

# Greenvale Primary School

## Autumn 1 Newsletter



### Autumn 2 Key Dates

- 3rd Nov** - Parent consultations night 1
- 5th Nov** - Parent consultations night 2
- 21st Nov** - Mufti day (Chocolate donation)
- 22nd Nov** - FOG Craft sale
- 28th Nov** - Mufti day (Lucky dip)
  - 5pm Greenvale choir performing at Selsdon lights
- 2nd Dec** - EYFS / KS1 Christmas lunch
- 3rd Dec** - KS2 Christmas lunch
- 5th Dec** - Christmas fair
- 8th Dec** - Robins' dress rehearsal (2pm)
- 9th Dec** - 9.15am - Robins' performance
  - 2pm - KS1 dress rehearsal
- 10th Dec** - 9.15am - KS1 performance
- 18th Dec** - KS2 Carol concert (2pm)
- 19th Dec** - School closes at 2pm

### A note from Mr Bowden...

Welcome to the very first headteacher newsletter of the year. Parents will now be in receipt of a full school newsletter on a half termly basis with regular notices and updates being added to the weekly newsletter.

Firstly a very big welcome to the new families who have joined the Greenvale community - it has been lovely getting to know your children who have all settled in very well into school life.

There is always lots going on at Greenvale and I hope you find this newsletter informative. I have recently begun a course around artificial intelligence (AI) and will be trialing different aspects of this in and around school.

[Please feel free to listen to a short brief of this very newsletter here](#) - it did provide a few laughs with some of the Americanisms... Enjoy!



## Greenvale turns 50!

As many of you will know, in March 2026, Greenvale turns 50! We have many ideas in the pipeline for how we can celebrate this important milestone, although we need your help.

We would love to hear from members of our community who may have their own stories about being at Greenvale. Any photos (that we could scan) or artefacts would be very well received. We would also like to create a short video that we can share with the children so they can hear from previous members of the Greenvale community about their experiences.

Should you be willing to support us with this, please contact Mrs Whiting via: [twhiting@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:twhiting@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk)

50  
&  
fabulous

## Sporting Success

The school football team have started off the season very well with three wins.

Greenvale have played Atwood in the league twice, winning 3-0 and 6-2. The following day, the team played in a Primary Cup fixture against The Hayes Primary School. Despite being 2-0 down, Greenvale pulled it back to 2-2 in the last minute of the game and ended up scoring the winner in extra time. A big well done to all who played and came to support!



## Wet weather

A reminder that should it be raining at drop off, children may go straight into the classroom rather than wait outside.

**Please can parents make sure all children come to school with a coat as the weather is getting wetter and colder.**

## KS2 Building Update

We are pleased to announce that the revised planning documents have now been posted on the Croydon planning website. [Please click here to show your support for this project.](#)

As you may be aware, the reason for the slight delay with this project has been due to the relocation of the building works and the number of surveys that have then been required to account for this.

It is expected that the work will begin in January with the project completion date being the end of August, in time for the new academic year.

We will of course keep you updated and informed of any updates in relation to this exciting project.

## Sweden 2026

As you will be aware, following another successful application, Greenvale has been awarded funding to take a group of 15 (Y5/6) children to Sweden in May 2026.

Once again, spaces on this trip were in high demand. The successful 15 applicants were informed of their place on the trip last week.

This year, Greenvale have paired up with pupils from Quest Primary School who will be making the visit alongside Greenvale pupils. This year's theme will be writing, with children buddying up with pupils in Sweden in advance of the visit. We look forward to sharing updates later on in the year.

Another exciting development this year is that pupils from Fridaskolan Knvillebacken may well be making their way over to the UK and visiting Greenvale as part of this project. Once again, we will keep you informed of any updates in relation to this exciting project!

## Inclusion @ Greenvale

Being an inclusive school is something that we at Greenvale pride ourselves on. Over the past half term, we have worked hard to ensure that being inclusive remains at the forefront of school initiatives. This page outlines just some of the things we have been up to...



During October we have been celebrating Black History month, around the theme 'Standing firm in power and pride'. In particular, we have been focussing on significant individuals from the UK including: Dr Paul Stephenson, Malorie Blackman, Rev Canon Eve Pitts, Lubaina Hind, Ade Adepitan and William Robinson Clarke.



A very big thank you to parents and carers for your support in helping us produce these welcome signs throughout the school. Each sign displays the welcome in different languages and is decorated with a handprint containing the different flags that people identify most with. They look great and showcase just how diverse Greenvale is.



On Wednesday 22nd October, Niamh from Crystal Palace came to speak to Year 5 and 6 about racism and the importance of being an ally.

On leaving, she commented on how much children knew and how thoughtful they were in their responses.

## Greenvale Apps...



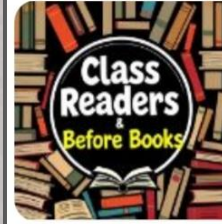
### Sandpiper Awards

Sandpiper Awards i...  
sandpiper-awards-c...

As you may well be aware, our Sandpiper Awards have now gone virtual! Wondering if you have what it takes to achieve a Sandpiper Award? Well wonder no more and give it a go! Each Sandpiper award is now displayed with children being asked up to 30 questions in 3 minutes - Get them all correct and you are ready for the real thing.

[The app can be accessed through the school website by clicking here.](#)

Good luck!



### Class Readers & ...Before Books

Dive into a world of ...  
greenvale-reader-lis...

### ***Coming soon!***

We will very shortly be sharing our new reading app which contains the class reader lists as well as the 10 before 10 lists.

As you will be aware, the bookshop contain a number of copies of books contained within these lists at a snip of the price. Please do go down and pay them a visit, should you be interested in purchasing any of the books on the lists.



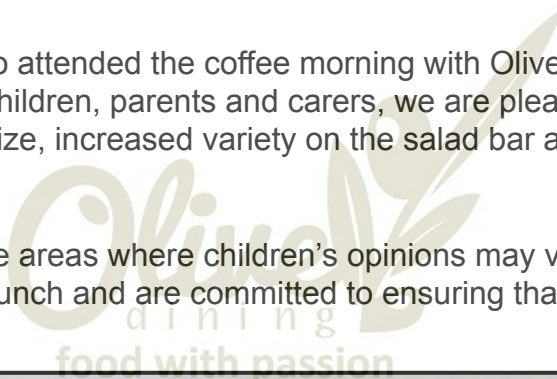
It was great to see such a great turnout at our first Friends of Greenvale (FOG) meeting of the year. As of this year, FOG is being led by a team of three including Carly Busby, Helen McIntosh, and Matt Jackson-Gill.

They already have a number of exciting plans in place for the year ahead. At Greenvale, we are very lucky to have such a keen and enthusiastic community, something many schools are very envious of. We really appreciate all of the support that you can offer at different events throughout the year. All money raised goes towards to school - without this in recent years, we would have had to make significant cuts to what we offer.

## **Your feedback matters...**

A very big thank you to all of those who attended the coffee morning with Olive dining to provide your feedback. Following comments that we received from our children, parents and carers, we are pleased to report that improvements have been seen, in particular in terms of portion size, increased variety on the salad bar and the removal of items packed in single-use plastics.

We appreciate that food is one of those areas where children's opinions may vary somewhat. We are however mindful of the importance of children having a good lunch and are committed to ensuring that our children are provided with this.



# Contact Details

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Phone number: 0208 651 2833

**General enquiries:**

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**Report absence:**

[absence@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:absence@greenvale.croydon.sch.uk)

Please **DO NOT** use the enquiries inbox as it is not monitored on a daily basis and your email may be missed.