

Greenvale Primary

# Newsletter

# GREENVALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

February 2017

### Key Dates

#### February 2017

Fri 10 school closing normal time for half term

Fri 10—FOG Valentines Discos

& Yr6 FOG Cake-Sale

*Mon 13- Fri 17 Feb. Half Term Holiday*

Mon 20—back to school

Wed 22 Last orders for pancakes

Thu 23—Y5 National Theatre visit

Thu 23—Safer Internet meeting for parents at 7pm

Fri 24—Y3 Parents Breakfast meeting 9-10am

Mon 27Feb-Fri 3 Mar—Y5 at Whitgift School for week

#### March 2017

Thu 2—World Book Day

Fri 3—7pm Talent Show

Mon 6 —6.30pm FOG Meeting

Wed 8—Crossfire Day Y4 + Y6

Fri 10—Y4 Parents Breakfast meeting 9-10am

Fri 17—3.30-6pm Primary Netball Finals

Mon 20-Thu 23—Book Fair at Greenvale

Wed 22—4.00-6.30pm Parent Consultations

Thu 23—Red Nose Day @ Greenvale

Thu 23—6.00-8.30pm Parent Consultations

Fri 24—INSET Day

Fri 31—Closing 2pm for Easter Holiday

#### April 2017

Tue 18 - back to school

Mon 24—Y5 to London Science Museum by coach

Sun 23—9.00-Midday FOG Grounds Day

Thu 27—Primary Swimming Finals

Fri 28—FOG Bags2School (9.00am please)

#### May 2017

Mon 1—Bank holiday—school closed

Mon 8—Fri 12 Y6 SATs week

Fri 26—closing normal time for half term

*Mon 29 May- Fri 2 June Half Term Holiday*

#### June 2017

Mon 5—back to school

Mon 5—6.30 FOG Meeting Re: Summer Fair

Mon 12—NSPCC Assemblies

Fri 15—FOG MUFTI Day—Lucky dip prizes

Fri 16—INSET Day school closed

Mon 19—Athletics heats at Croydon Arena

Tue 20—Athletics heats at Croydon Arena

Wed 21—Athletics finals at Croydon Arena

Fri 23—FOG MUFTI day—Bottles

Sat 24— 12.4.00pm FOG Summer Fair

Tue 27—Y2 Brighton Visit

#### July 2017

Mon 3—Robins to British Wildlife Centre by coach

Mon 17—6.30pm FOG Trustee Meeting

Wed 19—Y4 Pizza Express Visit

Thu 20—closing at 2pm

Fri 21—INSET Day school closed

#### September 2017

Mon 4—INSET Day

Tue 5—School returns for Autumn Term

## Safer Internet Day—7th February

On Tuesday 7th February, pupils at Greenvale celebrated Safer Internet Day. This year's theme is 'Be the change and unite for a better internet' and specifically focussed on the sharing of pictures and videos online.

At Greenvale, we are aware that many children have access to the internet and use it frequently at home. In recent weeks, we have become aware that there are children who have signed up for different apps and accounts without the knowledge of their parents. Many of these apps have age limits of 13+ for very good reasons.

The apps in question that appear to be used by children at Greenvale are:

Youtube (13+)

Whatsapp (16+)

Instagram (13+)

Musically (13+)



On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, in our school hall, we are hosting a session for parents about E-Safety at Greenvale which will be very informative. If you have any questions or items that you would like discussed during the evening, please feel free to add these to the Padlet by clicking [here](#).

Please complete the form sent home with each child from their class to reserve your place for the E-Safety presentation evening.

Please scan here to see a copy of this year's Safer Internet Day video for parents.



## Thank you FOG

Thank you to the parents who have supported Greenvale over the years. Your support is key in ensuring that we are able to purchase items to help enhance the school environment and to ensure that your children have access to high quality resources that will assist them in all areas of the curriculum.

Did you know that the Friends of Greenvale purchased the WIFI which enabled the school to purchase iPads that every class has the opportunity to use? Did you know that the Friends help to fund a school councillor who has helped and supported a number of our children and families in recent years?

We are pleased to announce that during the February half term, the Friends of Greenvale will be financing a new floor in both the school hall and also the breakfast and after-school club room. We are very excited about this and know that it will help to transform these areas.

