



Newsletter

17.05.19

Recently at Greenfields...

Behaviour is something that Greenfields is known for. Our pupils are often praised by visitors if we go on trips, in classes behaviour is good and the children are ready and eager to learn. One of my first impressions of the school was how polite and well mannered the children are. None of this has changed. However, break times have become slightly more of an issue recently with some children letting off steam a little too much now they have the space of the field open to them. We have had a few games that have got a little too boisterous and some children have been hurt. I have had to remind all the children that we do not even play fight at Greenfields because it leads to real fighting far too easily.

It is hard to deal with issues when discussing with the children how to react to being hurt when many of them reply, "my ---- says if someone hits me I should hit them back!" As adults we are able to use our judgement far more easily to discern that a push or bump was accidental than a child. However, a child who has been told to hit back can't – and so a fight prevails. It is also hard when children have been exposed to films and games where fighting happens and they just see that if you 'die' in the game you just lose a life and play again. That doesn't happen in real life. People get hurt.

It is our duty as parents to help our children deal with injuries and challenging situations. We need to teach our children to use our voices first and then seek help to resolve a situation, not resort to fists. If a child hurts them, they need to tell

an adult, not just turn around and hurt them. Imagine how bad you would feel if someone tripped and bumped into you, and in response you smacked them in the face. That's actually assault.

Please help the school but reinforcing this message at home. Only watch and play age appropriate games and encourage children to think before they react. Thank you.

Sadly next week we say goodbye to two members of staff who have secured new jobs. I know they will both be missed immensely by the children they support and the classes they work with. We wish Mrs Lawless all the best as she joins Oxhey Early Years Centre, and know that they young children in her charge have a very special adult to be giving them their first taste of education. We also wish Mrs Briers well as she joins the admin team at South Oxhey Family Centre. Both members of staff have given their all to Greenfields and made such a difference in the lives of our children. I know they will miss us. Good luck on your next adventures.

Finally, a huge well done to our Year 6s after their week of assessment. They have worked hard and done all they can. Results do not come back until the middle of July, so I will be keeping everything crossed until then!

Kate Day

Attendance



Nursery	96%
Reception	100%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	97%
Year 3	98%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	99%
School for week 7 th – 10 th May	98%

This term has certainly been the best so far for attendance with so many non-uniform days given I feel I might be saying it's dress down Friday permanently soon! In the past 3 weeks we have had 9 class non-uniform days as rewards for everyone being in, 3 classes have earned a week of extra play and now 2 classes have earned parties next week for 3 weeks in a row (apparently I need to get the popcorn and cakes in!). It is so great to walk into classes and have children telling me they have worked together as a team to make sure they got each other the rewards.

At the same time I have had 6 letters requesting authorized leave in the past week for holidays. Whilst I really do understand that holidays in the school holidays are so expensive, I cannot authorize holiday during term time unless in EXCEPTIONAL circumstances. Unfortunately "we cannot afford to go during the holidays" is not exceptional leave. Nor can I allow weeks off for weddings. I am also concerned about the requests which are asking for time off at the beginning of next academic year. The first few days back in September are vital. This is when a class resettles after the long break, meets their new teacher and begins to understand the new rules and expectations in their new class. Whilst at Greenfields children are not particularly settling to classes being mixed up, friendships do change over long breaks. It makes it incredibly hard for a child to settle into their new routine after everyone else already knows it.

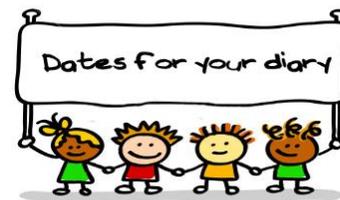
We have all done so well to improve attendance at Greenfields. Last year attendance was 92%, this year we have already pushed the cumulative attendance to 94.8% but this is still below government expectations. Next year I really do want to ensure that our attendance is around the 96% mark. We know Ofsted will visit again next year, and attendance is one thing that stops a school improving. Please do continue to help us all, together, to build the school our children deserve.

FOGs Car Boot Sale

With that in mind, FOGs are holding a Car Boot Sale on Sunday the 19th May from 7am – 12 noon. Both indoor table spaces and outdoor pitches are available - £15 indoor with tables provided and £10 for a car pitch outside (you need your own tables). FOGs will be running a refreshment stall / BBQ to purchase tea / coffee / bacon butty to get you through.

This event is open to the whole community of South Oxhey and pitches are already being snapped up. If you would like a chance to clear out ready for the summer, empty those wardrobes and work out what everyone has grown out of; why not book a pitch?

Ring Lucy on 07896 240102.



22.5.19	Year 4 sharing Assembly
23.5.19	Curriculum Planning Meeting 6pm
27-31.5.19	Half term
5.6.19	New to Early Years Meeting 5.30pm
6.6.19	Year 3 sharing Assembly Year 4 trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum
13.6.19	Year 5 sharing Assembly
14.6.19	Nursery trip to Odds Farm
17-21.6.19	ASSESSMENT WEEK
20.6.19	Year 2 sharing Assembly
24.6.19	Year 6 Production Week
25.6.19	New Nursery trial morning
27.6.19	Year 6 Production shows to parents
1-5.7.19	Year 6 School Journey
4.7.19	Year 1 sharing Assembly
8.7.19	Sports Week