

Greenvale Primary School

March Newsletter



Key Dates:

March

9th - 13th NO TEACHER RUN CLUBS

- 10th Parent Consultations 4pm - 7pm
- 11th Mother's Day Breakfast 8:50am
Parent Consultations 5pm-8pm
- 13th YR 1 Cake sale
FOG Race Night 7pm

16th - 20th YR 5 Whitgift Week

- 18th YR 3 Natural History Museum Trip
- 23rd iRock assembly 1:30pm
- 27th YR 2 Cake sale
- 29th FOG Grounds Day

30th - 3rd Apr NO TEACHER RUN CLUBS

April

- 1st YR 5 Easter Experience Methodist Church
- 2nd Autism Awareness Day
- 3rd Break up from school 2pm
*** NO AFTERS FACILITY ***
FOG Easter Eggstravaganza
2pm - 4pm

#bekind

As you will no doubt have seen and been aware, over the half term, there were two quite significant stories in the media in relation to the way in which we treat others. Firstly, the very sad news of Caroline Flack's passing and secondly the story of a little boy called Quayden, a boy with dwarfism who has been on the receiving end of bullying behaviour.

It is important that we talk about such issues with the children to ensure that the children are able to learn from this and reflect on the way in which they treat others.

At Greenvale, we use the Acronym 'THINK' to remind children that if whatever they are saying does not fit with any of these questions, then it should not be said at all. Please reinforce this important message with your children at home.

During our assembly, we considered ways in which kind actions can spread throughout a community. We look forward to continue to promote this positive message with our children.

Before you speak:

THINK

T = Is it True?

H = Is it Helpful?

I = Is it Inspiring?

N = Is it Necessary?

K = Is it Kind?

Coronavirus

As you will be aware, in recent weeks, the country has seen a rise in the number of people being affected by the Coronavirus. On Monday 8th March, pupils were given an assembly on the importance of good handwashing and were given a demonstration as to the correct technique that should be used.

This is still very much the most effective way of preventing the spread of this virus.

For the time being, school trips and visits will go ahead as planned as even by the children being close to one another in a classroom setting, there is no realistic way in which we can ensure that pupils have not been exposed to family members who work in busy places, or who may have been to events in busy places during evenings and weekends. The reality is that any place where people gather and are within 2 metres of one another, will increase the chances of this virus being passed on.

The school is in receipt of daily updates and will notify parents if and when this advice changes.

This advice can be read by clicking on the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Mother's Day Breakfast

Thank you to everybody who attended the Mother's Day Breakfast on Wednesday. It was a really good turn out and we think you will all agree that it was a lovely morning spent with your children.

Please login to your ParentPay account to pay the £1.50 charge if you booked breakfast, if you have not already done so.

Unfortunately, if you had ordered a breakfast but didn't come to the morning, you will still be charged as the kitchen pre-ordered the food.



Australia Fundraiser

Following Flo and Sophia's fundraiser, the Wires team have written to the school to thank us for the collection that we held in order to raise money for the animals injured or left homeless due to the fires. Again, a big thank you to those who participated.



Certificate of Appreciation

Thank you for enabling WIRES to help make animals and save more lives. It is because of you we can make a real difference for wildlife.

Dear Greenvale Primary School
Thank you for your kind donation to WIRES.
We can't do it without people like you!

The WIRES team



wires.org.au

Playground Equipment

Just a reminder that before school and after school, the playground is not supervised by staff. We therefore ask that parents supervise their children closely during this time and would like to make it clear that the school accepts no liability for any accidents caused using this equipment during these times.

A reminder that at the end of the day, we need to ensure that the playground is cleared to allow children who attend clubs to use the playground safely.

During the Summer term, we will allow families to use the school field up until 4pm after school.

Car Park

A reminder that after 8.15am, no parents should be using the school car park, unless using it for disabled access. We have also spoken with the nursery to ensure that they are keeping to these rules and will be monitoring this closely over the next few weeks.



29th March - Grounds Day

On 29th March, we will be holding a grounds day at school and need your help. We have a number of jobs on the list such as cutting back, painting, weeding etc and welcome any support from the Greenvale community. There will also be bacon rolls and refreshments for those who are able to spare some time on this morning. To sign up, please click on the following link. <https://forms.gle/5WqvTFHAY6iYtyrK8>

Reading Survey feedback

A very big thank you to those who took the time to complete the reading survey that was sent out via the newsletter and weekly roundup in relation to the reading for 5 times each week strategy that we have implemented since the beginning of the year. We received a total of 26 responses from parents and also provided the children with a questionnaire too.

The results provided us with some interesting information, including:

- 90% of parents said that since the introduction of the system, they have been reading the same or more frequently with their children.
- 81% of adults found that they were having more discussions about the meaning of vocabulary. This is one of the most important parts of reading alongside a child as opposed to independent reading. One parent commented on their surprise when hearing their child read aloud a word that they thought that they would just be aware of. This then allowed for a conversation about the origin of the word and improve the child's understanding.
- 50% of parents felt that their child's reading progress had improved as a result of the strategy. 90% of children felt that their reading had improved. It appears those parents / carers who stated that they did not feel that the strategy was a helpful one in improving rates of progress were parents who stated that they already read regularly with their children.

