



Greenfield Primary School



'Everyone can grow in a Greenfield!'

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End of Term Round Up of News and Important Information – February 2023

We have had a super, productive half term. The children have worked hard, and I have been particularly impressed by their creative endeavours. I have seen some fantastic writing and some wonderful artwork. From fables to flash back stories, to stitched felt sailing boats and 3D abstract collages, the children have shown great care and flair in their work. It's not only the work that the children have produced in school that's been thoroughly impressive. The amazing submissions for the Valentine's competition (I have never seen so many different representations of a heart) and the 38 storytelling videos were brilliant too. Well done to all the winners!

This week, Mrs Remmers has been overwhelmed with the number of children auditioning to take part in the Greenfield Eisteddfod which will be taking place on Wednesday 1st March. She had a tricky job slimming it down to just 40 performances! We are all looking forward to the wonderful array of poetry, singing, musical and dance performances on St David's Day.

It has been lovely to have lots of visitors in school this term. This week Dave and Diana from Hanbury Hill were in helping Y5/6 classes with their RE. Lots of you came to the FrOG 'Morning Mingle' and the class assemblies are always well attended. We especially appreciated all the parents and grandparents who came in and entertained the children with their stories during Storytelling Week – the children loved it!

It's amazing to think we have reached the halfway point in the school year. We have covered a lot of ground but there is so much more to do in the second half of the year. It's good job we have a little break now to recharge our batteries. Hope you all have a lovely time.

We look forward to seeing the children back on Monday 27th February 2023.



Young Voices – by Flossy Platt

Young Voices is an incredible experience and if you have the chance, you must go! I have luckily had the opportunity to go to Young Voices 2022 and 2023 this January at the Resorts World Arena in Birmingham. I can honestly say for myself, and all the people who attended the concert, that it was mind-blowing. After all that practising last term, everyone was eager to get singing with all the other schools. Everybody had a good time. The entire choir powered through every song in perfect harmony, creating a fantastic atmosphere for not only the children and teachers but the parents as well. Speaking of parents, I know for a fact every single one of them was shocked at how amazing the Young Voices (all 6,000+ of them) were. It is a ticket to paradise if you love a good sing-along.



Storytelling Week – by Hope Donaldson

I really enjoyed Storytelling Week. It was a really great experience for all children to be able to tell and write their own ideas. I love the fact that my school encourages all the children to be creative and follow their dreams. I also love that my school lets parents come in and read lots of wonderful stories to the children. I enjoyed being able to write my own story and share my ideas with people. Being creative is a great quality and I think if you are gifted with it, you should get chance to show that off. That is why I am proud to come to a wonderful school that gives us opportunities to do things like this. If you especially like writing, then Storytelling Week was your time to shine.



World Book Day Vouchers

Due to our participation in National Storytelling Week, we decided as a school, to celebrate World Book Day on alternating years. This means we won't be dressing up this year. We have sent out the World Book Day tokens which can be redeemed on one of the fantastic line-up of specially released £1 books <https://www.worldbookday.com/books/> Don't forget to use yours!

NEU Teacher Strikes

We have reminded parents today that there are 3 further planned NEU teacher strikes, the next one being Wednesday 1st March. At this present time, we anticipate that school will be open to all pupils as usual. However, we ask parents to bear in mind that the situation may change at very short notice. This is because union members are not required to notify their employer of their intention to strike and could leave their decision making until the day itself. We would notify parents immediately if there was any change in our circumstances.

Class Assemblies



Lots of parents have said how much they enjoy coming in to share in their child's class assembly. The children also enjoy sharing the different themes. Here are the upcoming dates for your diary:

- 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 were delighted to see so many people attend their Morning Mingle coffee morning. We will be holding another evening get together on the 8th March at the Longlands, followed by a further coffee morning at the end of March - more details to follow. It would be great to see more parents then. Please also look out for details of our upcoming Easter event.

This year we are raising funds to support the cost of transport on school trips and improving the school library. We are also helping to improve the school garden/grounds. We are always looking for new people to get involved. Any contribution however small is always appreciated. If anyone is interested in getting involved, please contact Ben, Katie or Ciaran using the numbers published on our recent ClassDojo post.

Reflexions Coffee Morning for Parents & Carers

This year, we are pleased to be working closely with Reflexions. Reflexions is a mental health support team who work with schools to increase awareness and support of mental health for children and young people. We would like to invite parents and carers into school on Wednesday 8th March 2023 at 8.45-10.00am to join us for a relaxed coffee morning. This is a great opportunity to learn more about Reflexions and discuss any concerns or worries.

