

**GEORGE FENTHAM ENDOWED SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER 6 - SUMMER 2015**

15<sup>th</sup> July 2015

Term Dates	
<b>SCHOOL TERMS &amp; HOLIDAY DATES</b>	<u><b>2014/ 2015</b></u>
<b>Summer Term</b>	Mon 1 June 2015 - Mon 20 July 2015
	<b><u>Inset Days 2014/15:</u> Mon 20 July 2015</b>
	<u><b>2015/2016</b></u>
<b>Autumn Term</b>	Wed 2 September 2015 - Fri 23 October 2015
<b>Half Term</b>	Mon 26 October 2015 - Fri 30 October 2015
	Mon 2 November 2015 - Fri 18 December 2015
<b>Spring Term</b>	Mon 4 January 2016 - Friday 12 February 2016
<b>Half Term</b>	Mon 15 February - Friday 19 February 2016
	Mon 22 February - Wednesday 23 March 2016
<b>Summer Term</b>	Mon 11 April 2016 - Fri 27 May 2016 <i>May Day Bank Holiday Mon 2 May 2016</i>
<b>Half Term</b>	Mon 30 May 2016 - Fri 3 June 2016
	Mon 6 June 2016 - Fri 22 July 2016
	<b><u>Inset Days 2015/16:</u> Wed 2 Sept 2015, Friday 23 October 2015, Monday 4 January 2016, Fri 12 February 2016, Monday 6 June 2016</b>

Dates for Diary
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**2015**

Mon 13 July	Rainbow Day - Non Uniform, Marie Curie Hospice, Solihull
Wed 15 July am	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
Thur 16 July	Year 4 Trip to Lunt Fort
Fri 17 July am	Year 6 Leavers' Service at Church
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Fri 11 Sept 1.45pm	Year R Reading/Phonics Inspire Workshop
Tue 15 Sept am	Y3 Swimming at NSSC starts
Tue 22 Sept 6.30pm	Welcome to Nursery Workshop
Fri 25 Sept am	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Wed 18 November am	Tempest Photography - Individual Photographs
Fri 27 November pm	Year 6 and Hampton Luncheon Club to The Nutcracker, Birmingham Hippodrome

Further Staffing Updates 2015/16
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**Mrs Qureshi**

We would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Qureshi, who has been teaching in Year 1 over the summer term. She has shown real commitment to both children and staff and has quickly become part of our George Fentham Team. We are delighted that she will continue to work with us, next academic year, to provide teaching cover in school, as required.

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**Lunchtime Supervisors**

Two of our Lunchtime Supervisors will be leaving George Fentham School to continue their educational studies. We wish Miss Chislett and Miss Darnley well as they both begin University courses in the autumn term and would like to thank them for their hard work at George Fentham.

At the time of writing this letter, we are currently in the process of recruiting additional Lunchtime Supervisors to join our excellent team. We will have further updates in the autumn term.

**PTA**

We had great feedback from the children who attended the PTA disco this term and would like to thank all members of the PTA for giving up their time to organise and run events to support the school. We look forward to completing further work in our outside areas as a result of money raised.

**The Fentham Trust**

We would like to thank the Fentham Trust for its continued financial support this year. As a result, our school benefits from additional funding which has enabled us to fully resource our new curriculum, upgrade our ICT resources and facilities and maintain staffing to deliver intervention and extension programmes. In addition we have been able to fund a range of curriculum opportunities for our children such as the Year 4 Wider Opportunities String Instrument lessons, the West Midlands Life Bus during Health Week and the Year 6 Ballet trip. This on-going support contributes significantly to the experiences our children have and the standards that they achieve.

**Car Parking on School Grounds**

May we remind you that parents and visitors to school should not use the staff car park, at any time. There have been a number of reported incidents where parents have driven in, at speed, particularly at the end of the day when the bus children are being escorted to the school bus. This puts our children in danger. From September, we will be closing the school gates during certain times in the school day. The small pedestrian gate will be open for access. This decision has been taken by both staff and governors and we ask for your support in keeping children safe at all times.

**Use of Mobile Phones/Devices**

Our "Use of Mobile Phone/Devices Policy" has been reviewed and updated this term by staff and governors. There is a copy on our website for your information. In order to keep our children safe we must insist that parents do not use their mobile phones/devices on school premises or when accompanying children on school outings. In the case of school productions, parents/careers are currently permitted to take photographs of their own children, in accordance with school protocols. We ask that these photographs are taken of your own children, for your own personal use and are not published on social networking sites.