Some of the comments included *"I enjoy discussing what things in the book mean and I also get to hear the story"* as well as *"because I get to read to my parents a lot, they tell me I am very good at expression"*. One child also added *"It means that daddy is able to help me a lot more than he used to"*.

We fully appreciate that the vast majority of parents do read regularly alongside their children however we have been aware in recent years that there are a number (perhaps more than you may think) who do not. As a result, these children rarely meet the standards required at the end of year 6 putting them at a significant disadvantage when entering secondary school.

For those who already read regularly, this strategy should not prove overburdensome which is partly why we chose this approach. As always we strongly welcome any suggestions or ideas that parents may have in order to get the best for our pupils.

Reading @ Greenvale video

As you may have read in previous newsletters, we have recently been working to improve the information provided to parents in relation to reading at Greenvale.

Over the past couple of weeks, we have been making our very own video which outlines our approach to reading.

A big thank you and well done to all of the children that took part in helping create this.

To view the video, please visit <https://www.greenvale.croydon.sch.uk/reading/>



Photo Consent



Occasionally we may take photos of the children at school and teachers often wish to share good work and events that the children have taken part in via Twitter, the school website and newsletters etc. We have a few children where the previous photo consent form has not been completed so have decided to create a new list for 2020. Please complete the form [here](#).

Polling Day - Thursday 7th May 2020

We have recently been informed that Greenvale will be used as a polling station on Thursday 7th May 2020 and school will therefore be closed to all children, with the exception of the morning session for Year 6. As the day precedes an important week for Year 6 and their classroom is not part of the main school building, they will be in school for the morning. Children are able to wear their own clothes.

Resources for use at home:

Would you like some resources to use at home to support your child with their learning? Below are just a few that have been purchased by the school for shared use between home and school.

Busythings

This is suitable for all ages and contains a number of games and activities. This site is fairly straightforward to navigate and provides children with a very visual and fun approach to different learning tasks across the curriculum.

Log in: <https://www.busythings.co.uk/play/>

Children will need their .306 login to access Busythings.



Purple Mash



Purple Mash is another cross curricular resource suitable for all ages. Again, there are many games and activities for them to engage with. Teachers are also able to assign specific tasks

Rec and Y1 login: <https://www.purplemash.com/sch/Greenvale-CR2>

(This will include their first name, first letter of their second name and a two-digit number for their password).

Y2-Y6:

<https://idp3.lgfl.org.uk/idp/profile/SAML2/Redirect/SSO?execution=e4s1>

Children will login via their .306 login.

Talking to your child about online safety...

We are sure that you will agree that it is important to talk regularly with children about what they get up to when online.

We would like to flag up a very useful website which works across networks and providers in order to help keep your children safe. This includes simple step by step instructions on topics such as setting up security controls as well as being able to restrict particular access to devices at certain times of the day.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

There is also a great Internet Matters app which is aimed for children aged between 8-10. The app is designed to be used by both parents and children and provides useful conversation starters around topics such as security, cyberbullying and harmful content.



ParentPay Debt

With the end of the financial year approaching, we would like for all ParentPay debt to be paid in full. At present the total owed to school by parents is just over **£2700.00** which is made up of Afters, school dinners, breakfast club, trips and clubs. This combined debt is significant for Greenvale and we cannot continue for parents to pay for items in arrears. Please make every effort to clear debts every week so that each child has £0.00 showing on account or even better a credit for that week.

We are aware that families who use Childcare Vouchers will have a debt balance on breakfast / after school club until we have processed them. We do however encourage parents to make regular payments, including during the holidays to build up a balance that can be utilised in term time, that way parents will pay in advance and not arrears and no debts will show on ParentPay.

ParentPay have confirmed to us that every single child has now activated their ParentPay account which is amazing and means that you are able to see and pay for all items added for your child.

Unfortunately, we have quite a few items that remain outstanding, for example adult Christmas lunches, adult sports day lunches and also historic school trips which will remain on your account until they are paid in full. Going forward, class trips **MUST** be paid for in advance as this is also how consent is given. If you do not pay for a trip in advance via ParentPay, you will have not given your consent and your child will unfortunately be unable to attend.

If your account reaches a debt of **£50** your child will not be able to have any more school dinners or attend breakfast/Afters until the debt has been paid in full. If you would like to discuss any financial matters with us, please do get in touch.

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
Year 1	Mrs Neri Mrs Chapman	mneri@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk lchapman@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk
Year 2	Mrs Malik	mmalik@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk
Year 3	Miss Kemp	ckemp@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk
Year 4	Mrs Harrison	hharrison@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk
Year 5	Mr White	cwhite@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk
Year 6	Mr Crow	acrow@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk

Twitter handle:



@greenvalesch