

**GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER 2 SUMMER 2017**

Summer 2: July 2017

<b>Term Dates</b>	
<b>SCHOOL TERMS &amp; HOLIDAY DATES</b>	<b><u>2017/2018</u></b>
<b>Autumn Term</b>	Mon 4 September 2017 - Fri 20 October 2017
<b>Half Term</b>	Mon 23 October 2017 - Fri 27 October 2017
	Mon 30 October 2017 - Tuesday 19 December 2017
<b>Spring Term</b>	Wed 3 January 2018 - Fri 16 February 2018
<b>Half Term</b>	Mon 19 February 2018 - Fri 23 February 2018
	Mon 26 February 2018 - Thur 29 March 2018
<b>Summer Term</b>	Mon 16 April 2018 - Fri 25 May 2018 <i>May Day Bank Holiday Mon 7 May 2018</i>
<b>Half Term</b>	Mon 28 May 2018 - Fri 1 June 2018
	Mon 4 June 2018 - Tue 24 July 2018
	<b><i>Inset Days 2017/2018 : Monday 4 Sept 2017, Fri 29 Sept 2017, Mon 2 Oct 2017, Fri 16 Feb 2018 and Mon 4 June 2018</i></b>

**Dates for Diary 2017 - 2018**

Tue 5 - Fri 8 September	Nursery 2017 Home Visits
Tue 5 - Thur 7 September	Reception 2017 - 3 x initial sessions
Fri 8 September	Reception 2017 - all children in school
Mon 11- Wed 13 September am	Nursery 2017 - 3 x initial sessions
Tue 12 September am	Year 3 Swimming starts - North Solihull Sports Centre
Thur 14 September am	Nursery 2017 - all children in
Fri 15 September pm	Reception 2017 Inspire Workshop - Reading & Phonics
Tue 19 September 6.30pm	Welcome to Nursery Workshop (for Parents)
Wed 18 October	School Vaccination Programme - Flu Nasal Spray Years R to 4
Wed 22 November	Tempest Photography - Individual

**Staffing Update**

We would like to say a huge thank you, good luck and goodbye to Mrs Brown and Mr Poole who will be leaving us at the end of term. We wish them continued success in the future and hope that they will keep in touch with us all here at George Fentham.

In September we welcome two new members of staff to George Fentham. Mrs Briggs will be joining us as the year 3 teacher and Mrs Flint will be joining us as our new teaching assistant based in Nursery.

In addition, we would like to offer our "Congratulations and very best wishes" to Miss Raynor, one of our Lunchtime Supervisors, who will be getting married over the summer break. Miss Raynor will return as Mrs Stevens in the autumn term.

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Key Stage 1 and 2 SATs

**KS1**

A huge congratulations to all of the children in Year 2. They completed their Key Stage 1 SATs (Maths, Reading and Spelling, Punctuation & Grammar) earlier this half term, showing fabulous maturity and attitude throughout. Well done everyone!

**KS2**

We were so proud of our Year 6 children during SATs week this year. They all stayed calm and approached their tests with a really positive frame of mind. Well done for all your hard work Year 6!

School Visits and Events

**Nursery: Farm Trip**

The Nursery class spent a lovely sunny June day at Umberslade Farm earlier this term. The children enjoyed seeing piglets, lambs, hens, horses, calves and many of the other farm residents. They were able to feed grain to the greedy goats as well as enjoying close encounters with guinea pigs, rabbits, rats and ducklings. The highlight for many of the children was the ride around the farm in the tractor trailer!

**Nursery & Reception: Zoolab Visit**

The Zoolab ranger visited Nursery and Reception class with her fabulous collection of creatures. The children were able to meet some fascinating animals including Tallulah the tarantula, Gary the giant snail and Percy the snake. In addition, Nursery children went on a bug hunt in the outdoor area and were amazed to find a wide selection of minibeasts. Reception children experienced an exciting interactive story about 'Speedy the Snail'.

**Year 1: Pizza Express**

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July Year 1 went to Pizza Express to learn all about making pizza. The trip was to inspire them and prepare them for their design and technology project - Making Pizza for a Child's Birthday Party. They learnt a lot about how a restaurant worked and how busy it can get. The children enjoyed finding out about the ingredients used in the pizzas and discussing the different types of toppings. Best of all they got to make pizza and bring it back to school for lunch!

