



Newsletter

03.05.24



Recently at Greenfields...

The weeks really are flying by, and it has as always been jam packed at Greenfields. This week alone we have continued to watch the ducklings seemingly double in size every day, supported Y3 take on the rest of the local area at Athletics, learnt sign language to support National Deaf Awareness Week (thanks Willow) and stepped into another galaxy! All this on top of our normal day to day learning. The fun never stops!

I shall start by thanking Mr Pople again for organising another amazing experience for the whole school. Each class got to step into our visiting Planetarium and experience life amongst the stars. The children were enthralled and loved learning about the planets, space and our very small part in something so much bigger. The children were slightly disorientated by the feeling of asteroids hurtling towards them and the spinning sensations as they understood gravity and the way earth spins in space, but they definitely enjoyed the experience with statements like, "it was amazing, I loved it, but it made me feel tired!", "Seeing space and knowing we are part of it is just brilliant", and "Out of this world!" being only a few I heard. Again, this was made possible through the money school has raised through events like Mothers Day sale and discos, so every child really is benefitting from the whole school fundraising we do.

Speaking of which, I hope you have seen the two notifications that have gone out about fundraising this week – we have opened the pots for Father's Day pop up shop, and for a Krispy Kreme donut sale – which is next Friday, 10th May. Both of these are not huge fundraisers for the school, as the goods cost us, but it is a case of every little helps, so please do

support us if possible by ordering your donuts by Thursday and allowing your child to choose a gift for the significant man in their lives in June. As June is so busy, we will be running the shop over a few days as there is not a day in the first two weeks where the whole school is in! There is still a closing date thought to ensure we have enough gifts for the children to choose from, so please do meet the deadline here.

School Council are currently collecting pennies for plants. I have had one parent suggest that you should be allowed to send plants in. That is a lovely idea, and I would urge you to speak to Mr Pople about this, although the School Council are very much looking forward to a trip to the garden centre to choose what they want to plant. Please do keep sending your pennies in though in the meantime.

Finally, the Watford Observer have asked all schools for photos of their football teams for a sporting special which will be published on the 24th May. We have sent in photos of our Y5/6 teams, boys and girls and hope that they include these in their pull out. Please let friends and family know and lookout for their beaming faces in a few weeks!

Kate Day



Girls Football



On Wednesday Mrs May and Mrs Perren accompanied our girls football team to their first ever tournament at St Joan of Arc School in Rickmansworth. Playing against other teams is difficult, and especially when you have only short matches in a round robin style, but the girls worked together and really represented themselves and Greenfields well, winning one match, drawing four and only losing three. It is also incredibly inspiring that this team have only really been training since September and Lucy only joined the school two weeks ago!



Attendance 22nd – 26th April

Nursery	90.04%
Reception	96.67%
Year 1	94.78%
Year 2	94.4%
Year 3	97.41%
Year 4	94.78%
Year 5	93.33%
Year 6	98.27%

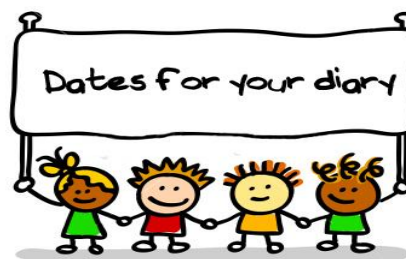
Whilst this time we are mostly yellow, our attendance continues to improve, so thank you everyone. The closer we get to over 95% and above, the better our overall attendance figure – which is currently 94.3%. Currently National is the same, so I know with help from everybody we can improve to be better than the National average soon. Where we already are is our persistent absentee rate, so thank you to all those who have come to school and made a real effort to improve their attendance. We currently have only 12% of children falling below 90% attendance where the national percentage is 20.2%! Well done everybody for this. I am pretty sure that there are still at least 10 children who could move up into better attendance by the end of the academic year, which would mean us ending the year in single figures.

Attendance is a big focus for Ofsted and something County are always asking me to address and report on, so to be able to share these figures is really good, so thank you all.



Nits

Yet again we have several classes who have far more than 30 bodies in them at present as they have outbreaks of nits! One class now has had nits so many times we have purchased nit combs to send home. Nit treatment only works if the whole family gets treatment and bedding is washed. Nits like clean hair and have to clamber from head to head, so please ensure hair is tied up and braided whilst in school. Please, if the message comes home that there is nits in your child's class, check your child's head and treat them if you find any sign. I know it is annoying and hard work, but if we do not all work together we will never eradicate them!



