



# Newsletter



## 10.01.2025

## Recently at Greenfields...

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and really enjoyed the festivities and spending time with your friends and family.

It is wonderful to be starting the year with a full complement of teaching staff as we welcomed Mrs Farmer and Miss Daniels to the team. Mrs Farmer will be covering Mrs Pearce's maternity leave from March, and is covering across all classes to allow teachers their PPA time, and Miss Daniels will be job sharing in Year 2 on w Wednesday to Friday. I know you will all welcome them to our community and make them feel welcome. It already feels like they have been a part of our team forever. And not just new staff, but new carpets too to replace the flood damaged ones – it was a busy holiday!

Thank you to all those who have started the New Year as you mean to go on; being on time for school! We have had lots of families miss the opening few days of term, and lots of children struggling to get back into routine. I really hope that next week we are back to good attendance. Please try to be on the school site by 8.40am when the doors open. Give yourself a few more minutes to get here especially in this slippery, icy weather. Please also keep to the walkways in school and please do not let your children run around on the biodome base outside of Year 3 – it really is dangerously slidey at this time of year.

The Spring Term is always a short one – 6 weeks only each half term, and we always have loads to pack in. I am really pleased that this term we are working with Electric Umbrella who are becoming our musicians in residence and running music workshops with every class each Wednesday this term.

The children have already had day 1 and everyone was buzzing yesterday after assembly together. We all enjoyed our Christmas song 'Kindness isn't just for Christmas' so much which is an EU song. EU will be teaching the children so much more than music however, their ethos is about inclusivity, achievability and celebrating everyone's uniqueness – values that really match what Greenfields is all about.

We are currently looking for adults who could help us being reading volunteers; supporting the children in hearing them read. Please see the Piota message which has gone out, and please let me know if you can give a hour or two a week to help make a real difference. Perfect for a grandparent or two even! We are also looking for a dinner lady to help until the end of the academic year - daily 11.30am-1pm. If this is something you would be interested in please speak to me before I advertise it more widely in the South Oxhey community.

As I have said, this term is always busy, so please make sure you have your Piota notifications set for the right year groups and pinging as this is our easiest form of communication. Also make note of all the dates for the diary enclosed. The date I really would like you to reserve in your diary is the 8<sup>th</sup> June which is the day the Circus comes to Greenfields. Big top, acrobats, jugglers, fun and laughter. Please see the article on how to purchase tickets at the discounted early bird price! And again, speak to me if you'd like a stall

*Kate Day*



## Healthy Packed Lunches

This week I feel I need to remind parents as to what food can be sent into school in a packed lunch box, and our need to keep all children safe in school. We have several children with severe nut allergies, so nuts and nut products are a complete NO, and must not be sent into school. This includes checking that products do not have nuts in them, like chocolate spread. I have also been shocked to see chocolate bars and sweets appearing in lunch boxes in the dining hall – these are not allowed, and never have been, Please do not send them in. If we see children with them, they will be told not to eat them at lunch and to take them home.

Lunch is a really important meal and needs to give the children the long burning calories that will get them to the end of the day, not fast burning sugary items which increase poor behaviour choices and then lead to a slump as the initial high wears off.

Sandwiches, pasta, wraps, pastries are all fine. Salads, fruit and vegetables: great.

It is only at lunch that children should have any other drink to water. Classroom water bottle should only contain water, and children can bring in squash or smoothie type drinks for lunch. There is so much research into why water is best during the day for the brain, and we need to give our children the best opportunities to do as well as they can.

Please support us by ensuring their lunch follows the expectations we have in school. Thank you.

## Roofing Update

One month in and the roof project is still going – causing all sorts of noises and interruptions to our days, but we are getting there. You will have noticed now we still have people on the roof, and now a new team working on drains, so sometimes school is a bit smelly, and there is a lot of mud around! We are all doing the best we can, and the men are on target despite the really cold and wet weather.

Next week they will be working across the front of school, so access to the main front door will be slightly different and channeled rather than just walk up to it, but you will be able to get to us. I just ask that those who gather at the front door be mindful of the limited space, and for those who bring bikes, scooters and buggies to leave them tidily in the bike shed rather than just left on the ground.

