



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 – December 2021

It's party day at Greenfield and as I write this newsletter, the place is buzzing with excitement and jolly noises. In between the Reindeer run on the playground, singalong carols with the DPA in class and party games in the hall, the children are having a super time!

We have just had the most super week in school and it has been lovely to see so many happy faces – not just the children, but many grown-ups too. Christmas doesn't feel the same without singing carols and watching nativities so we are delighted that we've been able to experience this together under the circumstances.

The Reception children were little stars in their performance of A Miracle in Town; it's incredible how much they have grown in their first term at school. I loved watching the Year 1 and Year 2 children in their performance of Babushka too and I could see they had a lot of fun acting, singing and dancing. Earlier in the week, I had goosebumps not once but twice, listening to the Year 3 and Year 4, then the Year 5 and Year 6 children beautifully singing carols in St. Thomas' – I think my favourites were The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came and Infant Holy, Infant Lowly. Each class delivered a fantastic Christmas poem presentation too – all with perfect timing.

Our Young Voices choir also sang in church and you might have seen them singing on ClassDojo. I think 'Sing From Your Heart' summed up their wonderful performance. Unfortunately, their trip to the Young Voices concert in January has been postponed until spring/summer now so we'll resume rehearsals when we get a new date. For parents who bought tickets, these will be transferred to the new date.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank every member of the Greenfield Team for their fantastic, hard work this term and supporting the children's progress and in putting on this week's performances. COVID has made this term incredibly challenging but this dedicated lot has pulled together to keep things going for the children. We are really pleased with the children's progress this term – of course, the children have worked really hard too.

This week we sent home 'The Impossible Promise' booklet which is a lovely retelling of the Christmas story. These were donated by the Bible Society through Pastor Dave Morris who held an assembly for the children earlier this month. I hope your child enjoys reading this with you.

Thank you for your continued support this term, particularly this week with our COVID control measures while attending the performances.

I hope you have a brilliant Christmas and I wish you all the best for the new year.

See you on **Wednesday 5th January 2022.**

Mrs Stylianides

Welcome to new staff

This term two new teaching assistants have joined the Greenfield Team. Mrs Edwards is supporting in Y3/4 and Mr Jaunzems is supporting in Reception.



Thank you for your Support

Thank you for your generous support of our fundraising events during the autumn term. Here's what we raised for good causes:

- £347.50 for Young Minds on our #HelloYellow Mufti Day.
- £227 for Children in Need through our ' Dress Up and Sparkle Day' on the 19th November.
- £257 for The Royal British Legion through the sales of poppy merchandise.
- £303 for Mary Stevens Hospice through the Reindeer Run Mufti today. The ParentMail form is open until Monday if you would still like to make a donation.

PE Kits

We have sent the PE kits home for washing over Christmas. 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 Wednesday they return. Many thanks☺

Covid-19 Update

There has been a significant number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our school this term. Symptoms for pupils are mainly those of a mild cold for a few days and pupils recover quickly. It's not the case for adults, and staff absences have greatly challenged our ability to run smoothly.

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.

The rules for close contacts changed on the 14th December. If your child has been identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, they will be asked to take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result.

In light of the increased concerns with the Omicron variant, school leaders have been asked to review their COVID risk assessments and outbreak plans. It's a national priority to keep schools open and ensure that the children's education is not interrupted. Therefore, it's possible that some control measures may be reinstated to help us get through the next term. We will let parents know if and when there are any changes.

COVID Vaccine Booster

The NHS is encouraging everyone eligible for their first, second or COVID-19 booster jab to walk-in and 'grab a jab' this weekend, to protect themselves and help make the Christmas period safer for us all. There are 100 sites across the Black Country and West Birmingham, all are offering first, second and booster doses for adults aged 18 and over, as well as vaccines for 12-15-year-olds.

Appointments can be booked online via the [National Booking System](#), or by calling 119. Walk-in appointments are also available at a number of vaccination sites across the area including Tipton Sports Academy in Sandwell, The Saddlers Vaccination Centre in Walsall, the Cardiac Rehab Gym at City Hospital and the Mander Vaccination Centre in Wolverhampton. More information is available here: [Black Country and West Birmingham CCG](#)

Good Morning, Good Afternoon Club

If you require before or afterschool childcare, please contact the school office or email 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. Please note that cancellations within 48 hours will still be charged at the normal rate. We ask for at least 24-hours' notice for any last minute or one-off sessions. Please note that any sessions booked with less than 24-hours' notice will incur a late booking fee of £10. In order to ensure that any late bookings are received in time, please ensure that you email info@greenfield.dudley.sch.uk AND text the GMGAC mobile on 07561 827918.

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.

Do you have a child ready to start school next September?

The closing date for applications for pupils starting Reception in September 2022 is on 15th January 2022. Parents should make their application online via Dudley admissions. <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/learning-and-school/school-information/school-admissions/primary-reception-intake/>

Friends of Greenfield (FrOG) News

Thank you for supporting the FrOG Advent Calendar, which raised over £700 pounds. We really appreciate all the donations we received to make the calendar possible too. Look out for news of new events in the new year. Wishing everyone a very merry Christmas.

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 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

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

Important Dates and Term Dates

Friday 17 th December	Pupils break up for Christmas
Tuesday 4 th January	InSET Day – school closed to pupils
Wednesday 5 th January	Pupils return to school
Friday 18 th February	Pupils break up for half term
Monday 28 th February	Pupils return to school

Friday 8th April

Pupils break up for Easter

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