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### A Note from our Headteacher

Here we are again, at the end of another amazing half term and it is my privilege to write the newsletter introduction.

It is good practice for me to try to keep track of all that we do in the school as, when we get to a pause such as half term, it is really lovely to look back. The highlight for me was taking a fantastic group of learners to see the very wonderful play 'A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time'. This is a very powerful play and one that I highly recommend (although if you're anything like me, you'll end up crying at the end!) Read on for one learner's account of the trip, which I absolutely loved reading - well done, Jess!

You will also read below that we won second prize in the National Lawn Tennis Association Education Awards for all the work the learners have been doing in tennis for the last 18 months. Mr Lee and myself have the honour of going to the Rothsay Open in Nottingham next week to receive the prize on behalf of the school. I have to say that this prize meant so very much because we were entered into the competition against other quite prestigious schools - mainstream, private and independent schools alike. To have won second prize is an honour indeed and my thanks have to go to Sasha Ambrose and Jack Lee - our fabulous PE teachers - for making this a possibility. And obviously to the students for working so hard in their tennis lessons. We hope you also got to see the news on Look East of the school.

We ended this half term with the most wonderful events on both sites, to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Scones were enjoyed by all (thanks to Mr Carter and his scone-making teams) and the sites were decorated with red, white and blue bunting, flags and balloons. At the Rectory, there followed a (quite competitive) game of rounders and there was just a lovely atmosphere of celebration which - particularly for the Rectory students - was a welcome relief from the pressures of exams for an afternoon.

There are still so many things to look forward to in the coming half term and we are even thinking beyond that to the next academic year. Next half term, we will have our sports day, summer celebrations and Mr Gatley in Primary has also started work with the Girton local Parish Council to think about how we as a school can support the Local Nature Recovery Plan within the village, getting the children to think about nature, sustainability and living greener. So much to do and so little time!

And now, dear parents, I have one thing to ask of you.... We are looking for some feedback from you; we know that you have lots of contact from the school about your individual children, but we are hoping to get some feedback from you about how the school is doing generally and whether you feel well-informed. In the past we have tried a questionnaire, but parents reflected that this was quite a big task to complete. We have tried QR codes, but as many of you read the newsletter on your phones, you couldn't access these. We would like to hear from you about the best ways to gather your views, so please let us know at [info@grettonschool.com](mailto:info@grettonschool.com) if you can think of the best ways to ask you some questions about the school and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

For now - we wish you all a very happy half term break and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Sports Day in July.





Beth Elkins  
**Headteacher**

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Please Note:

You may need to click *View Entire Message* at the end of the email to enjoy this newsletter in full! You may also need to click to *display images* to appreciate the images in this newsletter.

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### **Monday 6th June**

Students back to school

### **Friday 24th June**

Year 11 students not required in school

### **Monday 27th June - Friday 8th July**

- Year 11 Work Experience
- Year 10 Mock Exams



**Wednesday 6th July****Sports Day****Summer Jubilee Event***more details to follow***Monday 11th July - Tuesday 12th July**

Year 11 Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

**Monday 11th July - Friday 15th July**

Year 10 Work Experience

**Monday 11th July - Wednesday 20th July**

- Transition Weeks
- Year 11 leavers not required in school
- Year 11 going into 6th Form on part time timetables
- Year 12-14 leavers not required in school
- Current 6th Form on part time timetable to accommodate upcoming Year 12s
- Year 11 6th Form Prom will be held during this week, details and arrangements TBC

**Wednesday 20th July**

- Leavers Assembly
- Staff & students finish for summer break

**Monday 17th October**

Moon Week! (more info available below...!)

