



Moreland Drive, Gerrards Cross, SL9 8BD Tel: (01753) 882731 Fax: (01753) 892872
E-mail: office@gerrardscross.bucks.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mrs. Nicola Flower

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Dear Parent / Carer

Sporting News

For parents and carers new to our school, my name is Annie Ware and I am the PE Subject Leader. Prior to becoming a primary school teacher, I worked as a gymnastics coach and swimming teacher and have always had a keen interest in sport and fitness. I am ably assisted in my role by my colleagues Mr Phil Arnold who coaches and manages the school's football teams and Mrs Catrin Thomas, who is an experienced hockey and tennis player and who organises our extensive extra-curricular programme of sports.

Competition

2018 – 2019 was our most successful year of sport to date. We enjoyed a busy calendar of fixtures with over half of our Key Stage 2 children representing the school in competitive sports. This academic year we are continuing to work with *First Soccer*, who run an after school football session for children in Years 1 and 2 after school on a Tuesday and for KS2 children on a Friday lunchtime. First Soccer also coach our hugely successful Years 5/6 girls' and boys' football teams, working alongside Mr Arnold. Last season, the boys' U11 team had phenomenal success, reaching the National Finals of three separate competitions and winning all of them; playing on the Wembley pitch in the EFL Kids Cup will undoubtedly be an experience the players will recount to their grandchildren in years to come!

We are looking forward to another busy calendar of sporting fixtures in 2019-2020. We have joined a netball league this year with other local schools and our team played their first match this week, which resulted in a very convincing win against Lent Rise School. The Year 5/6 Basketball team will play in a tournament next month.

Both our U11 boys' and girls' teams begun their season with the ESFA (English Schools Football Association) district competitions. Despite reaching the finals stage, the boys were unable to progress against some competitive opposition. The girls' team won their group stage to reach the finals, and then successfully qualified for the Bucks County Finals in November. The U10 boys' team lost a tight match to Butlers Court in their cup competition, but still have a chance to qualify for the latter stages.

The first cross country competition took place at Gayhurst School in Gerrards Cross on 21 September. We had over 60 children participating and the weather was uncharacteristically warm and sunny! Our runners achieved numerous individual and team medals and we were extremely proud of all their performances on a tough course. There will be 3 further competitions on Saturday 16 November at Lowndes Park, Chesham, Saturday 25 January (venue to be confirmed) and the final event will be held at Hervines Park in Amersham on 7 March.

Curriculum News

Mrs Lucy Godfrey, a secondary school trained PE teacher and keen sportswoman, will continue to work alongside our staff this academic year. All children in Years 3-6 will benefit from her expertise in their PE lessons. Lucy will also continue to run a lunchtime cross country club in the autumn and spring terms, an athletics club in the summer term and an after school netball club, all of which will be funded through school.

Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit and footwear in school for outdoor PE lessons. School sweatshirts and jogging bottoms are advised for when the weather turns colder. We recommend trainers for children in Years 1 and 2 as these provide greater support and grip and are more weather proof than plimsolls. For Key Stage 1 pupils, an extra pair of school socks in your child's PE bag is advisable as some Games lessons do take place on the field in wet weather. Key Stage 2 children will need football boots, shin pads and long maroon socks for games on the field and we strongly recommend gum shields for hockey.

Extra-curricular Sports

We continue to offer a wide and varied extra-curricular sports programme. This term, the following extra-curricular sports will be offered - football, netball, hockey, cross-country, gymnastics, golf, tennis and rugby tots.

The staff and I are looking forward to an exciting sporting year ahead, as we continue to enable all children to flourish by enjoying sport both during the school day, after school and at weekends.

Yours sincerely



Nicola Flower
Headteacher