

Greens Norton Primary School Newsletter

www.greensnortonschool.co.uk

Spring Term Issue 78

January 2010



Happy New Year!

Welcome back to the spring term, 2010. I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas celebrations. I wish you all a happy and healthy year ahead. I am sorry that the start of term has been disrupted by severe weather closures and hope that we have seen the last of the snowy weather.

School Bags

Following my request at the end of last term for children not to bring large backpacks to school, I would like to provide some further information. We have great difficulty in keeping the cloakroom areas tidy mostly due to the large size of some of the bags that children are bringing to school each day. My request was made to try to solve the problem without having to spend money on a different storage solution. I am grateful to those parents who have tried to send children with a book-bag for reading book and homework (which can be stored in children's trays) and a lunch box and water bottle. We do recognise that there may be days when children need to bring a change of clothes for an after school activity or a sleepover with friends and we will accommodate these extra bags on a temporary basis. We are currently investigating suppliers of school bags that take up less space and will pass this information on to you as soon as possible.

Attendance

I awarded many certificates for 100% attendance last term and would like to thank those parents who try hard to ensure that their children attend school every day. This makes a real difference to children's attainment overall. We understand that children are ill occasionally and that this is an unavoidable absence. We continue to try to reduce the numbers of unauthorised absences and will no longer be providing 'Holiday forms' for children during term time. If you need to request an authorised absence for any reason please send your request for the attention of the Headteacher, allowing plenty of time for a response.

Assemblies

You are warmly invited to attend our forthcoming assemblies:

Friday 22nd January Jupiter, Saturn & Mercury Sharing Assembly

Friday 26th February Mercury Class Assembly

Friday 12th March Jupiter Class Assembly

Friday 26th March Venus & Neptune Sharing Assembly

Easter Service in church date to be confirmed.

All of these assemblies begin at 9.10 a.m.



School Council

We have launched a campaign to encourage everyone to wash their hands carefully to prevent germs from spreading. We will be inviting Mrs Rea to attend one of our meetings so we can tell her the ideas our classes have for different food at lunchtimes. We hope this will persuade more people to have hot lunches in the future. We are also thinking about some names for our school houses.

Robyn and Harry – Year 6 Representatives



School Grounds

It has come to our attention that there have been occasions, where pre school children and pupils at the school have used the school grounds in preference to visiting our indoor toilets.

We are happy for visitors to the school to use our indoor facilities should the urgent need arise.

Personal Safety

I have spoken to the children in assembly about taking extra care when crossing the roads at this time of year when they have hats on and/or hoods up. We have also reminded the children about 'saying no to strangers' following a recent incident at a school in Northamptonshire. I recommend that you re-visit these areas of personal safety with your children at home at your earliest convenience.

- Walk or cycle to school with friends – take a bright, open route, avoiding alleyways or dark roads. Look out for safe places where you can go to for help or shelter.
- Never accept gift/sweets from a stranger
- Never get into a car or go anywhere with a stranger – if someone you don't know approaches you, don't speak to them, run to the safest place possible
- Make sure children know who, when, where and how to get help.

Vouchers for Schools

Thank you to all of you who collect various vouchers on behalf of our school. We are currently collecting Box Tops from Nestle breakfast cereals. These are gratefully received and will help us to replenish some of our reading materials. Please ask your friends and neighbours to collect for us as well.

Brass Lessons

I am pleased that the Music Service has now found a permanent brass teacher for the Sponne Cluster. Mr Rob Fleming has been in to school and is very enthusiastic about beginning the tuition in our school. If you would like your child to have an audition for a brass instrument please contact the school office.



PTA News

Happy New Year

Welcome back to what so far has been a snowy winter term, we trust you had a great Christmas break and are raring to go!!!

Following the great success of the Christmas fayre which raised over £1100 we would like to thank everyone who was involved in organising the event and all who came to support it. The Christmas discos were enjoyed by the children and we were delighted the children enjoyed the refreshments we supplied during Honk.

We would also like to say a very big thank you to Roland and Sarah at the Butchers Arms who ran a Christmas raffle which raised in excess of £500. They have very kindly donated to the PTA. Our first PTA meeting of the year will be on the 12th January 2010 and we have decided to hold the meeting at the Butchers Arms to thank Sarah and Roland. We would welcome new members and fresh ideas for fund raising so if you can spare an hour or two why not pop in and join the team.

We have a few events in the pipeline, which we will update you on nearer the time.

Emma Bryden – Secretary



PARENT COUNCIL

The Parent Council would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year!

Dates for the next Parent Council meetings are as follows:-

20 January

10 March

5 May

30 June

Meetings start at 7.15 pm in the School staffroom.

Please remember that ALL parents are welcome to attend any of the Parent Council meetings, alternatively you can discuss anything with a representative or email parentcouncil@hotmail.co.uk.

We look forward to seeing you.

January

- Monday 18th American Breakfast in Breakfast Club
- Monday 25th Parent Support Meeting at 9 am
Wales meeting for Year 6 parents at 6.00pm
Parent Support Meeting at 8 pm

February

- Monday 1st Inter-house rowing challenge – all week
- Monday 8th Everdon Meeting for Year 2 and 3 parents at 6 pm
- Friday 12th School Closes for Half Term
- Wed 24th Bikeability – Year 6
- Thurs 25th Bikeability – Year 6

March

- Wed 3rd Bikeability - Year 6
- Thurs 4th Bikeability - Year 6
- Mon 8th Action4schools Assembly – Yr 5/6 Parents at 3 pm
Action4schools community event – all welcome at 3.30 pm
- Wed 10th Bikeability – Year 6
- Thursday 11th Bikeability – Year 6
- Wed 17th Bikeability – Year 6
- Thurs 18th Bikeability – Year 6
- Wed 24th Year 2/3 pupils to Everdon Activity Centre until Friday 26th
Bikeability – Year 6
- Thurs 25th Bikeability – Year 6
- Tues 30th Parent/Teacher Interviews
- Wed 31st Parent/Teacher Interviews

April

- Thursday 1st School Closed for Training and Easter Break
- Monday 19th School opens to pupils
- Thurs 22nd Swimming lessons begin Yr4/5

May

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| Monday 3 rd | School Closed for May Day |
| Monday 17 th | Year 6 SATs tests all week |
| Monday 24 th | Year 6 to Wales Residential |
| Friday 28 th | School Closes for Half Term |

June

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| Monday 7 th | Teacher Training Day |
| Tues 8 th | School opens for pupils |
| Tues 15 th | Class Photos |
| Mon 28 th | Discovery Week Begins |

July

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| Wed 7 th | Open Evening/Performances |
| Thurs 8 th | Induction Day 1 |
| Fri 9 th | Induction Day 2 |
| Fri 16 th | Sports Day at 1.30 pm |
| | Reports to parents |
| Tues 20 th | Sports Day Contingency 1.30 pm |
| Fri 23 rd | School Closes |