Ophelia: 'It was fun making pizza!'

George: 'I loved that the pizza was really big.'

Jack: 'We got to learn all about pizza.'

Hugh: 'We put cheese on - Mozzarella.'

Ethan: 'It was yummy!!!!'

Frankie: 'We made the best pizza ever!'

Elliott 'It was great because we could eat them after we cooked them.'

Bobby: 'We enjoyed meeting the chef and the manager, called Marco and Elliott.'



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**Year 2: Tri-Golf Tournament**

Following their Tri-Golf coaching sessions in Summer 1, the children in Year 2 attended a tournament at Tudor Grange Pitch & Putt in Solihull this term. Competing against other local schools the children had great fun using the skills they had learnt to complete in a variety of challenges. They did brilliantly; had great fun and many of them are now keen to learn more!

**Year 2: INSPIRE Workshop**

The children and parents, of Class 2, had a wonderful time at their "Message in a Bottle" INSPIRE Workshop. For the first time, we had an Online Safety focus to our workshop, with children showing their parents/guests the ICT Suite and explaining all about their Online Safety learning whilst finding and printing off images. However, the main focus of the session was on the transition from KS1 to KS2 and the children, with plenty of support from their helpers, produced some beautifully designed bottles and wrote some wonderful scrolls about their feelings on moving to Class 3. These were then passed on to the Class 3 teacher, Mrs Briggs, who will go through them on the first day back in September. A huge thank you to everyone who attended and helped out - a great opportunity for children and parents to collaborate in school and the feedback was extremely positive.

**Year 2: Thinktank**

The children in Class 2 enjoyed a fantastic day at the Thinktank in Birmingham. With a Science focus on the topics of 'Our Amazing Bodies' and 'Materials/Recycling', the children had the opportunity to explore the whole museum, whilst then enjoying a workshop all about their body. With great knowledge and understanding from their learning in school, combined with some fabulous questioning to find out more, the children demonstrated what good scientists they are. A great end to the school year for Class 2.

**Year 3: Orienteering at Conkers**

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May, Year 3 went on a special adventure to Conkers. Along with our very special helpers, the children had a wonderful time outdoors solving conquests and challenges. This adventure challenged and developed our BLP collaboration and reasoning skills. We had lots of fun working in groups to navigate our way through a series of tricky obstacles that were set out for us. It was pleasing to hear the positive praise from the Conkers team regarding Year 3's enthusiasm and behaviour.

**Year 4: Cadbury World**

As part of the Geography and Design & Technology curriculum Year 4 had an exciting visit to Cadbury World. First the children looked at the history of chocolate, where it came from and how it came to England. Next they researched the distribution routes and how it was manufactured. Finally the children looked at how the chocolate was marketed by Cadbury.

On returning to school Year 4 carried out their own market research which include asking each other about different tastes and what they would like from a bar of chocolate made especially for them. The children then planned their chocolate bars and produced individual packaging creating their own very unique selling points.

**Year 4: Cricket Festival**

A fantastic day was had by the children in Year 4 as they attended the Cricket Festival at Berkswell Cricket Club. Two teams competed against other local schools during the morning, with the winners of each group going through to a semi-final and/or final. We are proud to announce that our teams came 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> out of 12, with the first team missing out on the final by just 3 runs and the second team winning their final!

We are all incredibly proud of the children, their sportsmanship and fair play displayed throughout. They kept their cool and just got on with playing - a real credit to their teachers and the school!

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**Year 5: Bikeability**

Year 5 had a fabulous week of Bikeability in July. It was a valuable opportunity to learn about keeping safe on the roads and how to take care of your bicycle whilst cycling around the lanes. The instructors were very impressed with the children's behaviour and it is great to know that all children who participated now know how to keep themselves safe out on their bikes.

**Year 5: Cricket Festival**

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 Year 5 participated in the Let It Shine! Cricket Festival alongside several other local schools. The children's behaviour was exemplary and their fair play and sportsmanship was commented on by many visiting teachers and the sports coaches. All three teams pulled out all the stops to show what cricket skills they have learnt in our weekly cricket coaching sessions, culminating in superb group wins for the A and B teams. The A team were overall tournament winners, a fabulous achievement against tough competition. Well done!

