

GREAT BARTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2025

Consumption and Waste

What a start to the year we have had already!

As you know we are focusing on the theme of "Consumption and Waste" as part of Our Schools, Our World programme. We have learnt a lot already and we're only half way through the term.

We have joined in with a food waste challenge for the last six weeks using an app called "Digitally" which uses pupil voice to help to tackle food waste. Our children have been overwhelmingly positive about their school dinners. By working with them, and with our excellent catering team at Aspens we have reduced our school food waste considerably. Feedback from Digitally themselves has shown that at Great Barton we have:

- Come 2nd place in the competition in our average positive responses
- Come 4th place in our food waste averages

We have listened to children and reduced some portion sizes, whilst increasing them for others who say they are not getting enough to eat.



We challenged our families to join us in a "waste free Wednesday" which happened at lunch time on Wednesday 8th October. We were astounded by the amount of families who got involved. Think of the impact that one event had on our world. Lets see if we can carry on making at least 1 waste conscious choice a day. Every little change adds up to make a difference!



**Our Schools,
Our World**

Harvest

We celebrated the Harvest this year by year 6 children sharing their cooking homework with the school and describing how it showed our value of Generosity.

We were also entertained by Choir performing "Harvest for the World" and then the whole school got involved in singing the Harvest Tango.

You can listen to both performances in Google classrooms.



Clubs

We have had a great range of clubs this term including:

- Football (years 4-6)
- Ball games and skills (years 1-3)
- Gardening (years 4-6)
- Crafty Foxes (years 1-4)
- French club (x3) (years 1-5)
- Fitness and gymnastics (years 1 - 6)
- Dodgeball and Football (years 3 - 6)
- Dance (years 1 - 6)
- Netball (years 3 - 6)
- Biscuit and Book club (years 1 - 6)



Sports Achievements



It is wonderful to announce that we have already had a lot to celebrate and we are only 8 weeks into the school year!

- Osprey class took part in a team-building event at Thurston Community college.
- Year 5 and 6 pupils went to a cross country event and Isla in year 6 made it to the county finals which were held at the Royal Hospital School. She attended the County Finals on 16th October and came in 50th position, which resulted in her qualifying for the next stage! Well done to her and to everyone else who attended this event.
- Year 4 and Year 6 children took part in 2 tag rugby tournaments in Stowmarket Rugby Club. Both did brilliantly, but our year 6 team won every match!
- The Netball team played at a Hi-5 netball tournament at Thurston Primary School and played brilliantly!



More Harvest n



Last summer, gardening club planted melons, cucumber and tomatoes in the polytunnel. We also grew sweetcorn, carrots, beans and tomatoes outdoors in the garden. We had an absolutely huge harvest when we came back in September and we gave it to Mrs. Stockdale in the kitchen to put onto the salad bar and into our school dinners which was enjoyed by everyone.

Homework Reminder: Online Learning Platforms

Just a quick reminder that the school provides paid subscriptions for Mathletics, TT Rockstars, and Numbots to support your child's learning at home.

We kindly ask that all children complete the homework tasks set on these platforms each week. These resources are a valuable part of our maths curriculum and help reinforce key skills in a fun and engaging way.

Thank you for your continued support!

Values competition winners



This term's value was Generosity.

Our competition winners were:

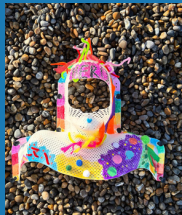
Sophia Dexter - year 6

Maksym Chernenko - year 2

...who have been put onto gold.

Our runners up on "silver" are Aila Gray - year 3 and Daisy and Hayley Knell in Reception and year 2

Thank you to everyone who entered.



Our challenge was to reduce landfill waste and make it into a gift for someone.

Sneak preview for next half term's home school value:

Write and illustrate a recipe for a dish using food that would otherwise be wasted.

Write a compassionate message to go with your dish.

The closing date for entries is Wednesday 26th November 2025



Forest School

It has been a wonderful half term in Happy Wood. We have been blessed with bright and dry weather and both Robin and Fox class have enjoyed playing with the many conkers and acorns available at this time of year. We finished the half term by learning about the three elements a fire needs and I was extremely impressed with the sensible and safe behaviour from all of the children. I think you'll agree from the photos, they made some excellent sparks!

Next half term will be the turn of Owls, Squirrels and Osprey, so make sure you are prepared for the cold (and often wet) weather.

Forest School kit must be in school at all times, and in the winter should include:

- wellington boots
- waterproof coat/trousers
- warm joggers/jumper
- spare socks
- hat and gloves

Thank you for your continued support with this.
Mrs Bonsall



Golden children this term:

Robins

Raife, Isla and Bethany.

Fox

Maksym

Squirrels

Benji

Badgers

Sienna, George, Charlotte

Hares

Penelope

Ospreys

Sophia

This term's green raffle winners:

Owl: Betsy

Robin: Alice

Fox: Kit

Squirrel: William

Badger: Rupert

Hare: Abel

Osprey: Isla



100% Attendance

Well done to **112 children** who have been here every single day of the term so far!

1. Fox - 22 pupils (77%)
2. Squirrel - 21 pupils (75%)
3. Badger - 21 pupils (72%)
4. Robin - 12 pupils (71%)
5. Owl - 13 pupils (54%)
6. Osprey - 14 pupils (47%)
7. Hare - 9 pupils (33%)

A big well done to Fox class who have won the attendance award for this half term!



Goodbye Mrs Bird

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the departure of Mrs Bird, our wonderful Office Administrator, who will be leaving us to embark on an exciting new chapter in her career.

Mrs Bird has been an integral part of our team, bringing dedication, warmth, and efficiency to everything she does. Please join us in wishing Mrs Bird all the very best in her new role. May it bring her continued success, growth, and happiness. Thank you, Mrs Bird, for everything.

Reminders

Please remember that all communication from school is now coming through Arbor, so make sure it is on your safe senders list. You can still contact the school office or your child's class teacher directly with the usual email addresses.

Applications for secondary school places close on Friday 31st October 2025

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 4th Nov

Phone: 01284 787353

Website:

www.greatbartonprimaryschool.co.uk

Email: admin@greatbarton.suffolk.sch.uk

After half term please send your child to school wearing a coat **every day**.

Please also ensure that water bottles are filled up before coming to school.