



Greenfield Primary School



'Everyone can grow in a Greenfield!'

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Headteacher: Mrs Claire Stylianides

End of Term Round Up of News and Important Information

23rd October 2020

Despite the doom and gloom of the Coronavirus and restrictions, the school year has started brilliantly and we have had a super first half term. It has been a delight being back with the children and they have been a real beacon of light. They have adapted to all the safety measures and changes and have shown great enthusiasm for school and learning.

This week's virtual Parents' Evenings went really well and teachers have enjoyed catching up with parents. We hope that parents now have a good picture of their child's general attainment and progress and how they can support at home. On the whole, we have a lot to catch-up on and have been adapting our curriculum to reflect this. The dedicated Greenfield staff have been doing an amazing job to get the children back on track with learning and their hard work is very much appreciated.

We are happy with how well all the Covid-19 safety measures are working and, thankfully, we have not needed to close any bubbles or year groups. We really appreciate the continued cooperation and support of parents in adhering to the measures – as well as all the really supportive messages of gratitude. As expected, some pupils have had to isolate when they or a household member has had symptoms and we have supported their continued learning through ClassDojo. We're feeling as prepared as we can be to keep all pupils learning in the event of a lockdown or school closure.

We would like to thank you for all your generous Harvest contributions to the Black Country Food Bank and to help raise £261 for Young Minds on World Mental Health Day.

I hope you have a great half term and look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 3rd November 2020.

Mrs Stylianides

Notifying School Regarding Covid Symptoms

Should your child develop Covid symptoms over the weekend (up to Monday 26th October), please let Mrs Stylianides know by sending a message on ClassDojo. Although it is half term, it is important to ensure your child is tested if he/she develops symptoms and notify Mrs Stylianides if this is positive as pupils and staff in the same class bubble would need to isolate.

Even though it is the half term, school still has a duty to report all positive cases in the school community. If a pupil tests positive for Covid-19 at any time during the half term up to when pupils return, please let us know by messaging Mrs Stylianides on ClassDojo and emailing info@greenfield.dudley.sch.uk

Remote Learning and Homework

All the children have now taken home their home learning packs and it has been brilliant to see their excitement to complete homework! Many pupils or their parents are uploading this to ClassDojo so we can see that they are managing well. At this time more than any, we feel homework is a major element of the children's education and can play a crucial role in helping the children catch-up. We have now set out our full provision and expectations for [remote learning](#) and [homework](#) and published it on our school [website](#).

Farewell

Sadly, we have to say goodbye to Mr Butler after half term as he has secured a promotion in his son's school - right on his doorstep! We very much appreciate all that he has done for our school community and we will really



miss him when he leaves Greenfield. Based on all the wonderful warm words you all sent on ClassDojo, we know you will too. Mr Butler was both touched and proud to receive all of your messages. We wish Mr Butler a huge congratulations and all the very best for his new job.

Reading

As it is the number one catch-up priority, this term we have been working hard to improve reading and pupils' enjoyment of it. We have introduced Accelerated Reading in Years 3-6 and improved our Phonics provision in Reception and Year 1&2. We have invested a lot in new independent reading books and online phonics books as well as new sets of books for the whole class to read together in Years 2-6. We have been checking all of the books through school and relabelling them into appropriate book band levels as well as with their AR quiz codes. This has all been a huge job so we are thrilled that the children seem to be really enthused by reading and are excited to choose books and take quizzes. We have been posting lots of information and videos on ClassDojo but just in case you missed them, here are the links to our presentations.

- [Reading Presentation for KS2](#) and supporting [information about Accelerated Reading](#)
- [How to AR Home Connect](#)
- [Reading Presentation for Reception and KS1](#)
- [Reading Books and Book Bands](#)

Flu Immunisations

On the 16th November, UK Vaccinations on behalf of the NHS will be coming in to administer the flu vaccination for pupils in all year groups. This vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and can cause serious complications. Vaccinating your child will also help protect more vulnerable family and friends by preventing the spread of flu. With COVID-19 in circulation it is more important than ever to reduce the number of those becoming ill with flu this winter to help protect them and the NHS. There will be a consent form to complete but we have not received the forms yet and will get these to you as soon as they come in.

PE Kits

We are sending the PE kits home today for washing over half term. The new safety procedures this term have helped to ensure that pupils always have their kits for lessons, making lesson time more productive and this has been brilliant. Please ensure your child brings their kit back into school on the Tuesday they return. Many thanks☺

Handwashing and Hand-care

With all the handwashing, it can be really hard on everyone's skin. We are doing our best in school to help pupils. For example, we stick to handwashing rather than sanitizers and we encourage pupils to dry their hands properly – even though it's been a challenge maintaining a supply of paper towels. With trying to minimize the chances of transmitting Covid, we cannot have lots of hand creams and soaps brought into school. We suggest that pupils apply plenty of hand-cream before and after school to help keep their skin moisturised. In addition, we will keep some 'emergency' hand-cream in each class bubble to use on pupils with very sore hands. We would like to be able to give all pupils some hand-cream at least once per day but our budgets are extremely tight and the government has not given schools any money to cover the cost of putting in place Covid measures including additional cleaning and mountains of paper towels. We are looking at setting up a voluntary hand-cream fund on ParentMail so that parents contribute to this if they can in order to buy more hand-cream. We will let you know when we have sorted this.