**Year 5: Visit to Bishops Wood Field Centre**

Year 5 had a fabulous time at Bishops Wood Centre in Worcestershire which they visited to complement their Anglo Saxon History topic. The children became Saxons for the day, travelling across the choppy seas on a Saxon long ship, making pinch pots out of clay (and decorating them with runes), spinning wool and hammering copper on an anvil to make it change from malleable into hard metal. The children stepped back in time into an Anglo Saxon home, played a traditional game with shields and finished off the day with a fabulous team building exercise which involved gathering wood to make a den and then gathering material from the forest to cover it and make it watertight. The staff at the centre commented on the lovely manners and behaviour of all children, who were a real credit to the school.

**Year 5: Solihull Sings!**

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June, Class 5 travelled to Solihull School to showcase all that they had learnt this term in music, alongside two other local primary schools. The children excelled themselves in their performances, particularly in their solo performance of Babylon, in front of an audience of parents, teachers and friends. Mrs Kermode was particularly proud of their sensible attitude and receptiveness to learning a variety of musical styles, their enthusiasm of the occasion and, particularly, their sensitivity to the music. The concert was very much enjoyed by all and the children thoroughly deserved all the wonderful praise which they received.

**Year 6: Condover Hall Residential**

Year 6 had a brilliant time on their residential in Shropshire. Despite it being possibly the hottest week of the year, armed with hats, sunscreen and water bottles, the children ably tackled the climbing wall, kayaking, team challenges and many more activities with great energy and enthusiasm! We were very proud of the children's positive attitude and behaviour. Many thanks to Mrs Kelly, Mr Poole and Mrs Philpotts for assisting Mrs Edmeades on this trip.

**Year 6: Diocesan Leavers' Service for Year 6**

Year 6 attended their Leavers' Service at St. Martins in the Bullring on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July. The service was lead by Bishop David - the Bishop of Birmingham and celebrated the children's time in primary school and their upcoming move to secondary school. It was a lovely service and we were delighted that Reverend Anne Hinks could attend this with us.

**Year 6: Tag Rugby Tournament**

We had a fantastic day at Birmingham Exiles on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June! Our "A" team came 3<sup>rd</sup> in their group in the Cup competition and the "B" Team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in their group in the Plate competition. We were also very proud that the "B" team won the "Fair Play" award for the tournament. Well done Year 6!

**Year 6: Cookery Club**

Well done to all the children who have attended Cookery Club with Mrs Chamberlain and Mrs Edmeades this half term. The children have made biscuits, pizza and other treats, developing cookery skills which we hope they will continue to use at home!

**Assemblies**

**Reception**

Congratulations to the Reception class for their fantastic performance on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Mrs Bradburn, Mrs Nicholson, Mrs Davenport and Mrs Brown were really impressed with the children's beautiful singing and clear voices. We were delighted parents enjoyed watching and were then able to stay with us whilst Mrs Bradburn talked to parents about the similarities and differences for the children as they move from EYFS to Key Stage 1 in September.

**Year 2**

Parents, children and staff thoroughly enjoyed Class 2's 'A Journey into the past' assembly. With a focus on the children's learning journey in English, History, RE and Art we were treated to journey stories about Bob on the Moon, some very 'Wild Things', the Hajj to Mecca, the graffiti art of Banksy and the Great Fire of London and Plague of 1665/6. Well done to all involved.

**Year 6**

On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July, Year 6 presented their Leavers' Assembly to the school and their families. This was a lovely moment for Year 6 to reflect on their time at George Fentham and all the good friends and memories they have made. On Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July, Reverend Anne welcomed us to Church for the Leavers' Service, where Year 6 gave advice to Year 5 on what to expect as they move up to Year 6! We are very proud of our Year 6 and wish them every success as they move on to the new adventure of secondary school.

**Charlie's Angels**

As you may be aware, one of our Nursery children of 2015/16 suddenly became incredibly poorly with a tumour of the kidney. Almost 18 months on, we are thrilled to say he has made an excellent recovery and has just completed Reception.