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**LTA Award Ceremony**

*"I just wanted to say huge congratulations to Mrs Ambrose and Mr Lee for all their work in PE to make this a possibility and even huger congratulations to the learners who have been going along to learn and play tennis every Monday for the last 18 months. So proud of them!" - **Beth Elkins, Headteacher***

Please see the Lawn Tennis Association award ceremony on the following link, which went out on YouTube last week:





*\*Subtitles are available when you open the video\**

If you watch from 07:50-10:33, you will see the Education Award of the Year. You will know that we already won the Regional LTA Award for commitment to tennis; this ceremony saw us coming in the top 3 of the National awards which took place on the 19th May!



*On the 5th of May a group of Drama students set off on a trip to the Norwich Theatre Royal to see the award winning production of **The Curious Incident of The Dog In the Night Time** by Simon Stephens adapted from Mark Haddons novel. All of us thoroughly enjoyed the trip (despite a slight hiccup with our Coach journey) and all of the students were beautifully behaved. Jess wanted to share her very insightful take on the day, we do hope you enjoy it!*

### **Theatre Trip to see The Curious Incident of The Dog In The Night Time** **Written by Jesssica from Wiltshire Class**

We started the trip with the coach which we were meant to be on breaking down, so we waited 10 minutes for a new coach to arrive. We walked on the coach, I sat 2 rows from the back and surprisingly I was sitting by myself on the left side of the row. I only had a box or bag put next to me and I liked not being squished up against anyone for most of the coach ride. I was looking at my

phone partly, looking out of the coach window at the cars and trees outside. It looked beautiful, sometimes I'd listen to everybody chatting on the coach.

I stare at people a lot, that's probably why some people give me weird looks. The only reason I do it is just getting familiar with people and areas around me. When we arrived I looked out the window to see where the building was, everybody got off the bus at the same time as I did, it was so bright out it looked like no place I'd been before. I walked in the building with all of the kids in my class.

While I was getting really excited, we all walked up some stairs and into the largest room I've probably ever seen. We walked up some stairs on the side to row K, I walked excitedly with everyone else to an empty seat. I sat next to Sawyer and a second person who was from a different class. I don't know many people from different classes. He was wearing a black hoodie and I couldn't see his face because of the hoodie. I looked around at everyone who was chatting or looking at the stage, it had square shaped lights all over the corners and the edges were glowing white. Mr. Moclair was giving a few sensory toys to a few students, he was about to give me one when the lights went black and the show was starting, Mr Moclair went back to his seat while my head went to the stage faster than lightning!

Then...some very loud music played, I thought I was going to go deaf while the box lights started flashing in an eye-catching way. The play started with someone shouting something which I won't even repeat about her dog being murdered with a garden fork. A boy named Christopher is trying to solve the mystery of who murdered Wellington, the dog and then Christopher found out a big secret when his dad hides his book, he looks under his dad's bed and he finds his book and some letters from his mother who his dad told him had a heart attack and died. He realised that his mother wanted to apologise to him because she thinks he's angry at her when he didn't even think she was alive.

He travels to London alone while almost getting hit by a train when jumping on the tracks when his pet rat Toby escapes, he finds the pet rat and two strangers save him from being murdered by a train. Christopher gets to London and finds his mother and a few more things happen.

In the middle of the show there was a break called an interval, I had just got out of the row when my bag handle broke, I got some chocolate ice cream it was delicious. I realised that the boy in the hoodie liked pepperoni, I love pepperoni so that's something I have in common with someone I don't even know. I walked back to the seat I was in before and watched the rest of the show.

I was getting a little bored and was stretching a lot near the end when I saw



outside my eyes were on fire like when you wake up and see bright lights. I'm pretty sure everyone could see it!

We got back on the coach to be thrown out of it for a photo, I am the one on the left in the grey shirt. We all got back on the coach and I sat in the seat I was sitting in before. I waited for everyone to be seated, staff gave out some sandwiches in bags. There was ham and cheese and jam, the only thing I would eat was cheese so I got a cheese sandwich and a water bottle and chocolate cake which I almost choked on. I bit off more than I could chew!

