



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 2022

This month, we have seen a typically festive end to the autumn term. Starting with the Christmas Fair and ending with performances and parties, it's been a bit hectic at times, but the children have thoroughly enjoyed getting into the Christmas spirit. They have enjoyed showing off their talents too, including their musical talents when some pupils recently performed with their musical instruments. It has been lovely to share this with parents too.

As a well done for all their hard work this term, we surprised the children with a performance for the last week. A group of professional performers came into school to put on a fantastic Christmas panto of Aladdin. The children were thoroughly entertained – they especially enjoyed it when some staff were commandeered to be part of the performance! The cost was covered by FrOG so thank you to them and for your support for their different events.

You've probably noticed Miss Stephenson's growing baby bump. She's waddled on to the end of term but she will be starting maternity leave after today. We wish her all the best for the arrival of her baby (which we can't wait to meet) early in the new year. While she is on maternity leave, we have appointed a temporary teacher, Mrs Price, to support on class cover across school until the end of the academic year.

I hope you have a happy and peaceful Christmas. School is closed for staff training on Tuesday 3rd January and we look forward to seeing the children back on Wednesday 4th January 2023.

Best wishes

Mrs Stylianides



Christmas Performances

Our Reception pupils put on a fantastic performance of 'Shine Star Shine' and everyone was very proud of them. Their singing and dancing were excellent, and they worked really well together as a team. It can be quite daunting to get on stage in front of a big audience, but the children showed great confidence. Those who played parts with speaking roles were very clear and right on cue each time. It is hard to believe that we are only just coming to the end of their first term in school.

It was also a pleasure to see the Year 1 & 2 pupils in their performance of The Little Carpenter. The singing was excellent, and every child gave at least 110%. The children narrated, acted and danced brilliantly. We had a few last-minute absences and some children stepped into cover with very little time to practice. It is amazing how well they all worked together, and they all should be very proud.

Well done to all the children for the performances and to the staff who helped them put them both together. Thank you to parents for help with learning parts and with the super costumes too – the children really looked the part.



Christingle

We loved our Christingle this week. All the children learned about the symbolism of a Christingle and made their own – the whole school smelled of oranges! On Thursday morning, KS2 pupils held a Christingle service in St Thomas's. The service was beautiful and quite moving when the children lit their Christingles and sang Love Shine a Light. The Young Voices choir also gave a stunning performance of The Message which helped reflect the essence of The Children's Society. For the service and from the performances this month, we have collected £279 for the Children's Society who kindly provided us with the candles and ribbon for our Christingles. We are pleased to support children who are much less fortunate than us, especially at Christmas when we get so much.



Thank You

This term we raised £204 for Children in Need on our Mufti Day and £206 for The Royal British Legion through the sale of poppy merchandise. Thank you for supporting these super causes.

Class Assemblies and Christmas

It has been lovely to see many parents (and grandparents) in for our class assemblies this autumn. The children have really enjoyed sharing the different themes. Here are the upcoming dates for your diary:

- Y3S Thomas Class – Wednesday 18th January
- Y5/6 O’Keefe Class - Wednesday 1st February
- Y6H Mackesy Class – Wednesday 15th February
- Y5S Kyoshi Class – Wednesday 8th March
- Y2B Kandinsky Class - Wednesday 22nd March

In the summer term it will be the Y3/4 classes and the rest of the Y1 and Y2 classes.

Friends of Greenfield School - FrOG News

The FrOG team would like to thank everyone for their support with the events we have put on this term, especially with our Christmas Fair. We raised over £3,000 which we will use to support the school - so thank you for your generosity. Through our fundraising, we were able to fund the panto for the children and the prizes and treats for the class Christmas parties. We are also covering the cost of coach travel for one trip for every class this year, to help reduce the financial burden on parents.

It has been great to have some new faces getting involved with FrOG. Without volunteers we wouldn’t be able to do as much as we do. However, it would be great to have more volunteers so we can do more. If you are interested in supporting the school, please come to our first meeting in the New Year. The meeting will be on the 25th January at The Longlands - we will send out a reminder nearer the time.

Thank you again for all your support. We would like to wish everyone a very ‘Happy Christmas’ and we look forward to more fun packed FrOG events in 2023.

Winter Water Safety Advice

During very cold weather, ice forms over ponds and lakes. Please DO NOT walk on frozen waterways and make sure children and young people know the risks of thin ice and deep water. In school this week, we have used this resource to help inform pupils: <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/safety-on-our-waterways/winter-water-safety>

Frozen lakes and ponds pose a significant risk to life and care MUST be taken. Dogs should also not be allowed onto the ice and should be kept on a lead around water. In the event of an emergency, please call 999.

Household support fund – help with cost of living during the wintertime

This scheme is to help if you are struggling to pay your bills due to the cost-of-living increases. It is a one-off payment made to eligible households in Dudley Borough. To apply, you will need to meet certain criteria and complete an application form.

Who can apply - You can make an application if you live in the Dudley Borough and:

- You are the only adult in the household and your gross income, including wages and any other income (for example, pensions and all benefits), is less than £35,000 per year and your savings are less than £6000.

OR

- You are a multi person household (this includes your partner, children or and anyone else that lives with you) and your joint gross income, including wages and any other income (for example pensions and all benefits), are less than £45,000 per year and your savings are less that £6000.

