



GREEN MEADOW PRIMARY SCHOOL

Green Meadow Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham, B29 4EE

Tel: 0121 475 4505 Fax: 0121 476 8254

Miss H. Setchell—Head Teacher

An Academy,
achieving more,
learning together.



www.greenmeadowprimarieschool.com

06/16-17 13TH JANUARY 2017

PARENTS' NEWSLETTER

A warm welcome back to what we hope will continue to be an enjoyable and successful year. We will continue to strive hard in 2017 to provide the quality of education that we aim to deliver and that you have come to expect. We cannot over emphasise the importance of the partnership between home and school which, when based on mutual understanding, enables your child(ren) to fulfil their potential. Please support us in all of our requests which will enable us to maintain our momentum in the future. On behalf of all staff, we would like to wish you a belated Happy New Year.

RECEPTION - Chinese Lion Dancing Workshop

With the Chinese New Year almost here, Reception have had a fantastic opportunity to learn about the Chinese New Year and the traditions.

We have been extremely lucky to welcome two Chinese dancers into school to teach us some Chinese dancing. The children listened and followed the routines carefully and performed the dances superbly.



The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience. "The dancing made me feel like a princess," said Bonnie. "The lion dancing was the best. It was really fun," Finley commented.

PLAYGROUND EXPECTATION

Please can I remind all parents and family members that while waiting with children before or after school, they should be mindful of their interactions with other parents. As adults, we are all the role models for the children and, in their interests, people should not be approaching each other with disagreements that may be heard by our children. The school site is not the place for personal difficulties with other parents or family members to be discussed or aired.

If you have any worries concerning your child at school, please do not hesitate to share them with staff as soon as possible. We ask that you arrange to speak with class teachers at the end of the day, when they have more time and are not welcoming or dismissing the children. If you have something you wish to inform school of urgently or in confidence, please phone the school office to make an appointment or email—

enquiry@greenmeadow.bham.sch.uk
Thank you for your co-operation.



SAFEGUARDING

If you have any concerns regarding the safeguarding of children outside of school, please contact the Birmingham Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub on 0121 303 1888. For school related matters, Miss Setchell and other Senior Leaders are the appointed Designated Leads. We follow procedures laid down by the Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Board. Please contact the school office for any further information.

ALERT

Safeguarding children is one of the most important roles of any school organisation. You have an important part to play in keeping children safe. In order to protect our pupils, please do not post on social media (e.g. Facebook) any school photos, images or letters. Thank you for your co-operation.

PRE/POST SCHOOL REQUEST

A reminder that during the periods before / after school, pupils remain the responsibility of their parents. Please support us by ensuring that:

- Pupils are not on site before 8.40 a.m. unless they have an arranged pre school job.
- No balls / equipment are brought into school and used.
- Bikes and scooters are not ridden on the playgrounds.
- Pupils are properly supervised by parents at all times.

The Bournville Village Trust MUGA is open before / after school. **If your child is using this space, please supervise them to minimise problems / injuries.** You will be able to enter school in the morning via the gate. Thank you.

ASSEMBLIES

The children and staff work very hard to provide a very high standard in our assemblies and these occasions are a highlight in our community. We asked for parental support last year in not leaving before the end of the assembly as this can be 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 to silent during these events.** For Safeguarding reasons you can only take photographs/videos of your own child. We would suggest that parents with younger siblings sit at either side of the hall so you can move into the Rain Forest Area or the Infant Dining Room if the younger children become restless. Thank you for your support in this matter.



IMPORTANT SCHOOL MESSAGE

A lot of time and effort is given by school in the writing of letters and notes. Please ensure that you read these letters carefully to avoid misunderstandings and confusion. Texts are sent as final reminders but may not always contain all the information as texts can only contain a certain number of characters. Lets all make a new year's resolution to read the information sent from school.

PLAY LEADERS TRAINING

On Monday 9th January, keen children from Year 5 volunteered to undertake play leader training at Shenley Academy. Play leading is a role which brings many responsibilities. It gives the children opportunities to develop leadership skills and further their knowledge of physical activities. The children will teach fun sporting games to children from year groups 1-6 during lunchtimes, encouraging a healthy active lifestyle. We are so proud, as a school, to have these children showing such enthusiasm towards their role. They have already set up their rota for lunch time activities, organised their equipment for the games and are working on developing in house competitions and a sports notice board in the gym. Well done to Shayla, Ellie, Ben, Sam, Oliver and Jedidiah.



