



## Class Reference Information:

**Reception**  
Robin and Wren  
(EYFS/Foundation Stage)

**Key Stage 1 (KS1)**  
Year 1: Swift, Nightingale  
Year 2: Woodpecker and Kingfisher

**Lower Key Stage 2 (LKS2)**  
Year 3: Osprey, Falcon,  
Year 4: Buzzard and Skylark

**Upper Key Stage 2 (UKS2)**  
Year 5: Kestrel, Red Kite  
Year 6: Owl and Eagle

This half-term is off to a busy start. We hope that you found parent consultations helpful and informative last week, and that at the weekend you were able to join us for our annual Friends of Gamlingay Village Primary's **Firework** Display – it was a **fantastic** show. A huge thank you to all of those who volunteered. This week, Upper Key Stage 2 had a special assembly where finalists of an event called **ROAR** run by the Lions shared their innovative ideas with the audience. The children did an excellent job. Those with the best model and the best jingle received a commendation, as well as a winner and runner up. The winning prototype was **Glowgoal** – glowing football goalposts to allow evening football without floodlights. What a great idea!

On Wednesday, we had our first house assembly. Bluebell Woods – the Blue House, launched their new name and introduced their new house mascots called Bell and Julian who are woodland pixies that promote looking after the environment and nature. A big well done to the house captains, who led the assembly with great enthusiasm reminding everyone of our golden rules and expectations.

In our recent assemblies, we have introduced emotional check-ins where children will identify their emotions at the start of each day and after lunch. We also spoke recently about the power of words and how we can choose to use them for good and to be helpful. Next week is Antbullying Week where the theme is *Make A Noise About Bullying*. Children are welcome to **wear odd socks** on Monday to remind us that we are all different. Friday is Children in Need; the theme this year is spots. To raise money for Children in Need, children can **wear something spotty** on Friday and no uniform, and then donate to Children in Need via ParentPay.

Our SEND team work tirelessly to support children with Special Educational Needs. Mrs Hannah Mooring is our West Village Partnership **SENDco**. She is currently employed with WVP on Fridays. In January, she will be full time. We look forward to the support that she will be able to give more of our children with SEND needs.

We want our school to be an asset to our local community. Please help us be a good neighbour by **parking** considerately and safely and by cycling or scooting to school. Please be aware that our outer gates are not locked and so we advise that you lock bicycles and scooters up.

**Caterlink** is the company who provide our school dinners. They would like feedback to assist in improving their service and so have asked if pupils and families could complete this **survey**:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/G9VWNSR> They ask that all responses are completed by 30<sup>th</sup> November.

## Reading:

No big plans for the weekend? Why not have a **Drop Everything And Read** time where the whole family turns off all devices and has a DEAR time.

## Reminders:

We have a lot of lost property at the moment. Please ensure your child's clothes and belongings are labelled with their names. If your child has school dinners, please remember to book their meal in advance/by 8am on the day. If you are cancelling their meal this also needs to be done by 8am.

## Coming up

Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov:	Antibullying Assembly – wear odd socks
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov:	Diwali Assembly
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov:	Children in Need – non-uniform day
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov:	Flu vaccinations
Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov:	Decoration Day for Years 4&5
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec:	Decoration Day for Reception, Yr 1,2,3 & 6
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec:	FGVP disco
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec:	Last day of Autumn Term

More Christmas dates coming next week!

Thank you for taking the time to read the Relationships Education Policy we sent out before half term. Thank you to those that have taken the time to send in their views and attend the consultation. We are now reviewing our policy and ensuring we take account of all views expressed. In the consultation, I shared some useful videos and websites relating to RSE and how you can start the conversation at home. I hope you find the following links useful.

- ▶ For some ideas on how you might want to answer your children's questions go to: [www.bbc.com/teach/class-clips-video/pshe-ks2-the-big-talk/zn8f7nb](http://www.bbc.com/teach/class-clips-video/pshe-ks2-the-big-talk/zn8f7nb)
- ▶ For information on talking about RSE to your children, try: [www.fpa.org.uk/advice-parents-and-carers/how-start-talking-about-it](http://www.fpa.org.uk/advice-parents-and-carers/how-start-talking-about-it)  
[www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk/parents/how-to-talk-about-sex/](http://www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk/parents/how-to-talk-about-sex/)  
[www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/healthy-sexual-behaviour-children-young-people/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/healthy-sexual-behaviour-children-young-people/)
- ▶ For a short film to introduce importance of privacy and not taking or sharing sensitive images search for 'NSPCC Share Aware'.

### **Gamlingay Village Primary Kitchen Garden Charmian Flowerday**

We set up the kitchen garden in early 2023 in the courtyard. The aim was to set up the garden and grow edible crops, engage with pupils, staff, and enter some produce in the village show. Thanks to grants from Gamlingay Parish Council, Gamlingay Community Turbine Tithe Fund and Gamlingay Village Show, lots of support from local businesses, gardeners and teachers, and a lot of hard graft!

We have been running a gardening club who have planted seeds, potted on plants, made dogwood stars, learnt about worms, made a bug hotel, harvested and eaten crops and lots more! Around 80 reception age children have helped to turn out potatoes and the whole of year 1 visited the garden to plant and then harvest beans, radishes and carrots. I estimate we have engaged around 140 different children in our first year. Children from the Cabin, and children with 1:1 support have used the space to explore different plants through touch, taste, and smell and have been actively engaged with planting, caring for and harvesting crops. Some children have found it a place to go to explore and enjoy nature or go when they need a calm space.

We have grown and harvested potatoes, peas, carrots, lettuce, strawberries, tomatoes, cabbage, green beans, butter beans, radishes, pumpkins, squash, gourd, blackberries, cucumber, aubergine, sage, and mint. Some of the produce has gone home with children who helped harvest it, some has supplemented after school club meals, some has gone to the school kitchen and snack baskets and over the summer holidays tomatoes and green beans were donated to Gamlingay Food Project. We were able to give away small tomato plants at the end of the summer term and a few parents have followed up with evidence of children caring for the plants over the holidays and enjoying the tomatoes with their families.

We have achieved Level 1 and Level 2 RHS School Gardening Awards, and our produce won first, second, third and highly commended awards at Gamlingay Village Show. We have started to make links with local stakeholders including Potton Veg Box Donation Scheme and Cambridge Sustainable Food network. I'd like to say a personal thank you to everyone who has supported me this year from inside and outside the school, I've learnt a lot and am very proud of what we've achieved.