After School Clubs

Here are the clubs running this Spring term:

- Monday – Y2 Multi-sports
- Monday – Y6 Maths Booster
- Tuesday - Neat Feet Dance – contact directly for spaces
- Tuesday – Y5/6 History Detectives
- Wednesday – Y3/4 Kwik Cricket
- Thursday – Y5/6 Archery
- Thursday – Y3/4 STEM club

- Friday - Y5/6 Team Sports



We have also introduced Active Start clubs that run from 8:10am as follows:

- Tuesday – Y5/6
- Thursday – Y1/2
- Friday – Y3/4

We have a couple of places left for these. Please contact the office.

Half term fun for all the family at DBleisure

There's no need for youngsters to be bored over the holidays with lots of fun to be had at Dudley borough leisure centres this February half term. Duncan Edwards, Crystal, Halesowen leisure centres and The Dell Stadium have plenty of activities to entertain the kids, including free swimming, £1 football sessions, brand-new soft play areas and SEN sessions. To find out more visit <https://www.dbleisure.co.uk/school-holiday-activities>

Black Country Foodbank Lent Challenge

This Lent the Black Country Foodbank are looking for individuals, families, community groups, schools, faith groups, local businesses - anyone and everyone to collect then donate 80 items during the 40 days and 40 nights of Lent. Instead of giving something up, maybe donate instead! Please click here to learn more. [Sign up](#) to let them know you're taking part and to receive their challenge pack. If many people take up the challenge, everyone's small contribution will make a big difference.

Cost of Living Support Hubs

Citizens Advice Dudley and Wolverhampton, in conjunction with Dudley Empowerment Partnership, supported by DMBC Public Health and the NHS Black Country ICB, are opening 4 Cost of Living Support Hubs starting 30th January which will be running for the next 12 months.

The decision to set up these cost-of-living support hubs was made in response to feedback from members of the public, who said they are struggling to meet the rising basic day to day living costs including the ongoing climb in energy prices. As you will be more than aware, across the country, organisations and charities are struggling to meet demand and national data projects many more people will be affected in 2023.

Dudley's Cost of Living Support Hubs are here to alleviate some of the immediate struggles households face to afford food, pay bills and buy essentials.

The Hubs start opening across the Borough on the 30th January with a phased approach in the following venues and on the following days (opening hours to the public are 9.30-3.30pm):

- Monday: Provision House, 80-81 High Street, Dudley DY1 1PY as of 30th January
- Tuesday: Christ Church, The Vicarage High St, Stourbridge, DY9 8LF End of Feb
- Wednesday: Halesowen Library, Hagley Mall Cornbow Centre, Halesowen B63 4AJ End of Feb
- Thursday: Brierley Hill Methodist Church, 24 Bank Street, Brierley Hill DY5 3DA as of 30th January
- Friday: Provision House, 80-81 High Street, Dudley DY1 1PY as of 30th January

Further information can be found here www.citizensadvisedudley.org

If you need support, please visit one of the Hubs and see what they can do to help.

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.

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 Monday 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

Friday 17 th February	Pupils break up for half term
Monday 27 th February	Pupils return to school
Tuesday 28 th February	Y5 & some Y6 girls at Redhill School for Sports Liaison event
Wednesday 8 th March	Reflexions Coffee Morning for Parents & Carers. 8:45-10am
Wednesday 8 th March	PM Choir at Unity Service, St James's Church
Monday 13 th March	Miss Cook's class visit Red House Cone
Tuesday 14 th March	Mrs Hackett's class visit Red House Cone
Tuesday 14 th March	PlayMaker Training for selected Y5 pupils
Wednesday 15 th March	Reception class for height and weight measures
Friday 17 th March	Mr Shepherd's class visit Red House Cone
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
Tuesday 28 th March	Y3/4 Performance, 5:30pm
Tuesday 28 th March	Y2 at Stourbridge KS1 Music Festival, Amblecote
Wednesday 29 th March	Y3/4 Performance, 2pm and 5:30pm
Thursday 30 th March	Y1/2 visit Bodenham Arboretum
Friday 31 st March	Pupils break up for Easter
Monday 17 th April	Pupils return to school
Wednesday 26 th April	Reception visit Little Owl Farm
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 (extra) Bank Holiday – Coronation
w/c 8 th May	Y6 SATs week
Monday 15 th May	Y6 Bikeability

Tuesday 16 th May	AM Y6 Bikeability
Wednesday 17 th May	AM Y4 Bikeability – Group 2
Friday 26 th May	Pupils break up for half term
Monday 5 th June	Pupils return to school
Tuesday 13 th June	Class/Group photographs
Friday 16 th June	Y5 Visit to Bishop’s Wood
Wed 12 th -Fri 16 th July	Y6 Residential visit to Pioneer Centre (3 days, 2 nights)
w/c 17 th July	Y5/6 Performances (days and times TBC)
Tuesday 25 th July	End of summer term/school year

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

