

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

As the term develops, teachers will alert pupils regarding any after school clubs available to them. If a club is under subscribed the tradition is to offer it to younger children. Therefore it is not always possible for all pupils to start the club on its first date. Should there be a large demand then age related criteria or a draw of names will occur. We have a great array of clubs which will benefit your children over the seven years. We have noticed that Junior pupils tend to respond better to clubs at the end of the day but we do trial opportunities for our Infant children. Please take advantage of what is on offer.



BUILDINGS UPDATE

To maintain the high standards we all expect at Green Meadow, Mr Rose (and his team) worked tirelessly throughout the Summer break. Several projects were undertaken including the completion of a complete new heating system and new carpets fitted in the infant classrooms. Thank you to all members of staff involved with our school development.

Entry Day

Please look on our school website at the photographs from our fantastic Entry Day. Our website address is www.greenmeadowprimaryschool.com



FRIENDS OF GREEN MEADOW MEETING

The 'Friends' do a fantastic job both in terms of providing social events and in raising large sums of money for the school. This allows for many 'extras' to be provided free to all pupils e.g. theatre groups, music days, playground equipment and Christmas expenses for parties and gifts. Raising money does take effort and often this falls on the shoulders of the few. We do need extra parents to join the Friends committee so that our traditions can be maintained. Keep watching the FOGM boards in the playground. Please attend if you can help in this worthy cause.

ALL PARENTS WELCOME

FOGM AGM MEETING 16TH SEPTEMBER

The FOGM will be holding their AGM (Annual General Meeting) on Monday 16th September at 7.30pm in the annexe. All interested parties are welcome to attend or put themselves forward for election onto the main committee. If you should require any more information please speak to Linda Tranter-Edwards. Thank you

VALUABLE ITEMS

May we remind parents that under no circumstances should any valuable items be brought into school. The school cannot take responsibility for any item that is either lost, damaged or stolen. The safest thing to do is not bring any such items into school.



A guiding principle must be "Will I be upset if something happens to this item?" If the answer is "yes" then please leave it at home.

YEAR 6 LEAVERS

The Local Authority have informed us that all preference forms need to be completed online before 31st October 2013. You can access the site on :

www.secondarysubmissionform@birmingham.gov.uk

The main advantages of this option are cited as being ease of use, a 24/7 facility and you are emailed school allocations before they are mailed out by letter.

Fire Drill Procedures

We have successfully practised both our Fire Drill and critical incident procedures. If you arrive on site with your child(ren) and the front Reception Area door is wide open it means that a drill is in progress. A sign will also be displayed. If this happens then please walk back to the main gates and wait there with your child until the office staff are back inside school. Thank you.

Site Security

The school site gates will be closed from 4.45 p.m. after extra curricular clubs have finished. Please do not attempt to drive onto the school site when collecting children from after school curriculum clubs as pupils' safety is a priority.

E-SAFETY

Here at Green meadow we take e-safety very seriously. Our policy is underpinned with regular assemblies and class discussions with pupils, outlining how we keep them safe and how they can help. We subscribe to the local authorities 'filtering' system to support us in this matter. Children use the internet in a variety of ways at home and we would encourage you to always monitor your child(ren)'s use of the computer especially when using social networking, You Tube and games. Next week we will republish our helpful guide. Look out for it.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please find a list of dates relevant to the Autumn Term 2013 enclosed in this newsletter. Please retain this sheet for your information.

Yours Sincerely,

**H. Setchell
HEADTEACHER**



www.greenmeadowprimary.com
enquiry@greenmeadow.bham.sch.uk

GREEN MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Tel: 0121 475 4505 Fax: 0121 476 8254
Miss H. Setchell Bed (Hons), Head Teacher

01/13-14 6th September 2013

PARENTS' NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to what we hope will be another exciting year at Green Meadow School. We want to make this year as successful as previous years have been and our continued aim is to improve on our high standards across all of school life. To do this we will have to carry on challenging each other, our pupils and, at times, some parents to ensure that we share the same aspirations and expectations. Please continue to support us as a school community.

NEWCOMERS TO GREEN MEADOW

It has been a great start to the new year and all the children and staff have settled well. A special welcome to Mrs Haydn-Jones (an SEN Teaching Assistant in Reception for the time being), Miss Quan (1Q), Miss White (4W) and Mr Nightingale (5N). Miss Allen, Miss Peers and Miss Oseman alongside Ian Gwinivan are our school sports coaches and Mr Collard teaches specialist music lessons. We trust that all of those new (and returning) to school will enjoy their time here and thrive in our school community.

