

Newsletter

22.9.23



Recently at Greenfields...

How quickly do we fall back into the rhythms and routines of school, and how busy we have been over the last two weeks! We really do appreciate all those families getting to school on time for registration at 8.45am. I know it is a bit of a shock to the system, and it gets harder as the mornings get darker, but being on time is so important – so we do appreciate your efforts.

Firstly, thank you to all who came to see our Charlie Mackesy exhibition of the work we had done in the first week. I was so impressed that from just one book every class had created something different. The children all tried something new, whether it was pen and ink drawing, calligraphy, watercolours or simply understanding the very thoughtful ideas of the boy, the mole, the fox or the horse. The children have talked comprehensively about kindness, care, creativity and cake! Please do look at our twitter page, or on Piota for photos of the exhibition if you did not manage to make it.

Last week we moved into normal curricular learning, but then ended the week with Inflatables Day – and what a success that was! The children had such a good time bouncing around, driving the carts, making the putts and just having fun. We were blessed with such a lovely day weather wise, and the Family Fun night was a wonderful event. Thank you so much for supporting the school and being such a fabulous community. It was lovely to see so many families just chatting and chilling together whilst the children were so well behaved on the games. We managed to raise an amazing £1700 for the school in just this one

event. I will talk about fundraising a bit later on, but this was a brilliant start to our year and will provide some much needed resources in school which will benefit everyone.

This week two classes have been on trips to launch their topic learning; Year 4 to St Albans for a Roman day, and Y6 to Uxbridge Bunker to hear all about the fight for the skies in the Battle of Britain to inspire learning about World War II. Both classes behaved exceptionally well and we received many compliments from staff for their behaviour and attitude to learning which was lovely to hear. Both classes have tweeted photos of their day, so again, please look and like them.

Trips are only really possible when everyone pays their donation towards the cost, and already some families are already falling into arrears with the school. Please do come and talk to me if you need help towards trips or are in financial difficulties, and we can work out a payment plan to enable your child to take part. We appreciate times are financially challenging for everyone, school included, so by speaking up and telling us early, we can find a way forward. We can also offer help with breakfast club and after school for those working who still need help and support – but again, you need to ask. All classes have trips and activities coming up – so make notes of the dates and when money will be needed by.

Kate Day

Attendance



Attendance

Nursery	85%
Reception	97%
Year 1	93%
Year 2	99%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	95%
Year 5	95%
Year 6	93%
Whole School (without Nursery)	95%

This data is for the first two weeks of term – 4th – 15th September, and I am very pleased with 5 classes having attendance in line or better than the national data we have to achieve – especially Year 2 with 99%! We are always aiming for at least 95% attendance, so this is a good start.

What has let classes down is the number of parents who took their children out of school for the first week for holiday. Already, we have had over 10 children missing due to holidays, and I have had requests for a further 5 this last week. I cannot authorise holiday in term time unless in exceptional circumstances. Covid is not an exceptional circumstance, nor is the cost. Children have 175 days when they are NOT in school, and holidays need to be planned around this. I appreciate the honesty of families telling me they are on holiday and not telling us their child has a sickness bug, but please do try to book holidays during the school holidays, or minimise the amount of time they are missing by linking to the breaks we have.

Please help us help your child by enabling them to be in school – which helps with emotional, personal and physical health as well as their education!

CONGRATULATIONS to Y3 who have earned a non uniform day on Monday 25th for 100% this week!

Fundraising for Greenfields

Thank you to the five mums who came to discuss how we can support all children and raise money for the whole school.

Our calendar of events so far looks like this for the Autumn term:

September – Family Fun Night

November – Glow in the Dark disco – 3rd November

- Christmas Market – 19th November

December – Silent disco – 8th December

- Christmas Fair – 15th December

We would love to be able to put on more events, and we have ideas for what we can do together, but we do need more help.

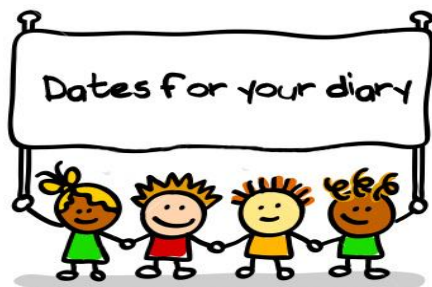
The Family Fun Night raised £1700. Of this money, £200 is being put towards Christmas presents for each class and £600 on visualizers for each class to help sharing work and learnings. This means we are saving £900 for class benches to store play equipment and for seating. These are all things our normal school budget does not cover.

Last year FOGs helped to buy new iPads for each class, and in previous years have helped with wet play toys and Christmas presents, books and the pirate ship.

So, how can you still help? 5 parents on their own cannot do it! Please do step forward and offer help, even if it is for just one event or for an hour, or is just making sweet bags – every little helps! Please just drop me an email at head@greenfields.herts.sch.uk and tell me what you can do!

Meanwhile, thank you so much for all that purchased books at the Book Fair this week. Your spending gave us £160 to spend on new books for the children's 30'clock read baskets – something for every class. We look forward to hearing them soon!





26.9.23	Phonics Meeting for Parents of Reception and Year 1 gam - Hall
28.9.23	Y5 trip to Kew Gardens Y4 tri golf tournament at Eastbury Farm pm
29.9.23	MacMillan Coffee Morning Non Uniform day - donations 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 3.45pm Greenfields v St Joseph's football match @ home
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
31.10.23	Y6 playleader training
1.11.23	Stay Active sessions for Y1 and Y2
3.11.23	Glow in the Dark discos 3.45-5pm for N-Y2 – parents must stay 5.15 – 6.30pm Y3-6
8.11.23	FOGs Meeting 5pm
10.11.23	Y6 Class Assembly 10.40am – Remembrance – please note the change of date
13.11.23	Bikeability Week – Yrs 5&6
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	Carol Assembly 1pm Finish Staff Training evening
8.1.24	Term Starts

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**



- Next Friday – 29th September is our first Fundraiser for external charities, with us hosting a MacMillan Coffee Morning. This will take place from 9-11am. Please donate cakes as all the children will visit in the morning to buy a cake for break time. Cakes will be 50p each for small cupcakes and then more money depending on the sizes...
- It is also a non-uniform day with an ask that children wear green, white or purple clothes. Donations as always, but these are up to you in how much they are.



Packed Lunches

I am becoming more and more concerned about the nutritional value of some of the lunches being sent into school. Please try to ensure that your child has a healthy balanced lunch. Some boxes contain only one item, others are full of sugar. The children cannot concentrate properly in the afternoons and behave well if they are hungry or full of sugar. No bars of chocolate or sweets please, no nuts at all and a range of carbohydrates, fibres, protein and vitamins please. Cold take out or just cold chips is not ok. If you need financial help, please speak to Mrs Congerton to see if you are eligible for free school meals. These are completely confidential, and no one would know if your child was in receipt of them.