I went on my phone and realised it wouldn't work. My mobile data must have run out, then I looked and the renewal date which was the 14th. Then I'm thinking; sketchbook. I drew a few drawings, one looks like I have no idea, I draw random stuff a lot, a little while later my phone still refuses to work properly. I get bored so I stare at everyone.

In the coach two people entertained the whole coach by blasting out the song "never gonna give you up" out of their phones, also they were having a staring competition. Behind me, when we arrived what felt like hours later, I got off the coach as fast as lightning, I walked to mum happy to be off the coach after 2 hours. Me and mum got in the car and drove home.



## Moon Week



Mr Doza has been working behind the scenes to see if he is able to give Gretton an amazing experience and last week received confirmation!

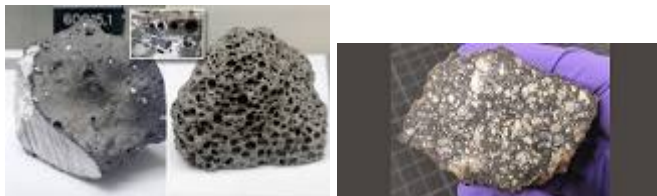
In **October 2022**, Gretton School will be the very privileged carers of some ***genuine rocks from the moon's surface***.

This is a big deal - they will be checking security to make sure that the school is secure enough to house these for the week and then we will be able to show them to staff, students and hopefully parents during that week. They come from NASA and are **priceless**, so it's a real honour.

Given this, Mr Doza has also looked into the possibility of having a visit from a real life astronaut or astronomer and has managed to book Dr Bothwell from the Institute of Astronomy to come and give a talk to the learners and, hopefully, we will also have an event for parents too.

We would like to turn this into a school themed week - commencing **Monday 17 October 2022**, the week before the first half term next academic year.

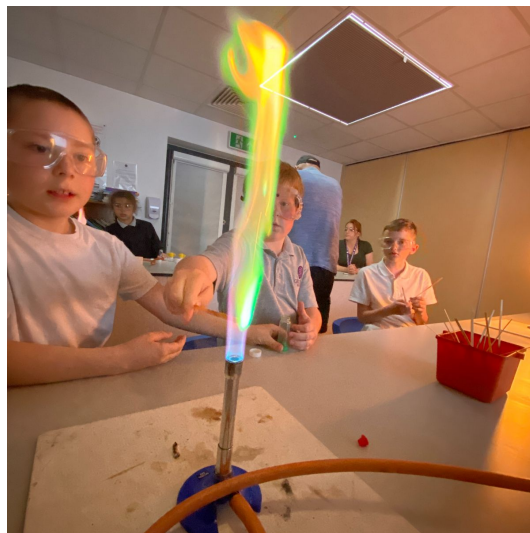
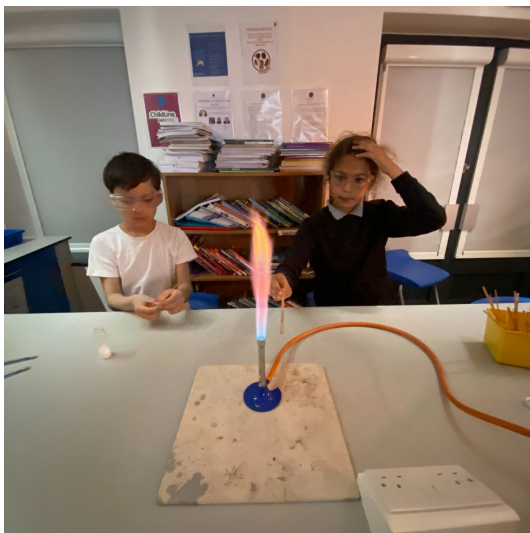
There will be more on this as we get closer to the date, but we are very excited to be given this unique opportunity!



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## Brent get fiery

Brent spent time setting things on fire in the Science lab last week - including their teachers!



## Manor Farm Swing

The swing at Manor Farm has been replaced and is being very much enjoyed by our students on this site. Messi Class students really enjoyed their time on it last week!