For next week, we ask that Y4 use the field side entrance and exit until the front door is clear again. Many thanks for your support in this.

## Notices

- **Clubs start again this week, so please make sure you have reserved / paid for your spaces and make sure your child has the right clothes on the right day.**
- Y3 Forest School is on Mondays – remember a change of clothes
- **Swimming for Y4&5 is on Tuesdays – again, remember kits / clothes and to pay for the lessons on Arbor.**
- Ring the office or send an email by 9.30am please to tell us your child is going to be absent for the day. And remember, sickness means 48 hours clearance before they can come back from the time of the last incident. Please do not send children back in sooner for unexplained sickness.
- **We are having new intercoms installed at the front of school. For 2 weeks, the pedestrian gate timer will not work, so please bear with us as it will not unlock automatically at the set times of the day we are used to. We will get to it as soon as we can if it's shut!**

# HAPPY'S CIRCUS

*Even the kids will love it!*

This summer, the circus is coming to town! I know it feels early to be talking about June, but this is going to be a huge thing for Greenfields, and I so want to make a success of it – it's been booked for 2 years – this is how popular Happy's Circus is!

**Date: 8<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

**Gates open 11.30am for fun, activities and food.**

**Big Top opens at 1.30pm ready for the 2PM show**

I am offering tickets to Greenfields early at a reduced price before they go on general sale in South Oxhey, so please reserve your seat as soon as you can. From Monday, the pot will be open to pay for seats on Arbor.

You will need to pay for your seats via Arbor and email us at [Circus@greenfields.herts.sch.uk](mailto:Circus@greenfields.herts.sch.uk) with your name, ticket request and payment reference for the reduced price. Come the Easter holidays I will sell whatever tickets we have left to the local community, and the price will increase too – so pay early to bag the deal.

For Greenfields early discount, the prices are:

**Children: £10 a ticket**

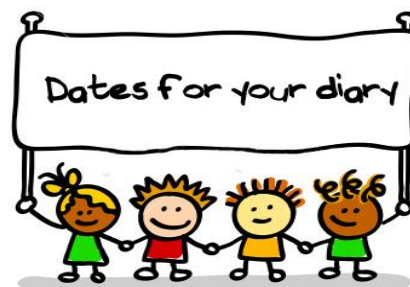
**Adults: £12.50**

**Family of 4: £40**

**Plus booking fee**

Equally, if you are unable to use Arbor, the office can help, so pop in and see them. We have 600 tickets to sell, and I'm really hoping it's a sell out.

If you run a local business and would like to hire a pitch, please do get in touch via the email address above. We have certain limitations as to what we can sell, so we do need to ensure nothing conflicts with the circus contract.



15.1.25	Deadline for Primary School applications for Reception places
20.1.25	International Day of Acceptance – non uniform day with money going to Electric Umbrella Girls Football Match v St Josephs away
23.1.25	Y5 Class Assembly
27.1.25	Boys football v St Josephs home
31.1.25	Governor Day
3.2.25	Children's Mental Health Week
7.2.25	Disco EYFS / KS1 @ 4pm KS2 @ 5.30pm
13.2.25	Y2 Class Assembly Y3&4 Stay Active Handball Sessions
17 – 21.2.25	HALF TERM
3.3.25	Book Week
4.3.25	Author Visit
6.3.25	World Book Day – wear PJs Book at Bedtime Y5 Rugby Tournament @ Greenfields
12.3.25	Parents Evening 1.30pm – 7pm
13.3.25	Parents Evening 3.30-5pm
20.3.25	Y3 Class Assembly
24.3.25	Mothers Day gift Sale
3.4.25	Awards Assembly
4.4.25	Easter Bonnet Parade End of Term 1pm
22.4.25	Training Day
23.4.25	Term Starts
5.5.25	Bank Holiday
12.5.25	Y6 SATs week
16.5.25	Break the Rules Day
20.5.25	Y6 Residential
26-30.5.25	Half Term
14.7.25	Sports Week
16.7.25	Sports Day
18.7.25	Nursery / Reception Graduation
21.7.25	Awards Assembly
End of Term	Y6 Leavers Assembly Term Ends 1pm