



Newsletter

10.6.22



Recently at Greenfields...

It's official – we are a GOOD school!

It's been a long time waiting to tell you the news. Ofsted was 6 weeks ago, but this is how the wheels turn. Finally, the report is out and we can say we are a GOOD school. In the feedback meeting when each judgement is gone through and proved, we actually looked at the Outstanding judgement in 3 categories, and whilst we did not get that judgement we did look at it and were not that far off the grade. To go from where we were 3 years ago to a very strong good is a wonderful achievement. Thank you all for the messages and congratulations either on the Facebook post or emails to us. It has been a long, hard journey, but Greenfields has the judgement it deserves – and we could not have got there without the amazing team of staff that work here. I am so proud and honoured to lead them and be a part of such a team. Please do congratulate them as it really is a team effort.

Similarly, the children did us proud – as they always do. In one observation the relationship between the children and adults was highly praised, and the child observed simply kept saying, "I'm on fire today – I'm on fire!" showing how well their learning was going. They spoke positively about the school, their learning, their friendships and what they wanted for their futures. They talked about our welcoming and inclusive ethos, telling the inspectors "it's ok to be you – no matter what", and sharing their personal experiences. Their learning behaviour shone in the younger years – they were so enthusiastic and proud to talk about their school. We could not have asked for more.

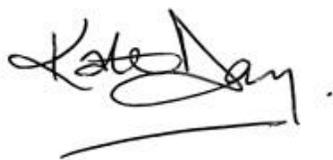
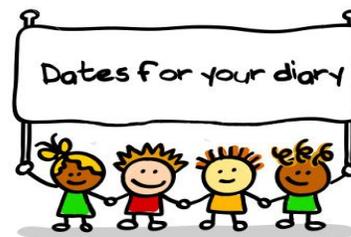
Yes we have areas to keep improving on – that is how it works. What is pleasing is that these are the areas we already knew and are already working on. Assessment in the non core subjects is a national target as so much time and energy has been put into ensuring the children are catching up learning in English and Maths, so yes, we need to ensure that lessons are pitched and assessed correctly in other subjects. Our second target is ensuring writing happens in all subjects across the curriculum to the same standard the children use in their English books, and that children present their work neatly! You can help us with this by ensuring that children do their work at home to the same standard, use pencil or pen; not coloured pencils and felt tips which we do see. We want all the children to be aspirational not only in their learning, but in presenting their work to the best of their abilities. We showed the inspection team how aspirational we are in lessons, now we need children to do that in their books too.

Now is a really good time to reflect and see how far we have come. It is also the time to take a few risks and try some new ideas without the pressure of an imminent Ofsted. So in the new academic year we will again be reviewing our curriculum, I will be having a parent meeting to discuss what we feel it is important for the children to learn and the hopes we have for our children, much like I did 3 years ago. We will keep improving, keep getting better, and keep aiming to be the best we can for our children. This is a team activity, and I look forward to working on this with you.

Speaking of aiming high, I am so proud (again) of the year 1 class and their teachers who have just finished their phonics check. This is a national test and despite having interrupted Nursery and Reception years, so only really having this year to learning and consolidate their phonics, 80% of the children have reached the expected standard. That is a wonderful achievement. All children will get their letters at the end of term in their reports with their individual results on. In year 2 we have an accumulated result of 94%; again a really good result. A huge well done and thank you to Mrs Irwin, Mrs Jeffries and Miss Kelly for all their efforts in getting these wonderful results.

The Jubilee feels a long time ago now. I hope you have all had a chance to look at the website and class blogs to see the photos of the fun activities we had during our celebrations. Jelly and ice cream for 200 children is certainly a challenge – as was wrapping up 200 layers of pass the parcel – but we certainly had fun and made memories. I hope you all had a wonderful holiday expanding on these.

As we come into the final half term we invariable look forward to the end of the year and moving on. On person who has decided to relinquish their position at the end of term is Mr Ray who announced at our last governing body meeting that he will retire from governing duties at the end of his period in office. Mr Ray has been amazing – both for Greenfields and all of the children, but also on a support from for me, and I know we will all be very sad to see him go. He has promised to not leave us entirely – so will still hear readers, run science club and help out with the premises, but he won't be our Chair any longer. I know many of you will want to say Thank You to him for all he has done for the school, so I have asked FOGs to arrange something on behalf of the parents. Please look out for this. We will say thank you in our Awards Assembly at the end of term officially.

15.6.22	Y4 trip to St Helens – Sport and Science
16.6.22	Y2 Class Assembly
17.6.22	Cystic Fibrosis Day – wear yellow
20.6.22	Y3 trip to Legoland
21.6.22	Y5 trip to St Helens – Sport and Science
22.6.22	Nursery and Reception trip to Ruislip Lido
23.6.22	Years 1&2 trip to London Zoo
29.6.22	New to EYFS New Parents Meeting 5pm
30.6.22	Y3 Athletics Competition at Woodhall Y5 York house Overnight Camp
2.7.22	Summer Fair
6.7.22	Y6 production
7.7.22	Year 1 Class Assembly Y6 production
11.7.22	Sports Week Years 4,5 and 6 at St Helen's for Day of Sport
12.7.22	Normans Fun Run am KS2 Pool afternoon
13.7.22	Sports Day 5pm Governing Body Meeting
14.7.22	Herts Transition Day for schools - Y6 Y3 Class Assembly
15.7.22	Inflatables Day FOGs End of Year Discos
18.7.22	Awards Assembly for End of Term New Classes Day Y6 Forest Schools Day
19.7.22	Reception Graduation 9.30am Nursery Graduation 11am EYFS Beach Party Day Parents Open Evening
20.7.22	Y6 Leavers Assembly 9.15am to parents END OF TERM 1pm

Mrs May's retirement...

Following the news in the last newsletter, I have had several parents ask me if there will be a school collection for Mrs May as she retires at the end of the academic year. The answer to that is – YES! If you would like to contribute, please send your donation into the school office in a clearly marked envelope and include a message on paper (no bigger than A5) which we will make into a scrap book for Mrs May to receive on her last day. There is no obligation to donate – but it is there should you wish to do so.