UNIFORM / DRESS CODE

Thank you for sending the children into school looking so immaculate in their uniforms. They all look so distinctively smart, and are a credit to you all. In an effort to minimize the amount of lost property **we do ask that all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name.** If any items are lost, this simple strategy allows us to return such items to their owner. May I also remind parents that no jewellery (rings, earrings, bracelets etc.) or nail varnish is allowed in school. Whilst stud earrings are reluctantly allowed, they MUST be removed for P.E. lessons and school assumes no responsibility for these items. Please note that the school dress code (as agreed by the Governing Body) insists on **SENSIBLE SCHOOL SHOES.** Black trainers are **NOT** shoes and cannot be worn as a replacement for them. Due to the layout of the building the junior girls need to ensure that heels are of an appropriate height (no higher than 5cm/2 inches preferably lower). **This year we have included jogging trousers and tracksuit top into the PE uniform especially for the winter months.** Please provide your child with these items of clothing for PE lessons outside. We actively encourage the Y1-6 children to bring trainers or spare pumps to school to wear at lunchtimes so that they can use the spaces and equipment e.g. Trimtrack and climbing frame. Please ensure that your child's dress code conforms with these guidelines and are appropriate to wear when using outdoor equipment.



ASSEMBLIES

The children and staff work very hard to provide a very high standard in our Assemblies. These occasions provide for a communal experience so we invite any family members to join us on Tuesday (Juniors) or Friday (Infants) mornings at 9.00 a.m. We asked for parental support last year in not leaving before the end of the assembly as this was very disruptive to the event. This proved to be generally successful and we would like this practice to continue. If you have to leave early then I would be grateful if you contact me beforehand and we will designate a place near the door so as to minimise any disruption. This will only be done on a limited basis as we expect parents to stay. It would also be appreciated if **ALL** mobile phones are switched off during these events. Please join me for a tea/coffee after both parental assemblies as this is a great opportunity to continue developing a parental focus group. Thank you for your support in this matter.



SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PRODUCTIONS

Over the years a tradition has built up whereby two performances of each production (i.e. Infant and Junior) has been presented for parents. This opportunity will be repeated this year. This organisation enables parents to make arrangements for babies / toddlers so that they are cared for while they watch one performance. So that there is no misunderstanding and to give maximum notification to all parents **we will not be able to allow under 5's into any of the performances and we would ask that no Infant aged children attend the Junior productions as** all infants will view this show separately. We do hope that you understand this policy and support us in providing the best possible conditions for parents to enjoy the show. Please ensure that you receive a copy of our **November Christmas Production letter.** This will be sent out in mid November with all the relevant details of the production on it. Please check bags at this time to ensure that you do not miss this opportunity.

To aid this process we shall be sending one letter per child rather than our normal custom of one per family.



SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE INFORMATION



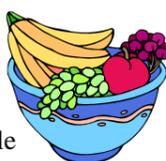
A reminder for all parents

- Each Thursday we can provide an adult meal for any parent/family member for £3.00. Why not join your son/daughter for a school meal? All we ask is that you pre-book this meal on the previous Monday in the usual way i.e. envelope marked with the name of adult / sum enclosed and 'Adult School Meal' on Thursday (and dated). Please note that there is a limit on the number of adults that we can cater for on these occasions.
- Breaktime snacks are sold for the following prices

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Toast—10p | Raisins—20p |
| Milk—20 p | Fresh Fruit—20p |
| Fruit Juice—20p | Pupils Puddings—40p |
| Ice drinks—25p | |
- Children in KS2 buy their snacks from the kitchen and children in KS1 buy their snacks on the infant playground.
- School meal prices are at £1.90 per day (£9.50 per week). Cheques are acceptable and any parents wishing to pay for periods of more than one week should speak to Mrs Johnson in the school office (mornings only). All cheques should be made payable to 'Citiserive'.



NATIONAL FRUIT SCHEME



This is a reminder to all parents that at this time each Infant aged pupil (Reception—Year 2) will receive one piece of fruit each day **free of charge**. The sequence for example may be apple, pear, satsuma, banana, apple, carrots from Monday to Friday. We do encourage parents not to send any tuck, beyond this allocation. Do try to support this excellent initiative which will help promote a healthy diet for our pupils.