Tesla Dress Up

Tesla Class decided to dress up just for fun on a Friday and they really enjoyed it!

They got other classes and staff to vote for their favourite costume, Ethan was crowned the winner and looked fabulous as Wonder Woman.



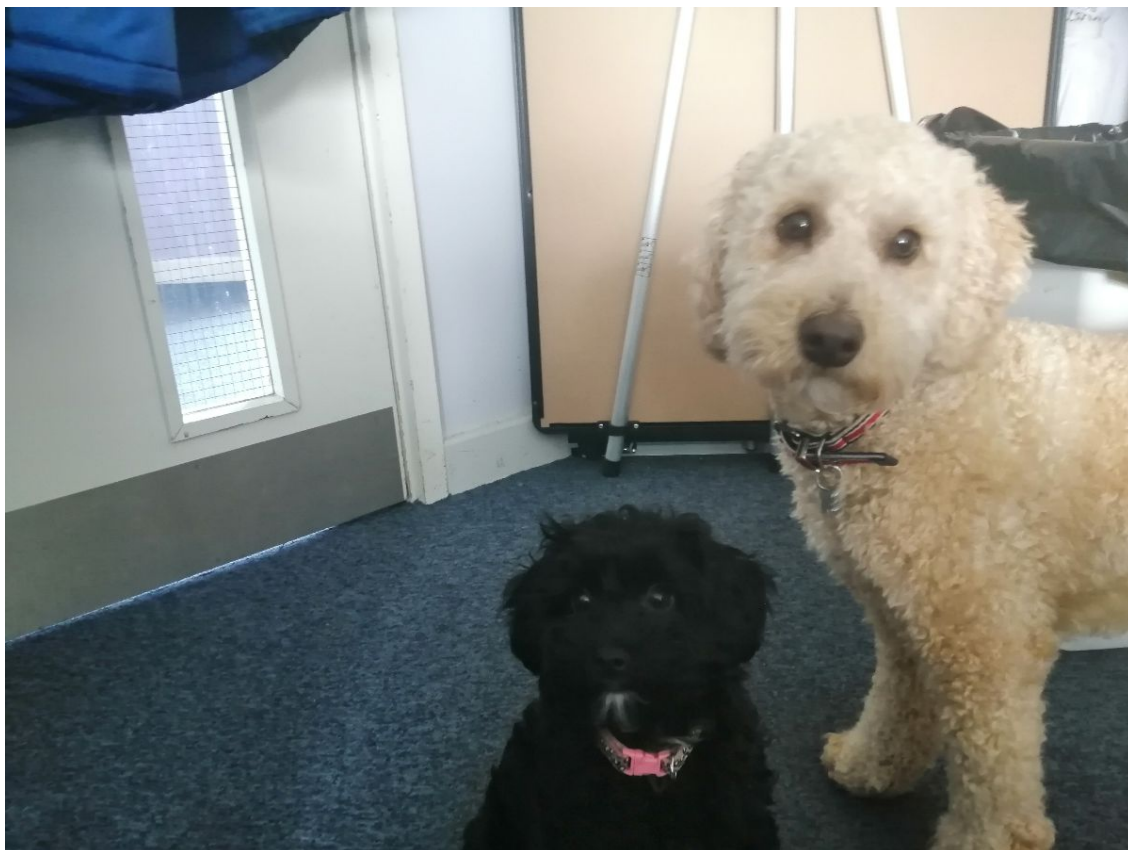


## A quick pupdate...

Our gorgeous canine colleagues, Sherlock and Skyler, have been getting on very well, despite the current size difference!

Here they are together at our Manor Farm site enjoying a fun social session together.

Cuteness overload!



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## Artwork

We are so excited to see the art room filling up with hounds of all shapes, sizes and colours. We look forward to sharing these with you soon at our Summer Jubilee event!

