



Newsletter

8.9.23



Recently at Greenfields...

Welcome back everyone, and a special big welcome to our new families who have joined us today and continue to join us this week. It is always a pleasure to have new people join our Greenfields family and we hope you will be very happy being a part of it. Not only do we have new Nursery and Reception families, we have new joiners in years 2,4 and 6 – so WELCOME!

Welcome too to our new members of staff. Mr Adak joins us in Year 4, Mrs Allard in Nursery. Both have already settled in well and have commented on how welcome they have been made to feel by our community, so thank you.

I do hope you had a lovely break with the children, despite the weather. It seems to go on forever, and yet passes in the blink of an eyelid. August seems like a lifetime ago already. The children have all returned a little bit taller, and all looking wonderful in their uniforms – so many in shiny black shoes! Thank you for making the effort to get this week off on a good foot – and I know you will try to keep it up. Just a reminder that all that new uniform needs naming – if your child is likely to take it off, please name it! If you are a Sharpie writer (like me) make sure you check each term it hasn't washed out. Top tip – write the name on the actual garment and not on labels which can easily be cut out!

I enclose all the dates we have in the diary so far this year. Please make sure you add them to your diaries, and I know there will be more to add as we make more plans into the term. The most immediate to note are the Welcome Back meetings with the class teachers, where all the expectations and plans for the year are explained. the family fun night

and Inflatables Day which is just next Friday (and an non uniform day to boot), and Y6, please ensure you have all the Secondary School Open Evenings in your diaries to go and visit, and the deadline date in red! Remember to buy wrist bands in advance for Inflatables Day so we can arrange catering...

Clubs will start in school next week, most information has already gone out on Piota. These will only run if there is enough take up and want for a club, and as always, if you would really like to see a club being run, please let me know and I will try to find someone who can do it!

As always, our doors are always open and we are here to help. If there is anything you are concerned about, or unhappy about, please do come in and talk to us. If you need to speak to a teacher urgently, we are here every day, but we do ask that if you know the chat is going to take time, that you make an appointment as teachers need to be teaching from 8.45am onwards. The class teachers are always the first port of call, but myself or Mrs Evans are usually around if you need us. If something is just for information and you want to share, it is probably easier to send via the class email address which all teachers check daily.

Here's to a great terms and year together. Thank you for all your support in advance!

Kate Day

Attendance

On Monday I will be re-launching our Attendance Rainbows in assembly and discussing with the children the importance of being in school.

Class Attendance:

Each class will be able to colour in a stripe of their rainbow when they have achieved the following:

Red: 100% class attendance for 1 day

Orange: 100% class attendance for 3 days in a row

Yellow: 100% class attendance for a week (Monday – Friday) – for this they will win a non uniform day, just for their class

Green: 100% attendance for 2 consecutive weeks – for this they win extra play for a week

Blue: 100% attendance for 3 consecutive weeks – win a class party

Indigo: 100% attendance for 4 consecutive weeks – a local trip

Violet: 100% attendance for a half term – a school trip of their choosing (within this country!)

Unfortunately, no class has been able to colour in a stripe yet as every class has had children away on holiday and missing the vital first week of term.

Personal Attendance:

- Every child who achieves 100% for the weekly attendance will receive a raffle ticket which will be put into a class raffle. On the last day of each half term, in Friday's assembly, I will draw one ticket out of each class to win a prize.

I appreciate that a child's attendance relies on their parents or guardians bringing them into school! If your child is really, genuinely ill; do keep them at home. Please try to make all appointments outside of school hours (Doctors, Dentists, Opticians etc) and get your child to school on time every day. Let's see how quickly we can turn the attendance figures around for the benefit of the children.



Lunches



Whilst we will never let a child go hungry, this is a reminder that all cooked meals need to be ordered at home in advance. Most classes this week have had to order meals for children – some for over half the children taking a meal. We do not have the time to do this in class and the office certainly do not have the time to order for half the school. Please ensure you have ordered (and cancelled if your child is off) at home.