**Year 6**

Having now received the eagerly awaited Year 6 SATs results, we would like to congratulate all of our children on their achievements at the end of Key Stage 2. The children demonstrated real maturity and a quiet determination throughout the week. We are so proud of them all! They have already attended the Diocesan Leavers' Service at St. Martins in the Bullring and

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presented a fantastic Leavers' Assembly. We now look forward to our final School Leavers' Service at Hampton Church on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July.

Our Year 6 children will be leaving to go on to 9 different secondary schools:

Heart of England, Arden, Tudor Grange, Solihull School, King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys, Bishop Vesey's Grammar School, Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls, Stratford-upon-Avon Grammar School for Girls and Alcester Grammar School.

As the end of term approaches we wish them all the very best of luck at their new schools and continued success in the future. We will miss them very much!

**Faith Week**

During the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> June the whole school took part in a themed week focusing on Sikhism. The week was filled with fun activities to help children understand the important values of 'equality', 'courage' and 'service' that underpin the Sikh faith. It involved several visitors, an interesting visit to the Gurdwara in Leamington Spa by Years 4 & 5 and even a special Sikh themed lunch! Highlights of the week were the visit by Mr Bennett, our RE Advisor, who came along with Sikh pupils from Heart of England School, who were fabulous, and two classes made wonderful models of the Golden Temple of Amritsar!

**Charity Events**

**Race for Life:**

On Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2015, a team of George Fentham staff completed the Coventry and Warwickshire 10km Race for Life at Stoneleigh Park in memory of Mrs Fairclough. The rain stopped just before the start and we even had the odd glimmer of sunshine! So far we have raised a fantastic **£1,441.03** for Cancer Research UK. Thank you so much for your kind donations and lovely messages.

**Rainbow Day for Mrs Fairclough:**

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July we held a non-uniform day in memory of Mrs Fairclough. We raised **£316** for the Solihull Marie Curie Hospice which was such a support to Mrs Fairclough and her family.

**Macmillan Coffee Morning:**

To celebrate and remember our much-loved and greatly missed colleagues, Mrs Fairclough and Mrs Flavelle, we will be holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning and Bake Sale in September. Look out for further details in the autumn term - we really look forward to seeing you there!

**School Visits & Events**

**Nursery:**

**Umberslade Farm Trip**

Thirty Nursery children spent a lovely sunny day at Umberslade Farm on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June accompanied by staff and parent helpers. There were lots of animals and their young to see and the children had the opportunity to feed the lambs, calves and goats. After a picnic lunch, the children had a turn on the mini tractors before a ride around the site in the real tractor trailer. Several of the children needed a nap on the coach home!

**Induction - Nursery School Lunch**

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July we welcomed 63 extra guests to lunch. Our current Nursery class, and those joining us in September, stayed for a school lunch along with their parents. This was an excellent opportunity for both children and parents to experience school lunches so that they know what to expect in September. Our thanks to Mrs James (Cookie), her Assistants and our Lunchtime Supervisors for making this a most enjoyable event.

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**Year 1:**

Last week Year 1 children had a great afternoon making their fruit salads. They used their senses to choose their fruit combination and showed great skill in using a range of kitchen equipment. At the end of the day the children took their creations home for a really tasty tea!

**Year 2:**

**Inspire Workshop**

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July Year 2 invited their parents to attend a workshop in school to explore the transition to Year 3 and KS2. The children and parents discussed feelings around the transition, writing a message to Mr Poole with information about themselves and listing any questions/concerns they have. Then creative energy was let loose as the children decorated a bottle to reflect their personalities. The letters were placed inside the bottles and handed over to Mr Bass (Key Stage 2 Leader) in readiness for September. A thoroughly enjoyable, and extremely useful, morning was had by all.

**Year 3:**

**Village Walk**

As part of their unit of work in Geography, Year 3 successfully completed their field study of Hampton in Arden village this half term. The children showed exemplary behaviour, as always, and produced some accurate sketch maps of the local area.

**Year 4:**

**Big Strings Concert**

On Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> June children, staff, parents, governors and the Fentham Trustees were treated to a fabulous concert as part of the Year 4 BIG Strings. Sharing their experiences of learning the Cello, Double Bass, Violin or Viola, children explained the parts of their instruments, the notes and how to move the bow, playing several pieces in unison. A big thank you to the Fentham Trust for providing this fabulous opportunity to the children in Year 4.

**The Lunt Fort**

Year 4 are very much looking forward to their visit to Lunt Fort on Thursday. Due to refurbishment, the children were unable to visit earlier this year, but we were keen that they didn't miss out on such a fantastic opportunity!

**Year 5:**

**Bikeability**

During June Year 5 had a fabulous week of learning how to ride their bicycles safely in the playground and in the lanes around the village. Every child took part in Bikeability and they all have now gained important road safety skills as well as having lots of fun exercising on their bikes! Fortunately the weather was perfect too!

**Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery**

On 8<sup>th</sup> July Year 5 visited Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery to support their Anglo-Saxon History topic. In the morning the children were introduced to the skills of being an archaeologist. Their workshop included digging and retrieving objects, using metal detectors, and assembling and carefully cleaning pieces found to look for clues about their 'discovery'. After lunch there was an opportunity to look closely at The Staffordshire Hoard and explore other exhibits in the Museum. The children thoroughly enjoyed the visit.

**Year 6:**

**Condover Hall**

From 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> May, Year 6 went on their residential trip to Condover Hall in Shropshire. It was a fantastic week, made even better by the beautiful weather! A great time was had by all, including climbing, abseiling, kayaking, archery and circus skills. The children were a real credit to the school and we were complimented by the centre staff on their super attitude and behaviour - well done Year 6!

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**Computing Workshops**

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2015, Year 6 enjoyed the second of our Computer Xplorers workshops, this time focusing on app design and creation. We used a program called "appshed" to create an app all about our interests including adding a picture gallery, sounds and maps. It was a very enjoyable day in which we all learnt a lot! Thank you to Stephen from Computer Xplorers for running both our computing workshops this term.

**Years 6 and 2:**

**RSC Workshop**

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July, Year 2 and 6 attended workshops at the Royal Shakespeare Company, Stratford linked to both classes' work on *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The children have thoroughly enjoyed studying Shakespeare this term and they had a super morning taking part in a variety of drama activities.

**Years 5 and 6:**

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July Year 5 and Year 6 children took part in a ChildLine assembly and workshop, highlighting the importance of keeping safe and what to do if they are worried about something.

**Active Travel & Road Safety Presentation**

On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 Reception, KS1 and KS2 children had a very exciting opportunity to take part in an Active Travel & Road Safety Presentation. The presentation was delivered by a safe travel expert. The performance by the presenter was lively, interactive and highly memorable incorporating role plays of road crossing situations. He clearly introduced a wide variety of important messages to encourage safe and active travel. This was a valuable and enjoyable experience for all children.

**George Fentham's Got Talent Grand Final**

On June 3<sup>rd</sup> we held the much anticipated final of George Fentham's Got Talent, with 9 very different acts ranging from Reception to Year 6. We had singers, dancers, comedians and musicians.

Our finalists were:-

Robyn	Reception
Jacob	Y2
Heidi- Rose & Kajsa	Y2
Hebe, Rebecca & Charlotte	Y4
Ben, Josiah & Tristan	Y4
Amelia & Zoe	Y4
Thomas	Y5
Annalise	Y6
Isabel & Eve	Y6

Our impartial band of 5 judges had a difficult time deliberating on the winners as *all* the acts were superb! So many congratulations to all the finalists and everyone who took part. The winners were Amelia and Zoe in Year 4 with a refreshingly different rendition of "Sisters". Well done to them both! They were presented with a small trophy and all the finalists received certificates.

George Fentham, as we already knew, really does have so much talent!! (Apparently children are already rehearsing for next year!!)

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**Sport Update - Summer Term 2015**

Once again we have had a fantastic term, providing children with a wide range of sporting opportunities. Please see our Sports Newsletter for all of the details. A huge thank you to Mrs Nicholson and the staff who run clubs throughout the year, for their huge commitment and hard work. In addition we would like to thank all parents who transport our children to and from events, without your on-going support we would be unable to participate in so many competitions and opportunities.

**Class Assemblies**

**Reception**

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015 the Reception class took to the stage to perform their Amazing Animal Musical to parents and children. The performance highlighted all the wonderful things the children have learnt during our 'Amazing Animals' topic and they were also able to showcase their incredible talents including singing, dancing and acting. We would like to say a big well done to all the children for all their hard work and enthusiasm!

**Year 2**

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, Year 2 presented their "Lego Movie" themed assembly to parents and the rest of the school. The assembly explored Year 2's attempt to search for the missing treasure by time-travelling through key events of British History, only to find the treasure in the classroom. The children really rose to the occasion and sang their hearts out - Mrs Brooker and Mrs Brown nearly burst with pride!

**Year 4**

A long time ago, in a 'classroom' far, far away.....  
Class 4 had a fabulous time presenting the eternal power struggle between Maths and English, for domination of the curriculum, in their assembly - 'Subject Wars', showcasing their learning journey through the range of subjects covered, the children performed drama, singing, read extracts from their English, History and RE work and demonstrated excellent timing. Parents, governors, staff and children all commented on how much they enjoyed the 'journey'.

**Illness / Sickness**

We continue to do all that we can to reduce the spread of illness and infections in school. The advice from the Solihull School Nurse Team, regarding sickness and diarrhoea is that your child stays off school for at least **48 hours after** the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea and does not return to school until they are feeling fit and well along with eating and drinking normally. Please inform the school office between **8.30 and 9.00** if your child is unable to attend school as every absence must be accounted for and is carefully monitored.

