the Small School's Football League ended with us having 5 wins, 2 draws and 2 losses, scoring an impressive 29 goals along the way and finishing in 5th place (out of 9). A great effort by everyone involved and we now look forward to further matches during the summer term.

**Charities**

**Marie Curie Daffodils**

Thank you for supporting the Great Daffodil Appeal during March, Marie Curie gives care and support through terminal illness. The amount collected for the sale of daffodils was £36.00 Thank you

**Comic Relief - Red Nose Day**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March was Red Nose non-uniform day at George Fentham School, Comic Relief is a charity based in the UK which strives to create a just world, free from poverty and their mission is to drive positive change through the power of entertainment.

Noses Sold                    £300.00

Non-uniform                £224.07

Activities run by Year 6 £ 65.85

**Total                      £589.92**

This is huge achievement, thank you!!!

**Malawi Stationery Appeal**

On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April we welcomed Rev. Paul Bracher, who co-ordinates Birmingham Diocese links with Malawi, into school to lead an assembly on what life is like for children living in one of the poorest countries in the world. He told us about his regular visits to Malawi and showed us pictures of some of the schools.

We are asking for your help to collect stationery items: exercise books, pens, pencils, rulers and any other useful school items for children in Malawi.

As you will no doubt already know, Malawi has been hit by severe flooding and a devastating cyclone in the last few weeks. Many children have lost their few precious school resources.

Please could you send stationery new, or nearly new - but in good condition - resources to school by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019. These items will be dispatched by container to Malawi, on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

Thank you so much for your generous support.

**Easter Service at St Mary & St Bartholomew Church**

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April the whole school went to the Easter Service at St Mary & Bartholomew Church, Hampton in Arden where they were greeted by the Rev Stuart Dimes. Year 5 sang a song from their recent concert performed at the Warwick Arts Centre and a reader from each class shared the Easter story with us all. As always this is a very special event for the school and the children demonstrated outstanding behaviour and a lovely positive attitude.

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**The BASE**

Please be aware the BASE (Before & After School Club) will be open each morning from 7.30am. There is a possibility of spaces in the BASE for various sessions during the week. If you are interested please contact Mrs Coley at the BASE or telephone 01675 443913.

**Summer 1 2019 Planned Clubs and Music Lessons**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Lunchtime</b>	<b>After-school</b>
Monday	Guitar Lessons Keyboard Lessons 12.45-1.15 Year 3 & 4 Tennis Club on small playground	Football Club 3.20-4.20pm.
Tuesday	12.45-1.15 Reception, Years 1 & 2 Racket Skills Club on small playground	3.20-4.20 Years 5 & 6 Tennis Club 3.20-4.20 Years 5 & 6 Rounders Club
Wednesday	12.45-1.15 KS1 Football Club on small playground Strings Lessons KS2 Homework Club with Mrs Mallin	
Thursday	12.45 - 1.15 Y1 & 2 Tri-golf on small playground Saxophone Lessons	
Friday	Cello Lessons 12.15-1.15 Games Club on Playground 12.45 - 1.15 KS2 Tri-golf on small playground	

**Learning Curves After School Club**

Please be advised that Learning Curves will cease at George Fenthams School on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the dance teachers who have been coming into George Fenthams on a regular basis and working with our children over a number of years.

**Village Tidy Up**

The Parish Council has advised us they will be holding a Village Tidy Up session on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2019 in preparation for the Village Festival the following weekend. Volunteers are required!! More information will appear on their website [www.hamptoninarden.org.uk](http://www.hamptoninarden.org.uk) in due course.

**Mobile Phones in School**

May we remind you that mobile phones must not be used in school. The only exception to this is if parents use their phones to take photographs, of their own child, for their own personal use at the end of Class Assemblies or Performances. We request that these images are not published on any form of social media. This is in line with our school policies and procedures. Please ensure that mobile phones are switched off and put away at all other times. Thank you for your support in this matter.

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**Medicines in School**

Please be aware that a medicine permission form must be completed and discussed with a member of the office staff if your child requires any medicine during the school day or whilst on school site for extra activities e.g. clubs and discos. It is extremely important that all medicine has the prescription label clearly displayed on the medicine, stating your child's name, dose and frequency. If this information is displayed on packaging, we will need this packaging to be supplied. This arrangement will also apply for Calpol, therefore, if your child requires Calpol during the school day the bottle must have a label with the above details.

Should you wish to discuss this in any further detail, please contact the school office.

**Dietary Requirements / Food Allergies**

Please note it is the responsibility of Parents or Carers to advise the school office, in writing, of any dietary requirements or food allergies for each individual child. Please note this is not required for food preferences but for medical conditions such as allergies or Religious Beliefs. This information will be stored on the child's record throughout school.

**School Meals – Outstanding Debt**

**Parents of children in KS2**

With an increasing amount of accounts falling in to debt, please ensure that you check your account regularly and credit your account with sufficient funds to pay for your child's school lunches. If a debt exceeds one week's school lunches of £10.50 (£2.10 per day) a hot meal cannot be provided until the debt is cleared and the account is in credit.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Please contact the school office if you think your child may be eligible for free school meals.

**Attendance and Requests for Leave of Absence**

To support us to secure good attendance for all of our pupils and to address concerns regarding any child's poor school attendance and punctuality, we are continuing to work with Central School Attendance and Welfare Service Ltd (CSAWS). Each half term, attendance registers are rigorously scrutinised to identify any attendance issues. This includes children falling below 95% attendance, children who are below 90% attendance and therefore at risk of becoming persistent absentees, children with any unauthorised absence and any punctuality concerns.

Your child may be referred to a CSAWS Attendance and Welfare Officer if their attendance and punctuality is causing concern. They will then contact you by phone, letter or home visit to discuss the school's concerns and how attendance and punctuality can be improved.

Please note, Head Teachers are only allowed to grant leave of absence in very exceptional circumstances and where the application has been made two weeks in advance. This does not include family holidays. Should you require any further information, or wish to discuss a leave of absence request please contact the school office.

**Medical, Dental & Optician Appointments**

Following advice from CSAWS, we would like to ask for your support in organising medical, dental and optician appointments outside of the school day. Please note if there is no alternative, you may be asked to show a copy of your appointment letter or card to the school office.

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**And finally.....**

A reminder that Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April is an INSET Day. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a well-deserved & restful Easter Break. We look forward to welcoming children back to school on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

Mrs J Gaughan  
Head Teacher

Please see our advert below. If you are interested in doing 1 or more lunchtime sessions please contact the school office when we return to school after the Easter break. Thank you.

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Email: [office@george-fenthams.solihull.sch.uk](mailto:office@george-fenthams.solihull.sch.uk)



**Lunchtime Supervisor**

Part-time Permanent Position

A variety of sessions available per week, 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  hours per day,

Term-time only

Salary Range £17,364 - £18,065 (pro rata)

We are looking for enthusiastic, caring and reliable individuals to join our excellent team of lunchtime supervisors next academic year. You will be responsible for supervising children during their lunch break both inside and outside and for promoting positive behaviour through supporting play activities.

Guidance will be given on Safeguarding, Health & Safety, First Aid and school policies and procedures.

In addition we are offering one extra session to work in classrooms alongside teachers with children in school. Whilst this is an excellent opportunity to further contribute to the life of the school, it is purely optional.

*You are most welcome to make an appointment to visit our school to find out more. Further information including an application form, job description and person specification is available by request from Mrs Hansford in the school office.*

**Please return the completed form to the  
Head Teacher - Mrs J Gaughan**

George Fenthams Endowed School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An Enhanced DBS check will be required for the successful applicant.