His family are very keen to put this painfully difficult time behind them and focus their efforts now, in doing some fundraising to thank the Cancer Unit at Birmingham Children's Hospital for all the wonderful life saving treatment they provide, whilst supporting other families finding themselves in this heart wrenching situation.

There will be a few "Charlie's Angels" events planned in the future that we hope the children at school will enjoy being involved in, and the family ask anyone who is interested in helping fundraise for this worthy cause to get in touch. Every single donation helps and their focus now, is on having fun!

Please visit [www.justgiving.com/charliesawesomeangels](http://www.justgiving.com/charliesawesomeangels) or contact [sarah\\_curtis@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sarah_curtis@hotmail.co.uk) should you wish to learn more.



**[Read Sarah's story](#)**

[www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com)

Sarah is raising money to help  
Birmingham Children's Hospital Charity

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**Canon John de Witt**

Canon John de Witt has been commissioned to paint two icons for the church of St Mary and St Bartholomew and he kindly made two visits to school so that the children could watch him at work. He showed children his work so far and was able to demonstrate the gilding process. It was a unique and wonderful opportunity for children to see just what a complicated and involved process this is!! They found it fascinating and it has been the inspiration for some lovely work which will be displayed next term in the school hall.

**Sports Day**

**KS1 & EYFS**

We had a beautiful warm, sunny day for Sports Day on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July and it was lovely to see so many parents there to cheer us on!

In Key Stage 1 the children took part in four track events during the morning: a sprint, the egg and spoon race, bean bag pick up and the obstacle race. A fabulous time was had by all, with a great balance of sportsmanship and competitiveness on display. The results were as follows:

4<sup>th</sup> place: Yellow (199 points)

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Red (231 points)

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Blue (239 points)

1<sup>st</sup> place: Green (257 points)

**KS2**

In the afternoon, the KS2 children enjoyed four field events: mini javelin, long jump, target throw and shot putt. We then went on to the track events: sprint and baton relay. Well done to all the children for an excellent afternoon of sport. The results were extremely close!

4<sup>th</sup> place: Blues (291 points)

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Greens (295 points)

2<sup>nd</sup> place: Reds (303 points)

1<sup>st</sup> place: Yellows (318 points)

**Summer 2 Clubs**

Day	Lunchtime	After-school
Monday	Guitar Lessons	3.20-4.20 Football Club
Tuesday	12.45-1.15 KS2 Homework Club	3.30-4.30 Y6 Cookery Club
Wednesday	Games Club (Hampton in Arden Tennis Club) Strings Lessons	3.20-4.45 Learning Curves
Thursday	12.30-1.00 Keyboard Lessons Clarinet Lessons	
Friday	Games Club (All Active Sports)	

**George Fentham's Got Talent**

Our George Fentham's Got Talent 2017 heats began at the start of June with 35 different acts auditioning from Reception through to Year 6. We had immense fun watching all of the acts and found it really hard reducing them down. We were so proud of all of the children who had the confidence to take part and perform and we proved that George Fentham has some really good

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talent. The semi-finals took place at the start of July ending with our five finalists performing in front of the whole school in assembly on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July. The results are listed below.

Result	Name of Act	YR Group
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	The Jedi Cheerleaders meet the Lillybella Mixes	Year 1
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	The Magicians	Year 5
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Dancing with T&M	Year 3
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	Junior Strings	Year 5
5 <sup>th</sup> Place	Imagine Dragons	Year 4

We would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Taylor, one of our Lunchtime Supervisors, for coordinating and running this whole event.

**A Message from the PTFA**

Thanks for your support with the PTFA events this term - from discos to treasure hunts. We hope your children have had lots of fun. Look out for our Calendar of Events for 17/18, kicking off with a Barn Dance...

The money we have raised this year has supported - New Projector, Staging, Year 6 hoodies, Upgrading library books.... to name but a few!

For Coin Chaos we raised £297.28. Thanks to all the children and parents for their donations. In particular year 4, who brought in the most money, and have been awarded the coin chaos trophy. Thanks also to year 6 for their help in the colossal task of counting so many coins!

The PTFA is keen to increase numbers and very much look forward to welcoming new members. Please contact Nicola Pickering [NicolaPickering@googlemail.com](mailto:NicolaPickering@googlemail.com) (07899082598) or John Read [john@jre.org.uk](mailto:john@jre.org.uk) (07814007281).

