



# 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 – March 2021

This term saw the one-year anniversary since the pandemic first closed school, as well as the return to school from the third lockdown. It's been the most bizarre and challenging year ever but, overall, we have been immensely proud of the children's ability to adapt to change and a new way of schooling.

We were incredibly relieved to get everyone back in school on the 8<sup>th</sup> March and it's certainly been an interesting and packed few weeks. We have had lots to think about: from heroes to inventions to climate change, alongside catching up with everything. It's hardly surprising that everyone is worn out now!

Our second virtual parent meetings with teachers all went well this week. We hope you have been able to get a good picture of your child's learning so far in this challenging year and how you can further support at home.

The term ends today with our Gold Book Awards (a massive well done to all the children who made it) and an 'egg-citing' easter egg hunt in the fairy garden. Thanks to FrOG and your fundraising efforts, the children are all leaving with an easter egg.

We would like to wish everyone a wonderful easter break. Fingers crossed the good weather lasts long enough to spend some quality time with family and friends in the garden 😊

Mrs Stylianides

## Notification of Covid-19 positive cases during the Easter holidays

It is really important to let school know if your child develops Covid-19 symptoms at the start of the holiday, as pupils in the same class bubble and staff supporting them may need to isolate. You need to tell us:

- about a positive test result for your child where their symptoms started on or before Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, or
- about a positive test result for your child where the test date was on or before Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April and your child didn't have any symptoms.

You should notify us by doing **BOTH** of the following:

- send a message to Mrs Stylianides via ClassDojo
- email [info@greenfield.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@greenfield.dudley.sch.uk)

Please **do not** notify us by telephone as the office is closed and we will not be monitoring calls.

When sending the message about positive test results by email or via ClassDojo, please provide the following information:

- The date symptoms started or (if there were no symptoms)
- The date the test was taken (not the date you received the result)
- The date your child's self-isolation ends
- Please also confirm the date that your child last attended school.

We will be checking emails and messages between 12:00-1:00pm each day until (and including) 7<sup>th</sup> April. Any message sent after 12pm will not be seen until the following day.



### **Comic Relief Red Nose Day**

It was lovely to see everyone in their hero outfits on RND and we were super impressed with the children's ideas on who are real heroes. Thanks to everyone's support, we raised a whopping £456 for this super worthwhile cause.

### **InSET Day/Polling Day – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

With local elections being on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May (postponed from last year) our school is required to be used as a Polling Station. Therefore, for safeguarding reasons, school will be closed to pupils on the 6<sup>th</sup> May. As we set this date aside as one of our staff training days, pupils will not lose any additional school days and will not be required to do any remote learning that day. School will be open as normal on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May and pupils should attend school that day.

### **FrOG News**

FrOG would like to thank everyone who was able to join the family quiz in March and hopefully everyone enjoyed the evening.

We are hoping to run another online event in the first half of the Summer term which will be a family bingo night. Once the details are finalised, we will send them out and we hope you can join us for that.

If you are needing school uniform, please don't forget you can use the Greenfield Uniform Shop which has raised over £300 so far. If anyone has any donations of Summer uniform or PE kit, these would be warmly received. The FrOG Jigsaw Exchange has raised over £150 and is going great guns. Donations of children's and grown-up puzzles are very welcome.

### **Jewellery**

Since returning from lockdowns etc, we have noticed that our school's policy on jewellery has not been followed consistently and, as it is causing a hinderance in PE lessons, we thought a reminder now would be helpful.

No jewellery is to be worn by pupils in school. There is one exception. Pupils with pierced ears may wear one set of plain studs, but these must be removed at home on PE days unless the child can remove the studs themselves. School staff are not allowed to remove earrings. As pupils learn to tell the time, we are happy for them to be encouraged to wear a wristwatch – however smart watches (such as those that do other jobs like messaging and connect to the internet) are not allowed.

While pupils will not be having new piercings in the current lockdown, we suggest that these are only done in the summer holidays to avoid pupils missing out on essential PE lessons.

### **Parking around school**

In the interest of safety and in consideration of local residents, we ask that parents and carers think carefully when parking their cars at pick up and drop off times. There have been complaints about parents waiting to collect pupils with their engines running; it is much kinder to the environment and your pocket, to switch your engine off while waiting.

### **Important message**

We shared [this important letter](#) from the Director of Dudley Public Health last week.

### **Wider symptoms of Covid-19**

To be vigilant of any risk of transmission of Covid-19, the local authority recommends that you book your child for a test if they have some common illnesses (including cold and sore throats) even if they don't have any of the three main Covid-19 symptoms. This is all detailed in [this letter](#). Please note that the letter does say if you have taken your child for a test because he/she has any of these wider symptoms, (apart from in the case of diarrhoea

and vomiting) they can carry on attending school if they are well enough to do so and are not already self-isolating due to being a contact of a positive case.

In these cases, some parents have told us that they have used a lateral flow device (LFD) test kit at home. Please note, these are for use when you're well with no symptoms and not when you have symptoms, including wider symptoms. Therefore, when the local authority recommends a test, this means you need to book a PCR test in a test centre.

We would encourage you to go to a test centre rather than requesting a PCR home test. If you go to a test centre, you can get the results back very quickly but postal tests take several days. If you have no means of going to a test centre, ring school and we can advise further.

### **Asymptomatic Covid-19 testing**

Parents and carers and anyone else living with a school age child or young person are among the priority groups being given access to free home lateral flow (LFD) testing kits to test themselves.

This is a link to information on how to access these tests: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

All are strongly encouraged to have a lateral flow test at a local testing site prior to starting home testing, to know how a test is undertaken. Twice weekly testing will help detect hidden asymptomatic cases and help keep pupils and staff safer in school.

There is also testing at more than 30 pharmacies across the borough. For details on where you can get a lateral flow test and to book visit [www.dudley.gov.uk/symptom-free-testing](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/symptom-free-testing)

We have checked the NHS website and the collections points for home LFD test are Orchard Lane Carpark, Lye and Studley Gate Carpark - between 1pm and 8pm.

### **Is your child entitled to Free School Meals?**

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of 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 - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

If you wish to apply for Free School Meals, please go to [www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals](http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals)

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

- Telephone -01384 814988
- Email – [freeschoolmeals.benefits@dudley.gov.uk](mailto: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

### **Important Dates and Term Dates**

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Pupils break up for Easter
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	Start of summer term

Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	InSET Day/Polling Day – school is closed to <u>all</u> pupils
w/c 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half term holiday
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Pupils return to school
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Coalbrookdale Residential – subject to Covid restrictions
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	End of term/academic year
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Provisional – InSET Day
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Provisional – InSET Day

Parents can check term dates and InSET days on our website <https://greenfield.dudley.sch.uk/term-dates/>