



# 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 – October 2021

Goodness, this term has flown by quickly! It has been very busy and this week we have noticed that the children are getting ready for half term – although they have been very excited to get their Halloween outfits on today! We had ghouls, vampires, skeletons, and lots of wizards and witches and everyone looked spookily amazing!

Although COVID-19 has been very much around (more than ever in school) we have enjoyed some normal aspects of school life this term. The children enjoy a little more mixing on the playground, lunch in the hall and having a phase assembly in the hall each week. We also have some extra-curricular activities like our Young Voices choir, Y3/4 Multisports club, Neat Feet and peripatetic music lessons. We do still need some extra precautions in place to keep transmission as low as possible and minimise interruptions to the children's education; generally, the children respond well to measures in place and just take these things in their stride.

Yesterday, the Y5/6 children returned from their overnight visit to Coalbrookdale. Having originally packed their bags when they were in Y3/4 just before the start of the pandemic, they had waited a long time for this trip to go ahead and it was lovely to see their excitement as they finally set off on the coach. Everyone had a great time exploring the Victorian museum and taking part in activities (as well as buying sweets) and were worn out when they returned. The children's behaviour was fantastic throughout the trip and they did us proud. A massive thank you to Miss Cook, Miss Tang, Mrs Hackett, Mrs Hadley, Mrs Denton and Mrs Vanden-Branden for taking them – especially to Miss Cook for all her time spent on meticulous organisation and planning.

We were super impressed with the pumpkin and courgette growing over the summer. The Friends of Greenfield (FrOG) kindly gave all our new Reception pupils a courgette plant and lots of children entered FrOG's pumpkin plant competition. Pastor Dave judged both competitions and found it difficult to choose the winners. Well done to everyone who took part, especially the winners, and thank you to FrOG for the super prizes.

This term we appointed our first PE & Sports apprentice. Mr Reece supports in PE lessons and gets the children active on the playground, including at lunchtimes. Next term he will start to run one or two after school clubs.

We would like to thank you for all your generous Harvest contributions to the Black Country Foodbank. You donated 255.5kgs of food and 34kgs of non-food, which is a fantastic amount and very much appreciated by the Foodbank. It was brilliant to see everyone don a slash of yellow on HelloYellow# World Mental Health Day too. As well as showing young people that they are not alone with their mental health, you helped raise £347.50 which will go towards funding the important work of Young Minds – thank you!

I hope you have a great half term and super Halloween. School is closed for staff training on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November and pupils will return on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

Best wishes

Mrs Stylianides

## Covid-19 Update

There have been a number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our school this term, including two outbreaks where there are at least 3 cases in a class.



Symptoms for pupils were mainly those of a mild cold for a few days and they recovered quickly. It's less the case for adults, and some staff have not been well enough to return immediately after the 10-day isolation period. Staff absences put increased pressure on the school and our ability to run smoothly. As this is a concern for many schools, recently public health officials at the local authority updated the procedures in terms of managing future outbreaks in school. Their letter to parents and carers is available [here](#).

We will advise parents and carers when we have an outbreak and are implementing our outbreak management plan. When there is an outbreak in a class, all pupils in the class will need to take a PCR test and isolate until the result is known. Where there is an outbreak in school, we will require that when a member of their household tests positive for COVID-19, pupils take a PCR and isolate until the result is known. Pupils who have tested positive within the last 90 days will not be required to take a test and can come into school as normal.

It is important that we all work together to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 as much as possible, and the impact it has on the children's education. This includes making sure your child has a [PCR test](#) when they have symptoms of COVID-19 or when they have other, wider symptoms such as sore throats, runny noses, headaches and nausea. Here are the instructions for [booking a test](#) in these circumstances.

### **Parents' Evenings**

These will take place virtually in the week after half term. Teachers have set their own available times. Parents should have made appointments using the ParentMail app and will be sent a link to access the meeting via Teams. There will be one link for each evening the teacher is available and parents will use this at their booked time. Parents do not need the Teams app to attend the meeting and can proceed in their web browser.