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. If you see dangerous / illegal driving and parking please note down the registration number and inform the police via the 101 number.



Topic letters

Just a reminder to look out for this term's topic letters in your child's bag next Friday. You will get a flavour of all of the exciting learning which will be taking place throughout the term along with key dates to make a note of. You will also notice that your child's class teacher has highlighted how well your child is progressing in their learning in English and Maths so far this year. The letter will tell you whether children are working on a personalised learning plan, not yet on track to be working at National Expectations for their year group or whether they are on track to be working at National Expectations for their year group by the end of this academic year.

At Parents' Evening later on this term, there will be an opportunity as always to share books and work and discuss your child's progress so far but if you have any questions in the meantime, please speak to your child's teacher or a Teaching and Learning Leader (Mrs Desogus for Reception, Mrs Bestwick for Year 1/2, Mrs Karban for Year 3/4 and Miss White for Year 5/6).

Thank you for your continued support. Miss Arrowsmith

OUTDOOR LEARNING

Outdoor learning is an area that we are very passionate about at Green Meadow and one that we have been focused on developing throughout the year. We believe that children can benefit hugely from learning outside, whether or not this learning involves adventurous activities, environmental education, team challenges or playground games. Dan Jones, an outdoor learning expert, has supported both staff and children this year so that we base our practice in line with forest school principles. We aim to promote the holistic development of children, creating resilient, confident and independent learners. As you can imagine, our children love it but the chances are they will get a bit dirtier than when they have lessons in school as the weather can be very unpredictable! So that children are not getting their uniforms messy and to cut down on your midweek washing, for the past few years, we have asked you to support us by sending in an outdoor learning kit, including old clothes which are suitable for the time of year and sturdy, waterproof footwear (such as old trainers, wellies or boots). We do have a supply of waterproof clothes in school which we provide for the children to wear in addition to their outdoor learning kit when it is raining. In addition to this, if there is the odd occasion that a child forgets to bring appropriate footwear into school, we have a small selection of school wellies but we cannot guarantee these will be the correct size and available when needed. Please support school by reminding your child to have their outdoor learning kit in school from Monday to Friday so that they are able to take part in outdoor learning and all it has to offer. Unfortunately, if they are not equipped to take part in lessons, they will be unable to join the rest of their class outside.

HEADLICE

Problems with head lice are an issue for all schools. Without the co-operation of ALL parents, this will not be eradicated. Please ensure that you check your own child's hair on at least a weekly basis. The school nurse has also suggested that a twice daily vigorous brushing of hair will help in diminishing this problem. LA guidelines firmly put the onus for checking and treating in the hands of parents. Head lice can be dramatically reduced and even eliminated. However this can only be done through the **FULL** co-operation of **ALL** parents.

LABELLING OF PE KITS AND OUTDOOR LEARNING CLOTHES

School will put your child's initials on the label of unmarked clothing. If you do not want school staff to do this then please inform your child's class teacher by Friday 20th January 2017. Please support school by making sure that all items of clothing are correctly labelled with your child's name. Thank you for your support.

Could you or a loved one do with some extra support?



Whether you need help and support right now, or someone that you know needs help, you can rely on our local, friendly counsellors here at Bartley Green. A new counselling service has been set up for the local community - based right on the doorstep of the Newman University campus. The staff can offer support if you are feeling stressed, worried or just feeling low. With a confidential suite of rooms, and one-one advice and support, our welcoming team can help you or any of your family and friends. **Our aim is to offer affordable, accessible counselling for all.**

Our locally based staff has a real understanding of personal issues and are fully trained to support both children and adults - people just like you. You can contact the team in any of the following ways: Phone: 0121 483 2205 - call us now for a confidential chat, email us on: counselling@newman.ac.uk or check out our website to find out more about what we offer: Website : www.newmanhealthwellbeing.org.uk

SCHOOL CLOSURE FOR WINTER CONDITIONS.

We will continue to inform the Local Authority when there is a closure. **We will text parents when a decision to close has been made.** Should you not have a text from us, then please be aware that the school will be **OPEN**. As we are using this method of communication, please ensure that school has your current mobile phone number. Like everything else, this strategy will only work effectively when everyone is fully engaged in the process. Please do not ring school as calls will not be answered.

Playground Safety

It is parents' responsibility before school to supervise their children to ensure that no accidents occur by sliding and slipping. School will take the necessary Health & Safety precautions such as gritting a pathway but parents do need to be vigilant.