**IMPORTANT - Allergies**

There are several children in school who have a severe reaction to nuts either by eating them or being in close proximity to nut products. We would ask for your help and support **by avoiding sending any food items containing nuts into school.** Thank you.

**Please note: Any class treats supplied by parents will be given out at the end of the school day for children to eat under the direct supervision of their own parent.**

**Contact Numbers and Medication**

Please let the school office know if there are any changes to your contact telephone numbers. It can be very distressing for your child if he/she is taken ill and we are unable to contact you quickly. To enable the school office to administer & supervise use of medicines, inhalers, epi-

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pens etc a consent form **must** be completed. Please note it is your responsibility to ensure any medication left in school is in date.

**Snacks**

Please support our healthy snack time by sending in **pure fresh or dried fruit and vegetables only**. Children have access to drinking fountains and water bottles during the day and are regularly reminded to drink. Please encourage your child to do this and ensure that drinking bottles contain water only. Should you wish your child to have milk at break time details are available from the school office.

**ParentPay-School Lunches**

**SCHOOL LUNCH - YEARS 3 TO 6**

PLEASE NOTE FROM SEPTEMBER THE COST OF A SCHOOL MEAL WILL BE:  
£2.00 PER DAY £10.00 PER WEEK - Please ensure you ParentPay account remains in credit.

**UNIVERSAL INFANT FREE SCHOOL MEALS - YEAR 2 ONLY**

From September 2015 your child will no longer be entitled to free school meals under the above Government scheme. If you receive one of the qualifying benefits or tax credits your child will be entitled to a free school meal, if you think you may qualify please contact the school office for details on how to apply on the new online application system. All other parents will be required to monitor their ParentPay accounts to ensure that their child has a credit balance at all times.

If any parent wishes to pay for their child's school meals via a PayPoint card at a store where the logo is displayed, please contact the school office to arrange for a card, this facility is only available for school meals, all other payments for trips, music tuition are via a barcoded letter from the school office.

**School Uniform**

Please see below a reminder of our school uniform, taken from our Prospectus which is published on our website for reference:

**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.**

Uniform	Boys	Girls
Trousers	Grey	Grey
Skirt		Plain grey skirt or pinafore dress. Summer: red and white gingham summer dress
Polo Shirt	Maroon logo polo shirt	Maroon logo polo shirt
School Shoes	Black shoes no trainers	Black shoes no boots, high heels or trainers
Socks / Tights	Grey	Grey or white tights or socks
Sweatshirt	Maroon logo sweatshirt	Maroon logo sweatshirt
PE Kit	Black shorts, white t-shirt.	Black shorts, white t-shirt.
Games Kit	Dark plain tracksuit or jogging bottoms in cold weather. Trainers	Dark plain tracksuit or jogging bottoms in cold weather. Trainers

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Hair Accessories		Ribbons, slides, hair bands etc should be plain, black, white or red.
*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. Uniform may be purchased from John Lewis on-line.

\*Jewellery must be removed or covered during all P.E. and games activities in accordance with Health and Safety guidelines.

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 at school.

**Open Evening & Reports**

We were very pleased to see so many families attending our Open Evening last Thursday. We are extremely proud of all of our children and this was a lovely opportunity for them to share their work with you, and for you to chat informally with staff. Once again, the end of year reports were a joy to read. The children have worked so hard this year and their reports highlighted their many achievements and great progress throughout the year.

Thank you to those of you who have already returned report slips. We really value your comments.

**Reminder: You are most welcome to see class teachers at the end of the day, when children have been safely dismissed, or staff can be contacted via the school office. For parents who find it difficult to come into school, please phone the school office and leave a message with Mrs Hansford or Mrs Chislett. A member of staff will then return your call at a mutually convenient time.**

**We would ask that any concerns are raised at your earliest opportunity. In this way we can work together to address any issues immediately. Thank you for your support in this matter.**

**And finally.....**

Another highly successful and very busy year has whizzed by! I would like to take this opportunity to thank our children, staff and governors for their endless energy, enthusiasm, hard work and sense of fun that makes George Fentham Endowed School a very special place to be. I would also like to thank parents and friends of our school for your on-going support and kind comments. I very much look forward to continuing this journey with you next academic year.

On behalf of everyone at George Fentham Endowed School, I wish you and your family a very enjoyable and relaxing summer holiday and I look forward to seeing you all on **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015.**

**Mrs J Gaughan  
Head Teacher**

School website: [www.georgefenthamschool.co.uk](http://www.georgefenthamschool.co.uk)