If you would like to join the Friends of Greenvale, please do not hesitate to get in contact by emailing [louiserayner22@hotmail.com](mailto:louiserayner22@hotmail.com) or [greenvalefriends@gmail.com](mailto:greenvalefriends@gmail.com)

## Football and Netball Update

Both our Football and Netball teams continue to do very well in both of their respective leagues.

In football, Greenvale played Purley Oaks in a double header, drawing the first game, and winning the second 1-0, courtesy of a Casey Sword goal. Last week, the boys lost out having gone ahead 2-0 against Gilbert Scott, only to end up losing 3-2. The football team played Selsdon Primary on Monday 6th February and managed to win again 1-0 in a very equally matched game. They have also been drawn against St James the Great in the quarter finals of the Primary Cup.

The girls in the netball team have been on an incredible run, beating Courtwood 5-4 and then winning a double header against Forestdale 6-1 and 7-0. On Monday 6th February, another win, in a match away to Orchard Way with the score line of 14-1.

Congratulations to both the Netball and the Football teams!



## Swimming gala

On Wednesday 25th January, 20 children across years 4, 5 and 6 competed in the Croydon Primary Schools Gala at South Norwood swimming pool.

In what was a first-time experience for many of the children, they all excelled themselves. Nerves were put aside as everyone came together as a team to support and cheer on each race.

Highlights included some very competitive and nail-biting relay races.

Our pupils were competing against schools including Trinity, Whitgift and Croydon High (who are all lucky enough to have their own swimming facilities).

Greenvale did themselves very proud indeed (with many of the children wanting to do it all over again). We look forward to another exciting gala next year.



## Phonics Planets Launch



Thank you to all parents who attended in either Robins, Y1 or Y2.

The feedback received so far, following the launch, has been incredibly positive

Last week, sheets relevant to your child's current level were sent home and your help in rehearsing the sounds will considerably help your child progress.

Please speak to your child's class teacher with any questions regarding phonics teaching at Greenvale.

## Red Nose Day—Written by Fearne in Y6

Dear Parents,

As you will be aware, there is an INSET day on 24th of March which happens to fall on Red Nose Day. Therefore, at Greenvale, we will be celebrating this a day early on Thursday 23rd March. For a £1 donation, children will be able to wear mufti. As it is Red Nose Day, we ask that children wear at least one item of clothing that is red.

Two other activities that will be taking place during the afternoon are:

- A red baking competition;
- A sponsored jokeathon.

If your child would like to participate in the red baking competition, there are some great recipes online. Just visit:

<http://www.rednoseday.com/kids/bake>

They can bake their cake or biscuits and then bring it into school on Thursday 23rd March (with their name and year group on each design). The winner will receive a prize and everyone's cakes will be used at an after school bake sale along with other delicious cakes. To enter the competition, entrants will need to pay £1.

Please remember, no nuts!

Thank you for reading this. Regards, Fearne and The Greenvale Pupil Parliament

## Pencil Cases and Glue Sticks

KS2 pupils are still bringing in huge pencil cases. Please ensure your child has a small pencil case containing only the essential items listed below. There is currently a lot of time being wasted by children rummaging in their pencil cases only to find that they are unable to find the item they actually require.



Items for pencil cases are: 2 x pencils; handwriting pen; small ruler; glue stick, eraser and pencil sharpener.

Your help in ensuring this is very much appreciated - thank you.

It would also be appreciated if pupils in Robins and KS1 could continue to bring in a glue stick to the class each term as much of their work is glued into books and we thank you for your contributions in this regard.

## Packed Lunch

It is unfortunately becoming an issue that lunch boxes are coming into school with treat items included (in some instances) on a daily basis. Treats such as crisps and chocolate bars really should **only** be included on Fridays.

As a Healthy School we are trying to encourage the children to take up good eating habits for the future but we can only do that with your help.

School lunches are carefully calculated to follow government guidelines and our menu ensures there is not too much fat, sugar or salt used and to include fresh fruit and vegetable options to provide healthy meals.



## Pupil progress meetings

Staff meet termly to discuss each and every pupil's progress in the core subject areas. Following these meetings, parents of children who are 'falling behind' will be notified in a letter. The letter will inform you of any concerns about your child's progress and what the school have put in place to help them to 'catch up'.