**100% Attendance - Spring 2017**

Congratulations and well done to our 57 children who achieved 100% Attendance Award Certificates for the Spring 2017 Term. Below is a breakdown by pupil numbers in each of our classes:

Year	Number of Pupils
Reception	5
1	6
2	10
3	8
4	11
5	9
6	8

**Home-time crowding at school gate**

We have been asked by one of our parents to remind other parents not to crowd around the school gate at the end of the school day as it can be difficult for parents with pushchairs to gain access onto the school playground. We are very mindful that there is limited space and with increasing numbers of children attending George Fentham we would ask for your consideration and support in this matter.

**School Uniform - September 2017**

The wearing of School uniform accords with the ethos of the school in that it enhances the appearance and reputation of the children and our school. A reminder that from September 2017 our school uniform changes for KS2 boys and girls.

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Uniform	Boys	Girls
Trousers	Plain grey trousers	Plain grey trousers
Skirt		Plain grey skirt
Early Years, Key Stage 1: Polo Shirt	Maroon logo polo shirt	Maroon logo polo shirt
Key Stage 2: Shirt & tie	White shirt Maroon school tie	White shirt Maroon school tie
Dress		Summer red and white gingham summer dress
School Shoes	Black shoes no trainers	Black shoes no boots, high heels or trainers
Socks / Tights	Grey	Grey or white tights or socks
Sweatshirt/ Cardigan	V-neck maroon logo sweatshirt	V-neck maroon logo sweatshirt or cardigan
PE Kit	Black shorts White tee shirt	Black shorts White tee shirt
Games Kit	Dark plain tracksuit or jogging bottoms (in cold weather) Trainers	Dark plain tracksuit or jogging bottoms (in cold weather) Trainers
Hair Accessories		Ribbons, slides, hair bands etc should be black, white or red and kept to a minimum.
*Jewellery	On the grounds of safety, NO jewellery other than plain wristwatches, medical alert pendants or bracelets and earring studs.	On the grounds of safety, NO jewellery other than plain wristwatches, medical alert pendants or bracelets and earring studs.

**Please note all uniform should be clearly named.**

\*Jewellery must be removed or covered during all P.E. and Games activities in accordance with Health and Safety guidelines. Please send plasters in to school for covering earrings if required. Hair should be kept neat and tidy at all times and tied back if possible. Whilst we appreciate the individuality of our children we ask that there are no extreme hairstyles in school.

**Uniform may be purchased from:  
PALMERS 1640 HIGH STREET, KNOWLE. B93 0NA  
TELEPHONE NUMBER; 01564 776590**

Book bags may be purchased from the school office at £8.00 each.

**School Meals - Outstanding Debt**

**Parents of children in KS2**

Due to the flexibility of the ParentPay system allowing parents to choose which days they wish their child to have a school meal, it is important to keep your account in credit; reminders are generated daily for children who have no credit on their accounts. Please note that if a debt exceeds one week's school lunches of £10.25 (£2.05 per day) a hot meal cannot be provided

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until the debt is cleared and the account is in credit. From September 2017 there will be no increase in the cost of primary school meals.

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

**REMINDER: Requests for Leave of Absence**

At George Fentham we continue to encourage excellent attendance by all children. May we remind you that, in line with the Local Authority Solihull Attendance Policy, 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. Thank you for your support in ensuring the very best attendance for your child.

**The Little Free Library**

A huge thank you and congratulations to Mrs Adams and Mr Roberts for all their hard work in creating Hampton-in-Arden's very own "Little Free Library". This is a huge achievement and the children have loved following its development through assembly updates and contributing their own colourful buttons. They are already very enthusiastic and excited to use this as a reading resource centred in the village. The beautifully crafted "book houses" look stunning and the cleverly situated bench will enable keen readers of all ages to enjoy their reading books.

**And finally.....**

On behalf of everyone at George Fentham Endowed School, may I take this opportunity to thank you for your fantastic on-going support over the last school year.

I wish you all an enjoyable and relaxing summer break and look forward to welcoming the children back at the start of the new school year on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017, please note Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017 is an INSET Day.

**Mrs J Gaughan  
Head Teacher**