A reminder that packed lunches should be healthy – no sweets, chocolate and no nuts due to allergies in school. This includes no Nutella. All children should have some carbohydrates, protein, fruit and vegetables and a drink. It increasingly worries me the poor choices of lunch I see in the children's lunchboxes. Please aim to help your child achieve their best by providing them with the right sort of food, and things they will eat.

The children are told that any food coming in from home needs to go back home and not in the school bin – this is so you can see what they have eaten and what they have left – to help you manage your shopping and talk to the children about why they have left food. Sometimes we have children in tears as they don't like their lunches. If you are ordering school food, please do this in discussion with your child so we are not having to explain why they have what they have. The kitchens do not cook extra food, and whilst we will never let a child go hungry, they cannot just swap a meal.

We will no longer let dinner debts climb to over £50. I know times are tough, and being faced with debts for lunches shouldn't be something to worry about if you keep on top of payments. Only children in Nursery and Yrs 3-6 have to pay for lunches, children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 are covered by Universal Free School Meals.

House Charities and Captains

We have new House Captains! Well done to the following children who have been voted in by their peers, and for putting themselves forward in the first place! I look forward to working with them throughout the year to raise money for others in need:

Vikings: James and Jacob

Saxons: Mason and Yutika

Normans: Taylor and Alex

Romans: Keira and Archie

Are our first house meetings and lots of debate, they have chosen the following charities to support:

Vikings: Pumpkin Wildlife Rescue

Saxons: The Starfish Ward

Normans: RNLI

Romans: Shelter

You will see the charity dates for two houses on the dates list. It is always up to the houses to decide what house to support, and how they want to raise money for that house. The house captains will then do an assembly to the school close to their charity day to explain why they were chosen, what they do, and why they need support. We then leave it up to each individual to decide how much they would like to donate towards that charity.

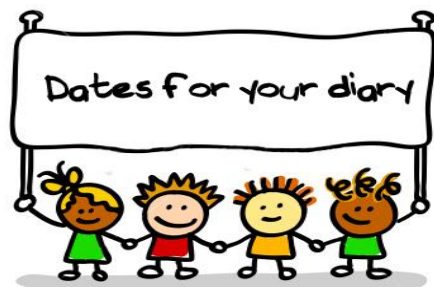
Normans start out charity days with the RNLI. They have asked that each child dresses up as their own personal hero – that might be a made up hero, a sporting personality, or someone they know – I know mine would probably be my Dad. We ask for a donation for this. There will then be a cookie sale after school where we will be asking for a donation of at least £1 each or £5 for 6 - for a giant cookie. More details and order forms to follow.

As this year no house chose to support MacMillan, the staff have asked if they can have that as their house charity, and so on Friday 29th September we will be hosting a MacMillan Coffee Morning and ask for donations of cakes to sell. Everyone is invited – 9-11am in the school dining room. Please send children in with cakes and money on the morning of the 29th. As usual, all classes will be able to buy a cake for break time.



REMINDER

- We expect and ask that all children read at least 4 times a week and reading records are signed by parents each time. Lost or damaged books are charged at £5 per book.
- PE kit is worn into school on the day for PE. Please see Class Welcome Meeting for each class for days. Label all clothes with names!
- Children in 4-6 need a slip to say they can walk home alone or to the gate. Please encourage their independence by leaving them at the gate in the mornings too.
- Breakfast club and After School club must be booked and paid for before use - £2.50 a day
- Clubs must be booked and paid for in advance
- We are a cashless school! The office cannot take cash payments for anything.
- **The school day now starts with doors opening at 8.40am and registration at 8.45am. Please be on time!**