Friends of Greenfield (FrOG) News

Thank you so much to everyone who took the time to attend the Frog virtual AGM this week. We are pleased to announce that Kathy Lyons-Wainwright has agreed to take on the role of Vice Chair. The position of Chair however remains unfilled. The role does not entail having to organise all the events. Instead we are looking for someone to chair our monthly meetings, organise our calendar and delegate out responsibility for individual events to those community members with an interest in running them. If you would like to find out more or would be interested in taking on this role, please email Emma at frog@greenfield.dudley.sch.uk

Photographs

The Beaumont Photography Company will be visiting Greenfield on Thursday 5 November.

Please ensure that you have completed the form sent to you via ParentMail as it confirms if you wish for your child to have their photo taken. There is also an opportunity for siblings to have a group photo and this option is also on the form. In addition to this form, you must have completed the Photographic Permissions Form, sent to you on 10 September 2020. As soon as the photo/s have been taken your child will be given a card quoting a unique reference number and details on how you can order online. Photos will then be delivered to school for distribution. Your child's safety is paramount and all necessary measures will be in place on the day to ensure that the photographic session runs in accordance to current safety guidelines. Please ensure that your child/children are looking super smart in their uniforms if they are having their photos taken.

British Legion Poppy Appeal

As we are all aware any type of fundraising this year has been difficult. However, one charity we would like to support is 'The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal'. Profits from poppy and associated merchandise sales go towards funding the Legion's ongoing work in supporting the Armed Forces community, serving and ex-serving personnel and their families. Due to the current situation we will send a ParentMail and ClassDojo out at the start of next term with a photo of the merchandise we have for sale and a recommended price list. If you would like to purchase any of these items, please let your child's teacher know via ClassDojo and send a donation in with your child the following day.

All items will be available from Tuesday 3 November up until Remembrance Day on the 11 November 2020.

Good Morning, Good Afternoon Club (GMGAC) Wrap Around Care

The monthly booking form for November is open on ParentMail until Tuesday 29th November. It takes a great deal of planning to organise staffing and ensure the children are organised safely into their bubbles and, so it is important to complete the booking form. We have been accommodating some last minute bookings and will continue to do so where we can; however, we cannot guarantee a place as the number of pupils attending are increasing. Parents must contact Tracey Hewines on the GMGAC telephone and ensure they receive confirmation that we are able to accommodate the booking before dropping of their child in the morning. We also require 48 hours' notice of a cancellation or sessions will still be charged.

Secondary School Transition

The closing date of 31st October 2020 for secondary school applications is fast approaching. We understand that there are some outstanding applications for our Y6 pupils. There are some parents that have completed the form but not 'submitted' their application yet. It might be worth checking that your application has been fully submitted. Parents should make their application online via Dudley admissions.

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/learning-and-school/school-information/school-admissions/secondary-year-7-intake/>

School lunches

The return to hot meals went well and pupils are coping well with the additional arrangements around Covid safety controls. Meals must be pre-ordered online using the SchoolMoney system. We would ask that parents please talk with their child about the meal being ordered or what they are going to have that day. We sometimes find that a child is not happy with the choice that has been made for them or it is not what they were expecting. Unfortunately, as the meals are delivered into school rather than cooked on the premises, we are not able to give the children an alternative to what has been ordered.

Unless free, meals are paid for online when ordering and we do not accept cash payments. If you get any of the following support payments your child may be entitled to receive free school meals:

*Income Support

*Income-based Jobseekers Allowance

*Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

*Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

*the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

*Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

*Working Tax Credit Run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

*Universal Credit

Children who receive a qualifying benefit in their own right are also allowed to receive free school meals.

In order to receive free school meals, you must apply to the local authority. You can find the application form on this link: <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/benefits/free-school-meals/>

If your child is in Reception, Years 1 or 2, you will automatically be entitled for free meals under the 'Universal Infant Free School Meals' criteria. However if you do meet the criteria listed above then we can receive Pupil Premium funding to support your child's education - but only if you complete the application.

If you need further information, you can contact the Free School Meals Team by:

Telephone -01384 814988

Email – freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk

Visiting – Dudley Council Plus, Castle Street, Dudley

between 8.30am and 5pm Monday to Friday, 9am and 12 noon Saturday

During the lockdown, the government provided vouchers for pupils entitled to free school meals. This was not applicable to the general infant free school meals and parents only received the vouchers where they had registered for free school meals.

Important Dates and Term Dates

Just a quick reminder that we have an InSET/teacher training day on Monday 2nd November. Parents can check term dates and InSET days on our website <https://greenfield.dudley.sch.uk/term-dates/>

We are still unable to hold school events or have parents in school when we return so there aren't many dates for your diary next term.

2 nd November	InSET day – school closed to pupils
3 rd November	Pupils return
3-11 th November	Poppy Collection
16 th November	Flu immunisations
20 th November	Children in Need – Come As Yourself Day
18 th December	End of Term
4 th January 2021	InSET day – school closed to pupils
5 th January	Pupils return

We are not planning any school visits at present. The Coalbrookdale Residential was postponed to 11th -12th March 2021 in the hope that things will be more settled by then. This will still be for the same pupils who booked and paid previously, even though they are in a different year group now.