Daniel's dog:



Flo's dog:



Jack's cat:



Evelyn's dragon:



Tyler's dog:



Jonas's dog:



William's dog:





Rory's dog:



Harry's dog:



Ruben's dog:



Toby's dog:



Bentley's dog:



Ron's landscape:



**Our FREE online events and groups**



Sessions are currently all online and booking is easy via our [events page](#). Our upcoming events for June:

**6th June, 10am-12pm: Sleep Workshop Part 1.** Book [here](#).

**7th June, 10am-12pm: Autism and Empathy: an Emotional Response.** Book [here](#).

**7th June, 8pm-9:30pm: SENDads and Mums Group.** Book [here](#).

**8th June, 10am-12pm: SENDIASS - How to get more help at school.** Book [here](#).

**10th June, 10am-12pm: Pinpoint Parent Carer Tii Hub.** Book [here](#).

**13th June, 10am-12pm: Sleep Workshop: Part 2.** Book [here](#).

**14th June, 10am-12pm: Introduction to Dyslexia.** Book [here](#).

**15th June, 12pm-2pm: Yvonne Newbold: Why Sensory Processing Difficulties can Impact Behaviour.** Book [here](#).

**17th June, 10am-12pm: Pinpoint Parent Carer Tii Hub.** Book [here](#).

**23rd June, 8pm-9:30pm: Yvonne Newbold: Common Communication Issues in SEND Children and How to Help Them - Recording.** Book [here](#).

**24th June, 10am-12pm: Pinpoint Parent Carer Tii Hub.** Book [here](#).

**27th June, 10am-12pm: Neurodiversity - What is Dyspraxia, Dyscalculia**



and Dysgraphia. Book [here](#).

29th June, 10am-12pm: Neurodiverse Parent versus the Neurotypical Child and Vice Versa. Book [here](#).

All of these sessions will be held online. Zoom links to join will be sent from Eventbrite 2 days before and again 2 hours before the start of each session. Please do check your junk mail as they sometimes end up there! Thank you.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it's needed. This guide focuses on one of many topics which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about CROSS-PLATFORM SHARING OF INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Creepy characters like Slender Man or Huggy Wuggy. Dangerous online challenges. Songs or videos that aren't suitable for youngsters. When things like these begin trending online, it can be difficult to prevent children accidentally stumbling across them – especially if they use a range of platforms, like online games, social media, streaming sites or messaging apps. A trend can originate in one online space and rapidly spread to other platforms or via chat apps. The frightening Huggy Wuggy character, for instance, first emerged as part of a game on Steam; now there are parody songs on TikTok, videos on YouTube and more than 45,000 results for #huggywuggy on Instagram.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### UNSUITABLE VIDEOS AND IMAGES

Anyone can upload footage to a video-sharing platform, which has resulted in clips that appear age-appropriate but actually aren't so innocent. The audience for Peppa Pig, for instance, is very young – but there have been reports of Peppa cartoons with extreme violence spliced into them. Likewise, footage of the razor-toothed game character Huggy Wuggy has been inserted into numerous child-friendly videos (even on YouTube Kids), scaring many young viewers.

#### INAPPROPRIATE LANGUAGE

On a similar theme, there is always the possibility that user-uploaded video content could include language which really isn't suitable for children. The on-screen imagery may look child friendly, but if your child is wearing headphones, then you'll remain unaware of what is being said; some videos have featured songs containing explicit language or characters graphically describing violence.

#### COPIES OF LIVE STREAMS

Social media and messaging apps can inadvertently spread extremely harmful content very quickly. Footage of violent attacks (such as the recent Buffalo supermarket shootings) can often be viewed on multiple platforms as people start to share the video. Moderators try to react swiftly to remove upsetting content, but the rate at which it goes viral makes it difficult to prevent the spread completely.