Do not panic if you receive one of these letters! They are purely to inform you of what we are doing as a school to support your child. There is no need to arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher in light of receiving a letter. We are sending them so that we work together in collaboration with you to make sure your child has access to the support they need in order to master the particular parts of the curriculum that may be of a temporary challenge to them.

That being said, should you seek further clarification or advice as to how you can support your child at home, please do not hesitate to arrange a meeting to meet with your child's class teacher. Many thanks.

## Ahhhhh-Tissues please

As you can imagine, with a class full of children, tissues disappear very rapidly indeed. At this time of year it is the Season of Colds; but in the summer months it will be hayfever time again, as well as the occasional summer cold for the unlucky.

Please will each child bring in a box of tissues to their class to help get us through the current Colds-Season as hygienically as can be managed. We are very grateful for these very much needed donations for small noses.

## Budget Cuts

As you will be aware, the Education Sector is facing considerable cuts in funding.

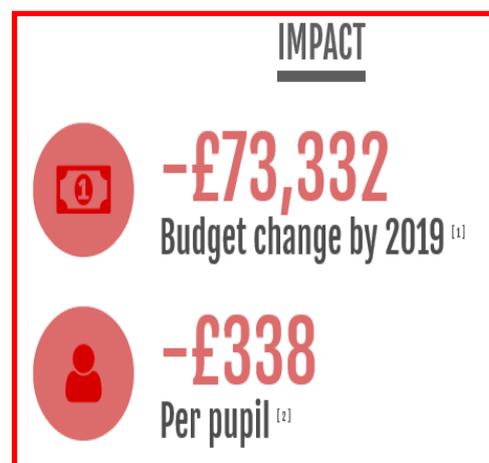
In recent years, Croydon has actually been one of the lowest-funded boroughs in London and strangely will actually see less of an impact than other neighbouring London boroughs. But this very much does not get away from the stark fact that the school will face considerable challenges in the forthcoming years.

As you can see from the figures on the right, by 2020, Greenvale will lose just over £73,000 which will have a considerable impact on what we are able to offer as a school.

A huge amount of work is currently being done by Croydon schools to find out how we as schools are expected to make changes and cut-backs whilst trying to improve standards. In West Sussex, serious consideration is being given to moving to a 4-day week.

At this stage, we include this in the newsletter to bring this problem to your attention. If you are able to support the Friends of Greenvale by completing a monthly standing order, this will help considerably. We know that we have a very supportive parent body and that a number of parents have already expressed their frustration at the lack of funds available for schools such as Greenvale.

Please rest assured that we will be monitoring the situation very closely and doing all we can to minimise the impact of these cuts on your children's education.



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 greenvale guest  
 guest

## NOTICE

### Eco Warriors @ Greenvale

The following children have chosen to be Eco Warriors and help to reduce the school's carbon footprint:

Y2: Freddie Gardner, Luke Assinder

Y3: Sophie Jennings and Archie Gray

Y4: Ava Smith, Oliver Frampton

Y5: Thomas Pickering and  
 Portia-Lee Lawrence

Y6: Faith Edison-Odiase and Frankie Field

## Reception open mornings

A big thank you to all who have attended the Robins' Class open mornings for maths.

We are delighted in how well these have worked in enabling parents to see how the basic skills within maths are taught.

## Pancake Day

Shrove Tuesday is on the 28th of February this year. The school-dinner dessert on this day is pancakes with a choice of the following toppings: chocolate spread (not nut based but may contain small traces of nuts); lemon and sugar; or fruit.

Our traditional pancake races are taking place in KS1 playground from 2.50pm, with parents and carers all welcome to come and cheer on the children. As in previous years, the children should bring in their own racing pancakes in a named pan. Rec and KS1 children are to flip their pancakes 3 times before crossing the line and KS2 5 times.

FOG will be serving tea and coffee to the race-goers.

Eating-Pancakes will also be available to adults/toddlers by pre-order. Please see separate letter (via Parentmail) and send forms and payment back to school by Wednesday 22nd February. Forms are available in the Foyer.

## Breakfast mornings

A big thank you to all who have attended the meetings thus far. The turnout has been very good and the children have really valued the opportunity to share their work.

We do assure you that this is not taking place in order to make a profit, but your donations are invaluable as we have to cover the cost of the food provided. All donations are very gratefully received.

