



GREENWAY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2017

World Book Day and Book Fair

Thank you for supporting our book-related activities last week. The effort that had gone into making the sandwich boards for World Book Day was amazing and all the children were very keen to talk about the book they had chosen and why. Assembly was lots of fun, as we presented the winners of the Extreme Reading challenge with their prizes; we all enjoyed looking at the fantastic photos you had taken of them reading in unusual places or poses. The books you bought at the Book Fair on Wednesday and Thursday will benefit the school, as we can purchase more for free! Thank you for all your support and encouragement.

Girls' Table Tennis – Regional Finals

Our Year 6 girls – Margot and Alice Ray, Livy Spencer and Izzy Lyon – travelled to Bristol on Sunday 5th March to represent their region in the Regional Finals. Their determination to succeed and tremendous team spirit were an inspiration to us all. They played brilliantly and came 2nd at the event, being narrowly beaten in the final game of the day. This puts them in the top 8 Year 6 table tennis teams in the country - a truly outstanding achievement and we are all very proud of the girls.

Year 1 Singing Workshop

On Friday 3rd March Year 1 went to the Berkhamsted School where Mrs O'Brien had organised a singing workshop and performance for several local schools. It was lots of fun and the children learned several new songs, some of which they sang to their parents and friends at the end of the event. Thank you to the parents who came along to support them, especially those who helped with walking to and from the venue.

Ukelele Festival

Our ukulele players took part in a special 'Ukes for Unicef' festival in Watford on Saturday 25th March and impressed those present with their skills and enthusiasm. We have received an email from the organisers thanking the adults who attended and praising the children for their impeccable behaviour and wonderful performance. So far, 'Ukes for Unicef' has raised £5,000 for children around the world.

Comic Relief – Friday 24th March

We will be raising money for this bi-annual day of fun. Children can come to school in their own clothes, wearing something red, if they bring in £1 for the charity. Red Noses will be on sale at school from Monday 13th March.

Parent Consultations – Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th March

We are looking forward to seeing you on either Tuesday 28th March from 3.30-6.30pm or Wednesday 29th March from 6.00-8.30pm for Parent Consultations. As always, you will have the opportunity to discuss your child/children's progress and next steps with their class teacher. **Please note that we would like Year 6 children to attend the consultation with their parent/s.**

Ms Dani Roe our INCO (Inclusion Co-ordinator) will be available to meet parents for discussions and Claire Saunders (Specialist Reading teacher) will be making appointments to talk to parents of children she works with. **Parent Consultation letters are going out on Wednesday 8th March and need to be returned by Monday 13th March. Please complete a paper copy by printing at home or collecting a paper copy from outside the school office – do not scan or email appointment times as we receive hundreds of emails & sometimes they get missed!**

Philosophy for Children (P4C) Curriculum Evening

We were disappointed by the low number of slips returned for the P4C evening on 28th February; this was the first time we have taken the decision to post-pone such an event. We plan to announce another date in the summer term and hope that as many of you as possible will be able to come. You will recall from the 'Welcome to your new class' evening in September that P4C was launched at Greenway this year, with discreet weekly sessions in all year groups and some cross-curricular learning. It has already had a noticeable impact on children's thinking skills, ability to listen, discuss and consider others' points of view and has become a popular lesson for teachers and pupils. The purpose of the curriculum evening is to extend your understanding of the aims and objectives of P4C, allow you to experience some P4C activities, watch videos of actual P4C lessons and find out what the children say about P4C. There are lots of reasons we would like you all to attend, but perhaps the most important ones are: it will be fun; it will give you a greater insight into your children's learning experiences at Greenway and it will mean that you are better equipped to support them.

We will be discussing this at Parent Forum this week, and are hoping to understand the reasons for the low take-up, so that we can take these into account, if appropriate, when planning the new date.

First Aid

Following some recent training attended by members of staff, we now have to record every instance where first aid is administered to a child, including the use of antiseptic wipes, plasters and ice packs. Where the incident involves a bumped head, we are required to inform parents by telephone, as well as sending home the 'bumped head form'.

We have also been asked to remind you that, if your child has an inhaler or epipen in school, it is your responsibility to ensure it is within its 'use-by' date. You should be able to set up an arrangement with your GP so that they send you an email alert when these items need to be replaced.

Dates: Spring Term

Thurs 9th March-----Yr 5 Visit to Ashmolean Museum
Tues 14th March 9.30am-----Key Stage 1 show
Weds 15th March 2pm-----Key Stage 1 show
Mon 20th-Fri 24th March-----Art Week
Tues 21st March-----Yr 1 Visit to Chiltern Open Air Museum
Fri 24th March-----Comic Relief
Tues 28th March 3.30-6.30pm -----Parent consultations--Whole school
Weds 29th March 6-8.30pm-----Parent consultations--Whole school
Thurs 30th March-----Yr 6 Visit to Knebworth House
Fri 31st March-----End of Spring term **school closes at 1.30pm**
Mon 17th April-----Bank Holiday School closed
Tues 18th April-----INSET day school closed
Weds 19th April-----Start of Summer Term