11.9.23	Returning Nursery back in Opening Week Celebration Show 3pm in the hall
12.9.23	New to Nursery starters in No After School Club – staff training
13.9.23	Nursery Meet the Teacher 11.30am Y2 Meet the Teacher 3pm – classroom Y6 Meet the Teacher 3.30pm - classroom
14.9.23	Book fair arrives for the week
15.9.23	Inflatables Day and after school fun Non Uniform
18.9.23	Y4 trip to St Albans
19.9.23	No After School Club – staff training
20.9.23	Y6 trip to Uxbridge Bunker Last evening of the book fair FOGS AGM
26.9.23	Phonics Meeting for Parents of Reception and Year 1 gam - Hall
28.9.23	Y5 trip to Kew Gardens
29.9.23	MacMillan Coffee Morning Governors Day
5.10.23	Harvest Festival Assembly for South Oxhey Food Bank
9.10.23	Christmas Card Making in school
12.10.23	Year 5 Class Assembly
13.10.23	Normans Charity Day for the RNLI – Dress as your Hero and Cookie Sale
17.10.23	Order Cauliflower Cards Sale 3-4pm
18.10.23	Parents Evening
19.10.23	Year 3 Class Assembly Parents Evening
23-27.10.23	Half Term
8.11.23	FOGs Meeting 5pm
9.11.23	Y6 Class Assembly 10.40am - Remembrance
13.11.23	Bikeability Week
14.11.23	Positivity Day – Wear Odd Socks
16.11.23	Y5 fun Run – South Oxhey Playing Fields pm
19.11.23	Christmas Market
22.11.23	Y6 trip to Lincolnsfield
23.11.23	Year 2 Class Assembly gam
30.11.23	Year 4 Class Assembly gam
1.12.23	Romans Charity Day for Shelter – YES day
13.12.23	Christmas Show Day 2pm / 5.30pm
14.12.23	Christmas Show 9.15am
15.12.23	Christmas Fair
18.12.23	Awards Assembly Christmas Lunch and Party Day
19.12.23	Whole School Panto trip to St Albans
20.12.23	1pm Finish
8.1.24	Term Starts

Friends of Greenfields

A very small and dedicated committee have been supporting the school for a few years now doing what they know and what we think the children would like to raise money for the school. Since I joined, the school has also run events to raise money and diversify a bit. It would be lovely to get some new ideas and new faces involved, and also to share the load somewhat with support for events.

This year I would really like Friends of Greenfields to develop and ask all parents, grandparents, older siblings to think about whether they have an idea or can offer some help to make our events even more successful, raising money which will benefit every child. Last year, between FOGs and the Lolly Sales, we were able to buy a new iPad for each class to use and record, which will help in so many different ways, and buy Christmas presents for each class. Little things like this make a big difference to our children, and are not covered by the ever reducing school budget.

Friday 15th starts our fundraising with Inflatables Day and the Family Fun Evening. The pot for wrist bands is open and for £5 each child can have unlimited goes on all the games we will have in. There is also a BBQ and Bar for purchases on the night, sweets and lollies too. Please do purchase bands before Thursday's deadline, so we can anticipate numbers and sort out catering.

We are following this with the annual FOGs AGM on Wednesday 20th at 5pm. I really would like to see lots of new faces there offering support to school with new ideas of how we can fundraise. Ideally, I would like an event a month - a mixture of family and child events, some requiring help and support, but other we can run in school. Please do come and show your support for us by attending and volunteering - even one night for an hour or two makes a difference.

So far my plans for the year are:

September: Inflatables Day and Family Fun Night
 October – Disco?
 November - Christmas Market - Sunday November 19th
 December - Christmas Fair (15th December) /& Craft Evening / & Disco
 January
 February - Disco
 March - Easter Bonnet craft making evening?
 April - Car Boot Sale / Bing Night?
 May - Culture Day
 June - Summer Fair - (21st June - Friday after school)
 July - Family Fun Night

These I will happily change if anyone has something better / different / wants to run...

I will be looking to hold one meeting a half term to ensure we are all where we need to be to hold events, with the right number of helpers / volunteers.