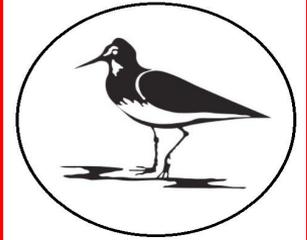


Greenvale Primary School

January Newsletter



Key Dates:

January

- 14th YR 4 Swimming lesson
- 16th Australian Day lunch
- 21st YR 3 Swimming starts
- 24th YR5 Cake sale
- 30th Swimming Gala
Greenvale's Got Talent
auditions after school

February

- 4th Indian Day lunch
- 7th Robins Cake sale
Greenvale's Got Talent
show 7pm
- 11th YR 6 Natural History
Museum trip
- 14th Break up from school
3:15pm/3:20pm
- 17th - 21st February half term**
- 24th Inset day

Happy New Year!

We would like to begin by saying a very Happy New Year to all of our Greenvale families. We hope that you have enjoyed a well deserved rest over the Christmas period and look forward to another exciting term ahead.

I would also like to say a big thank you to all of the generous gifts that we received prior to the Christmas break. They are very much appreciated by the staff.

As always, we welcome the opportunity to speak with parents about any school related matters. Whether this is to seek clarifications on the schools processes / policies, to make a suggestion or to raise a concern.

In the first instance, please feel free to make contact with your child's class teacher, however if you believe I need to be be aware of a particular matter, please feel free to speak to me in the playground or send me an email. Please note, all staff email addresses are found on the final page of each newsletter.

Happy New Year

Welcome Mrs Robinson

We are delighted to inform you that prior to Christmas, we were able to appoint Mrs Robinson as our school counsellor. Mrs Robinson will begin this Friday although will usually work at Greenvale on a Wednesday.

Mrs Robinson is an experienced counsellor and also brings with her a wide range of knowledge and expertise around the local services that are available to families in the local area.

We know that she will be a great addition to the team.

Mrs Whiting is responsible for deciding upon which children are to work alongside Mrs Robinson and this is done on a triage, case by case basis. Should you wish your child to be considered for such support, please get in contact by emailing Mrs Whiting.

It is important that parents understand that there may be a wait for this support and in some circumstances, other support services may be recommended.



New Term, New Values

As a school, we have six core values, chosen by the Greenvale community. During this term, we will be celebrating our two new values that will be of particular focus during the Spring term. These values are **Responsibility** and **Co-operation**.

As a school community we will be talking about these values during assemblies and in the classroom during lessons. Please do take time to discuss what you understand by these values as a family and use them as an opportunity to discuss how the children can show these values in life in general, not just in school. For example, taking responsibility for helping clear away after dinner or considering actions that they could take to help reduce their carbon footprint. For co-operation, perhaps asking your children to help with the shopping or working together on a game.



Phonics Training Session for Parents

On 26th February at 6.30pm, we will be welcoming parents to an 'Introduction to Phonics' session. This session will last an hour.

Over the past couple of years, we have run these very popular sessions for parents in order to inform you of the way in which we teach children phonics and early reading skills.

Who should attend?

This session is a must for Reception and KS1 parents. We therefore hope that at least one parent is able to attend. If you attended last year and you still have a child in EYFS or KS1, we would still recommend that you attend.

What will it cover?

A mix of information about the Phonics system and practical examples for how this can then be implemented both in the classroom and at home.

Why should you attend?

By being aware of the way in which we are teaching your children, it will support you when you listen to your children read aloud and ensure that your child is getting a consistent message should they require any support. You will also receive some practical ideas that you can use at home with your child which will ultimately, make them better readers. Better readers make better learners.

To sign up [please click here](#).

New Reading Resources at Greenvale

Reception and Key Stage 1 parents may well notice that their children are bringing home new books to support children with phonics at home.

We have recently invested in a number of new books that are decodable and mean that children are able to put the phonics that they have been learning in the classroom into practice when reading at home. These books will be very useful in supporting the teaching of decoding skills. We hope you and your children find them useful.



New Reading Page on the School Website

We have recently updated our website to provide information about our approach towards reading at Greenvale.

On this page, you will also find copies of the class readers as well as the 10 before 10 books. <https://www.greenvale.croydon.sch.uk/reading>

We are keen to know how this new reading strategy is working. Please could we ask for your comments by completing the form [here](#). Please respond freely to the questions as it will help us develop ways to support you help you and your child.