#### ACCIDENTAL EXPOSURE

Even if your child doesn't have access to social media platforms or video-streaming platforms (where the majority of issues arise), they might still use messaging apps to communicate with family and friends. There is always going to be a risk, therefore, of them seeing something which isn't child friendly, either shared by one of their peers or sent accidentally by a relative.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### USE SAFETY FEATURES

Enable safety settings like Google SafeSearch and the optional restrictions on video-sharing platforms like YouTube. Whenever possible, stick to YouTube Kids for young children, as the software will help to filter out unsuitable content. Remember that filters aren't always enough to block all inappropriate material – especially when child-friendly videos have been edited maliciously.

### LESS IS BEST

Manage the number of online platforms your child has access to, based on their age and maturity. Just because their friends use a certain game or app, it doesn't mean your child must have it too. Follow the age guidelines for games and apps, and check regularly that privacy settings are in place.

### KEEP IT COMMUNAL

Encourage your child to stay in a communal family space when they're watching videos or playing online games on their devices – without headphones, if possible. This will make it far easier for you to keep one eye (and ear) on what they're seeing and hearing while they're online.

### AVOID FAN-MADE CONTENT

If your child watches cartoons and shows on YouTube, spend time with them making a playlist of videos that you're comfortable with them watching. Always source videos from official channels, as opposed to fan-made content; you can never be completely confident about material that another user has created or uploaded.

### REACT CALMLY

If you hear or see anything unsuitable on your child's device, calmly ask them to turn off the game or video in question. Explain that they haven't done anything wrong, but that you didn't like what you saw or heard and you would much rather they watched or played something else instead.

### SUPPORT AND REASSURE

Remind your child regularly that anyone can post anything online – and that not everything online is real. If your child is sent something that scares or worries them, ask them to show you. Watch it alone (to avoid unnerving them further), then praise them for coming to you and talk about what upset them. Recommend a break from their device to do something which helps them feel calm and happy.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant at Cyberware, who has developed anti-bullying and cyber-safety workshops and policies for schools in Australia and the UK. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing the internet use and sexting behaviours of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

**NOS National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) @nationalonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

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## Wanted: Personal Assistant for lively disabled boy at home / holiday club in Cambridge

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We are looking for a motivated, enthusiastic, confident and positive individual to support our disabled son, age 14, at home and/or at a holiday club in south Cambridge, near Addenbrookes. Our son is sociable, enjoys interaction with others, and learning through play and music. This role is perfect for those looking to expand their experience in SEN, including language and communication, cognition and physical development.

This role offers the opportunity to:

- develop your skills, knowledge and expertise regarding Special Educational Needs (SEN)
- use your own initiative to develop interaction through play
- support the development of social, life and independence skills of a young person with learning disabilities

**The sessions based at home** will mostly involve interacting with our son at home and taking him out locally, encouraging learning through play. Sessions in some instances will be together with a second PA.

There is also the opportunity for **holiday club sessions**, to support our son to access a local mainstream holiday club that he already enjoys attending. This will involve encouraging the development of social interactions with the other children and helping to engage our son in a range of club-based activities.

Both roles will also involve working towards education-based objectives focussing on developing communication skills and social interaction plus undertaking physiotherapy exercises and personal care.

Candidates should ideally have experience working with children, paediatric first aid training, moving and handling training and epilepsy training. Free training can be arranged if necessary.

### Times required:

- **Shifts at home** are very flexible and include:
  - Saturdays/Sundays 09:00-12:30
  - Weekday mornings 07:15-08:30
  - Weekday evenings 16:30-19:30
- **Holiday club shifts** are generally 09:30-16:30 during the school holidays.

Applicants who are interested, but perhaps only available occasionally or can only do holiday club or home shifts are also welcome to apply, as the role is very flexible.

**The pay** will be from £10.50-£12/hour, depending on experience.

**For more details and to apply** please send your CV and a covering letter outlining any experience and motivation relevant to the role to Mary via email: [m.dimambro@gmail.com](mailto:m.dimambro@gmail.com)

Full DBS checks will be undertaken for any successful applicants





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