6.5.24	Bank Holiday
9.5.24	Y3 Class Assembly
10.5.24	Krispy Kreme Sale
13 – 17 th May	Y6 SATs Week Y6 Breakfasts in Y6 classroom from 8.15am
17.5.24	Vikings Charity Day – Break the Rules
20.5.24	Walk to School week
23.5.24	Year 1 Class Assembly
27-31 May	Half Term
3.6.24	Training Day
5.6.24	Y4 trip to St Helens – Sports Science
6.6.24	Y4 trip to COAM Year 5 Trip including Overnight
7.6.24	Y6 Cricket @ Bushey Cricket Club Y5 residential continued
8.6.24	Community Gala at Woodhall School
10.6.24	Y5 trip to St Helens – CSI day
11-14 th June	Y6 Residential – Willow Tree
20.6.24	Years 1&2 Trip to London Zoo
21.6.24	World Music Day Music workshops in school
24.6.24	Cystic Fibrosis Day – Wear Yellow
28.6.24	Nursery and Reception trip to Paradise Park
3.7.24	Y6 Production
8 – 12 th July	Sports Week
Monday	Skateboard and Scooters Workshop Hip Hop Dance workshops
Tuesday	Circus Skills Day KS2 Water Polo
Wednesday	Sports Day
Thursday	Inter Year Group Challenges Transition Day – new classes
Friday	The School is Lava Summer Fair afternoon
15.7.24	Reports Out
16.7.24	Open Classes – all welcome
17.7.24	Awards Assembly
18.7.24	Nursery and Reception Graduations
19.7.24	Y6 Leavers Assembly

Coming up this fortnight...

- **Swimming: Years 3 and 4 - Tuesday**
- **Forest School: Year 6 – Wednesday**
- **Don't forget school is closed for Bank Holiday Monday on the 6th May**
- **Year 3 Class Assembly 9th May**
- **Krispy Kreme donut sale Friday 10th – please order before as the window closes on Thursday 9th at 5pm for orders**
- **13th – 16th May – KS2 SATS. All Y6 children are invited to come for breakfast from 8.15am in the classroom.**
- **17th May – Vikings Charity Day – Break the Rules day.**

Respect for Staff living locally

At Greenfields we do pride ourselves in our family feel; we do love all the children dearly. A lot of staff live very close to the school and therefore do see you all outside in our day to day lives - and it's lovely to be able to say hello, smile and wave. Several have their own children and you will see us at local sports clubs, local events and at the shops. However, we do have our own lives which happen outside of school and we do like to be able to switch off after the end of the day. I have had several members of staff who live locally telling me about children ringing on their doorbells, playing in their front gardens and getting into their cars outside of shops even! They were not complaining - as I say we love seeing you all out and about - but we do need to respect their privacy and their family life. Please do not let your children think it's ok to ring people's doorbells to try to say hello - remind them of our value of RESPECT and let the member of staff have their own life of an evening / weekend. Thank you for your understanding.

Events and Fundraising this year

It has been a very busy year so far raising money for the school through a variety of big events and smaller ones. Thank you to all those volunteers who have helped to make it happen and have helped events to run – we couldn't do the big fundraisers without you. This year we have spent the funds raised on:

- The new storage benches outside each classroom
 - The farm visit for the whole school
- The planetarium visit for the whole school
 - A whole school trip to the panto
 - Plants for the new sensory garden
- Music workshops (whole school in June)

These were all made possible through your help.

This year we are not having a traditional Summer Fair as has happened in the past, as I really want to give our children the learning opportunity to plan stalls and run events too – there is nothing like real life accounting, budgeting and profit/loss understanding. Year 5 and School Council will therefore be planning the Summer Attraction for the 12th July – the Friday afternoon of our sports week. This will be open to the children all afternoon and run as we do our Christmas Fair.

We really enjoyed the Inflatables Day we had in September (which was due to our normal day being postponed due to bad weather) so as a staff we have chosen for this to become our big school fundraiser. Therefore, in September, on the 20th we will be hosting Inflatables Day and combining it with a sort of fair and BBQ/ Bar / Play event in the evening. If you run a stall and would like to book a pitch for this event, please let me know. Pitches will be £10 each, deposit paid to secure it up front.

Thinking even further ahead – and yes, I booked this a year ago, we are hosting Happy's Circus on the 8th June 2025. This will be a big fundraiser, and we will start selling tickets next academic year. We will be looking to have stalls here, as the Circus is a big event, and we will be selling tickets to the local community, not just Greenfields. Again, please let me know if you would like to book a pitch to sell. We have 600 tickets to sell to give you an idea of numbers.

As usual, next year will have discos, the Christmas Fair, Mother's and Father's Day all catered for through the school. If you have any ideas about other events you would like us to run, please let me know so we can discuss and sort out. We are raising money now to replace the KS2 outdoor trim trail as the old wooden run as definitely done it's time. All children will benefit from this during their time at Greenfields, so it really does benefit the whole community. £15,000 to go!