You will also need to say why you are struggling to pay your bills. People who are eligible will receive a minimum one-off payment of £150.

How to apply - Online applications can be completed via the link <https://grantapproval.co.uk/> full details are available on the Dudley Council Website <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/council-community/cost-of-living/household-support-fund/>

Once you have logged in to apply for the household support fund, you can either search through a drop-down list for Dudley Council or input a 'quick code' to take you directly through to our application form. The code for Dudley's household support Fund is **425BNP**.

After School Clubs

We have provided over 200 club places in our clubs this term and they were all free of charge. Here are the clubs running in the Spring term:

- Monday – Y2 Multi-sports
- Tuesday - Neat Feet Dance – contact directly for spaces
- Tuesday – Y5/6 History Detectives
- Wednesday – Y3/4 Kwik Cricket
- Thursday – Y3/4 Archery for 6 sessions then Group 2 starts on 16/2/23 for 6 sessions
- Thursday – Y5/6 STEM club 6 sessions then Y3/4 starts on 16/2/23 for 6 sessions – cost is £21
- Friday - Y5/6 Team Sports

The last session of Young Voices is on Friday 6th January

All places have been allocated but we will refer to waiting lists if a place becomes available.

Attendance and Reporting Absences

We are continually working with the Local Authority and families to improve attendance. We would like to thank all families who ensure that their children attend school regularly and are on time.

If your child is absent from school, there are a number of ways you can report the absence. Please ensure that your message includes the child's name, class, reason for absence and the name/relationship of the person reporting the absence.

- Call the school office on 01384 818585, select Option 1 and leave a message
- Report the absence using the 'Absence' tab in ParentMail – this system will go live ready for the start of term in September.

With both systems a message can be left at any time of the day/night.

Please report the absence to the school office (not the class teacher) no later than 9.30am on the first day of absence. For sickness and diarrhoea, the school office will enter an absence for the 48 hours so there is no need to call on the second day of absence. For all other absences, please provide an update on a daily basis unless advised by the school office of any isolation periods as recommended by Public Health. Please note the isolation period for Covid-19 for pupils is 3 days following the day of their test.

Medical appointments should be booked outside of the school day. Where this is not possible, please contact the school office and provide details of the appointment. A copy of the appointment time/letter may be requested.

If you know your child will be late for school, you must contact the school as soon as possible to let us know and provide the reason for the lateness.

If you are having any difficulty getting your child to attend school, you should notify the school (school office, class teacher or Headteacher) immediately about the concerns. We will make every effort to meet with parents and provide the necessary support.

Good Morning, Good Afternoon Club

Breakfast club runs from 7.30am until the start of the school day at £5 per session. Afterschool club runs from 3.30pm to 5.30pm at £7 per session. Click [here](#) for more information. If you require before or afterschool club, please contact the school office for access to the online booking forms on ParentMail. You will then be added to

the register and can book and cancel sessions via 'Accounts' in ParentMail until the day before you require the session. If you pay using childcare vouchers, the school office will need to book these sessions and allocate payments once received. Please contact the school office if you need to make any amendments to existing bookings. Sessions will become available to view and book 8 weeks in advance and late bookings will continue to be charged at £10 per session.

Lost Property

We have an incredible amount of lost property – all unlabelled making it impossible for us to return to an owner. Some are new logo items too. While you're washing uniform during the holiday, please have a good check that everything is labelled with your child's name - including coats and shoes.

Primary School Transition

Do you have a child who is 4 years old or will be turning 4 before 31st August 2023? Please be aware that the closing date to apply for a Reception school place is 5pm on 15th January 2023. Any applications received after this date will be classed as a late application unless there are exceptional circumstances. If you've not done so already, you can find all the information and apply online via this

link: <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/learning-and-school/school-information/school-admissions/primary-reception-intake/> The local authority handles all admissions and sends out their decision on 17th April 2023.

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 Wednesday 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. There is a link to the allergen information next to a meal option. Please keep us up to date with any allergies or special dietary requirements your child has.

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 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 (you must have less than £616.67 a month net earned income (after tax - and not including any benefits)

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

Tuesday 3 rd January 2023	InSET Day – school closed to pupils
Wednesday 4 th January	Pupils return to school
Wednesday 11 th January	Young Voices at Birmingham Resorts World Arena
Wednesday 18 th January	Year 6 Height and Weight with School Nurse
Friday 17 th February	Pupils break up for half term
Monday 27 th February	Pupils return to school
Tuesday 21 st March	Y5 Bikeability
Tuesday 21 st March	Parents Eve – 3:45-6:00pm
Wednesday 22 nd March	AM Y5 Bikeability
	PM Y4 Bikeability – Group 1
Wednesday 22 nd March	Parents Eve – 4:45-7:30pm
w/c 27 th March	Y3/4 Performances
Friday 31 st March	Pupils break up for Easter
Monday 17 th April	Pupils return to school
Monday 1 st May	School closed for Bank Holiday
Thursday 4 th May	InSET/Polling Day – School closed to pupils
Monday 8 th May	School closed for Bank Holiday – Coronation
w/c 8 th May	Y6 SATs week

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