MATHS CLUB BADGES



I would like to remind parents that any one is eligible to try for the Maths Clubs Badges that we have in school. This is a voluntary activity whereby each child/parent may attempt 10 mental maths sums in ten minutes (10 club badge) building up in incremental parts to 189 problems in 13 minutes (189 club badge). We provide the successful pupils with a badge - all we ask is that they wear them on a daily basis. Please support us by checking that this is happening within this year. We would also encourage parents to have a go at joining these clubs by trying the test most appropriate to their confidence.

PARENT / TEACHER DISCUSSIONS



May I remind parents that at the start of the school day (post 8.50 a.m.) teachers' priorities are the children. No teacher will be able to spend time dealing with issues during this crucial time. If an appointment for after school is **NEEDED** then please ring the school office for a mutually convenient time. Miss Setchell and Miss Buffery are present on the Junior / Infant playgrounds in the morning and all teachers are available after school.

PARENT VOLUNTEER READERS



Parent volunteer readers will start reading with the children the week beginning Monday 16th September. If you would like to volunteer please see Miss Buffery, Mrs Beswick or Mrs Mills. We can give you help and support with how our Parent Readers work alongside the teachers in the classrooms. We value our parent readers enormously and your support enables our children to progress even further with their reading. We meet regularly for a coffee and a chat would love your to join this fantastic initiative.

HOME LEARNING



Home Learning journals will come home next Friday with the home learning activities inside the front cover. On the first page are guidelines to support the children in maintaining high expectations with their writing and presentation. The children will be asked to complete one task each week and bring their home learning journal into school on a Thursday. The teacher or class teaching assistant will sign the homework diary weekly. At the end of the half term teachers will give written feedback to the children including positive comments and next steps for improvement. Mental maths, spelling and reading will also come home each week. At the end of each half term children who have completed home learning each week will be awarded a certificate. For those children who complete home learning weekly all through the year they will be presented a home learning badge in a July assembly and just like maths badges they can wear their badges to school everyday. Last academic year we were thrilled to award 176 badges. Let's see if we can do even better this year! Many thanks and enjoy your home learning.

Miss Buffery

Green Meadow welcomes our new Reception children



I liked seeing my teachers.—Nancy

Red Group



I liked playing with the fishes and feeding them. Harley

Yellow Group



Blue Group



Green Group

STAFFING STRUCTURE

Our school is organised into phases. Each phase contains year groups and has a leader who is responsible for the standards of pupils' attainment and behaviour for the year groups within the phase. Therefore, please follow the process outlined below if you need to.

- 1) In all instances initial concerns should be addressed to the class teacher either by letter, phone or a meeting.
- 2) If the matter at hand is not resolved then you should contact the Phase Leader by one of the above methods.
- 3) Any further concerns remaining should then be addressed with the Assistant, Deputy or Head Teacher.

We do hope that you will give this system your support so that we can develop the school to even greater heights.

- Reception Unit—Mrs Desogus
- Y1 and Y2 - Miss Buffery
- Y3—Mrs McNickle-Edwards
- Y4—Mrs Bestwick
- Y5 and Y6—Miss Arrowsmith
- Assistant Head— Miss Arrowsmith
- Deputy Head—Miss Buffery
- Headteacher—Miss Setchell

PARKING

Parking can be a divisive issue when looked at from different perspectives. When you park please ensure that all perspectives are covered. We would like to stress the need for parking procedures which minimise the risk of our pupils being put in danger. Please park at all times with due care and consideration both for our neighbours and, most importantly, for the safety of our children. We have already received complaints from our neighbours about parking this week and would ask that you show consideration. The Police regularly patrol this area.

'WATER IS COOL INITIATIVE'

Just a reminder that for many years now we have supplied each pupil with a bottle of water at the beginning of each school day. Children who finish this bottle are allowed, indeed encouraged, to refill their own bottles during the day. Research has proven that drinking water helps pupils' concentration and reduces sluggishness, especially in warm classrooms. We are happy to be able to inform you that we have continued to provide this facility for our pupils during the forthcoming academic year. Please encourage your child to get into the good habit of drinking at least one litre of water throughout their day.