### **Music Lessons**

This term, we restarted our whole class brass tuition in Y3/4. Mr Hadlington from the DPA, teaches one class per term. The children really love learning to play a musical instrument. If you are interested in your child having additional music lessons with a specialist teacher, you can sign up via the Dudley Performing Arts (DPA) website: <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/things-to-do/dudley-performing-arts/information-for-parents-and-young-people/music-lessons-in-schools/>

Piano lessons can be booked with Mrs Hill. Please ring the school office for her contact details.

### **Good Morning, Good Afternoon Club**

If you require before or afterschool childcare, please contact the school office or email [info@greenfield.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@greenfield.dudley.sch.uk) and we will send out our booking form. Payments can be made by childcare vouchers or on ParentMail – no cash or cheques are accepted. Please inform the office 48 hours in advance of any cancellation. We are in the hall for breakfast club. Please come down to the main entrance door and ring the 'Breakfast Club' bell. We are in the conservatory after school; please use the gate buzzer and walk down to the conservatory around the outside of the building, past the KS2 then KS1 classrooms.

### **Phonics and Reading**

Reading is always our number one priority. Last year we introduced Accelerated Reader in KS2 and our whole class reader texts which really increased pupils' motivation and enjoyment of reading. Pupils in Reception and Year 1 get off to a really great start with reading through our phonics provision. We have improved that even more recently through the introduction of a new phonics programme. Here is an up to date [presentation for parents of pupils in Reception and KS1](#) of how we teach pupils to read. We will be holding a virtual reading meeting for Reception parents after half term – date to be confirmed.

### **Flu Immunisations**

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 still in circulation it continues to be more important than ever to reduce the number of those becoming ill with flu this winter. Please make sure you send in your consent form asap if not done already.

## **Photographs**

The Beaumont Photography Company will be visiting Greenfield on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

Please ensure that you complete 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 within school to have a group photo and this option is also on the form. 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. Please ensure that your child/children are looking super smart in their uniforms if they are having their photos taken.

## **Secondary School Transition**

The closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021 for secondary school applications is fast approaching. Many parents across the county have not made their applications yet. Parents should make their application online via Dudley admissions. Please note that the 31<sup>st</sup> is a Sunday so don't leave it until then as no Dudley Admissions staff will be available for support.

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

## **British Legion Poppy Appeal**

We are supporting '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. 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 your child would to make a donation for any of these items, please send them with their money and they will have an opportunity to get the item from the school office at playtime. All items will be available from Tuesday 2 November up until Remembrance Day on the 11 November.

## **PE Kits**

We are sending the PE kits home today for washing over half term. When pupils always have their kits for in school, lesson time is used much more productively. Please ensure your child brings their kit back into school on the Tuesday they return. Many thanks☺

## **School Lunches**

Please remember to order school lunches on ParentMail by midnight the evening before your child requires a meal. This includes if your child is entitled to a free meal. The allergen information is provided on ParentMail by pressing the 'i' symbol next to a meal option. Please keep us up to date with any allergies or special dietary requirements your child has. Please note that Dudley Catering have advised us that, due to supply issues, there are times when they may not be able to source some ingredients and may need to put an alternative item on the menu at short notice.

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

Did you know that schools receive get extra funding from the government to help them improve the attainment of their disadvantaged pupils? This primarily includes pupils that are or have been entitled to receive free school meals. Schools use this funding to ensure high quality teaching, provide interventions when disadvantaged pupils need extra support and to support wider curriculum opportunities like school trips. Even if your child does not want a free school meal, it is still worth signing up if you are eligible. You may be able to claim 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**

Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Pupils break up for half term
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	InSET Day – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Pupils return to school
	Parents Evenings this week
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	School Photos
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Flu Vaccinations
W/c 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception and KS1 Christmas Performances
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Christmas Service

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