Greenvale's Got Talent

Friday 7th February (Save the date)

On Friday 7th February at 7pm, we will be holding our annual Greenvale's Got Talent evening. Mr White is dusting off his green mermaid trousers (ask the children if you have not seen them for yourself) and is ready to present another edition of this popular event. This evening allows children to showcase their talents in front of a packed audience.

In order for the show to take place, we are looking for talent within the school. Children are able to audition for this show on **Thursday 30th January after school**. Children will need to make their way to the Year 3 classroom (where they will be supervised) and auditions will take place in the studio in front of a panel made up of three staff. Children are to be collected at 4.30pm.

Please note that we are looking for all forms of talent. This may include: Dancing, Signing, Playing an instrument, Acting, Comedy, Magic, Sports skills and can, and will no doubt, take on many other forms.

Please note that due to the number of applications, we may not be able to put every auditionee through. It is important that both children and parents are aware that this may be a possibility. It may be that we have a number of similar acts or we do not know how the act may work in front of an audience.

If your child would like to audition for a place, please complete the form by [clicking here](#).

Please keep your eyes peeled for further information regarding this evening and what is sure to be a memorable night.

Volunteers needed

As always, we are very keen to welcome volunteers in the school to support children. These can be parents, grandparents or family friends who are keen to assist.

We require support for a number of different jobs, including reading alongside children, supporting staff with administrative tasks, support with running clubs and assistance with practical jobs around the school site.

Should the support become a regular arrangement, we will require the individual to have enhanced DBS clearance. This can be arranged via the office.

If you are interested, please request a Volunteer application form from the school office.

Many thanks

Golden Behaviour Bands - From January 2020!

At Greenvale we are continually looking for children to demonstrate positive behaviour and display the school values.

This half term, we will be trailing a system whereby a member of staff (chosen at random) will be given three golden wrist bands to award to children who are seen going over and above.

This will also be celebrated on the weekly roundup. We look forward to seeing how this initiative works in school.



Earrings

At Greenvale we ask that children abide by the school uniform policy by ensuring that any earrings that are worn are plain studs. Thank you for your cooperation with this.



Forest School Support

At Greenvale we are very lucky to have a qualified Forest School teacher in Mrs Catchpole. This allows us to run weekly Forest School sessions for pupils however, we do require more adult support on a Wednesday afternoon to run teaching sessions.

Each class receives a Forest School session each term (half the class each week for 2 weeks).

If you are able to help provide support any Wednesday this term please email Mrs Catchpole at ccatchpole@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk and you can either pick a Wednesday to suit you or be allocated a Wednesday (please note this may not be with your child's class but with any class in the school).



Changes to 100% attendance

As a leadership team we regularly review our processes and procedures. After much deliberation, we have decided to cease awarding 100% attendance certificates for termly attendance.

Good school attendance is something that we agreed was a minimum expectation for children. We also felt it important that children were not placed under any pressure to attend school if they are genuinely not well. There have also been a number of blogs, written by fellow professionals, which support the position to cease termly certificates.

We still believe that children who have 100% Attendance for the whole year should still be celebrated; we will continue to reward this with a certificate at the end of an academic year.

We appreciate that there may be mixed feelings about this decision however wish to ensure that we are doing the best and right thing for the pupils in our care.



KS2 Snacks

Just a reminder that KS2 children should only be bringing in fruit, crackers or healthy cereal bars as a breaktime snack.



Treats

Could we please ask that parents do not bring in lollipops as treats for children as they are a potential choke hazard.

Lost Property

The lost property box is now located in the 'Sunflower Garden' outside the Year 1 classroom. All unnamed items are added to the box each evening so please check there if you are missing anything.

The Sun Book Tokens

Thank you to everybody who has brought in tokens from The Sun newspaper as part of their free books for schools. We need to collect 3500 tokens in order to qualify for this offer and still require quite a few more tokens. If you have any at home could we please ask that you bring them into the office as soon as possible.



Contact Details

Role	Staff name	Email
Headteacher / Safeguarding	Mr Bowden	dbowden@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk
Deputy Headteachers Inclusion / SEN Assessment / Safeguarding	Mrs Whiting Mrs Svradd	twhiting@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk ssyradd@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk
Business Manager	Mrs Bell	sbell@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk
Office staff	Mrs Smith Mrs Thorpe	parents@greenvale.Croydon.sch.uk

Phone number: 0208 651 2833

General enquiries: enquiries@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk

Absence: absence@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk

Role	Staff name	Email
Reception	Miss Clow	mclow@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk
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Year 4	Mrs Harrison	hharrison@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk
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