



# GREENWAY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2014

### **Book Week**

We have had a busy week! Sue Hampton, the local author worked with some Yr 4 children in developing their story writing skills. Thank you for supporting our Book Fair. The books you bought will benefit the school as we can purchase more for free! Also, it was fantastic to see all the lovely book characters for World Book Day.

### **Inset days July 2013**

As part of the re-organisation those schools who are going to be changing from a First school to a Primary have been given extra days to support the planning and organisation of this. Greenway will be taking these days at the end of the Summer term, therefore school (Reception – Year 4) will finish on **Friday 18 July at 1.30pm**. Nursery will finish at midday. Thank you for your support and co-operation in this matter.

### **Parent/Pupil Questionnaire**

Last week we sent out this year's parent/pupil questionnaire. This is a key document, which helps the Governors and the Senior Leadership Team to celebrate, evaluate, review and identify ways in which, with your views, the school can further improve. A lot of work has been put into this questionnaire and we would really value your feedback. Your Parent Forum Representative will be reminding you to complete the survey. Year 2, 3 and 4 pupils will complete their survey in school over the next few weeks. Thanks for your support in this.

### **New Entrance Gates**

Unfortunately there has been a slight delay, due to the manufacturers and we are hoping that our new gates will be installed within the next few weeks.

### **Calculation Maths Curriculum evening for Foundation Stage / Key stage 1 – Wednesday 26 March at 7pm**

We will be holding our annual Maths Parent workshop where Mrs Stace will be sharing the mental and written calculation strategies which the children are particularly taught in Key stage 1. If you have a child in **Foundation Stage** or **Key stage 1** we feel this will be very beneficial for you so you can support your child with Maths at home using the same strategies as in school. A separate letter will be sent with further details.

Mrs Stace will be arranging a second Maths workshop in the Summer term which will target the new strategies being taught to Key stage 2 particularly focusing on the raised expectations of the New Curriculum and to support the children as they move into Year 5 and 6 when we become a Primary school.

### **Big Write Curriculum evening - Thursday 24 April at 7pm**

We would like to invite you to attend our Big Write evening, which will inform you about Big Write, how it is delivered across the school and its impact on your child's writing so far. We aim to show you how your child is taught, the resources used and how you can support at home through 'Talk Writing'. This practical, stimulating workshop will enhance your knowledge of how writing is taught at Greenway and give you the opportunity of seeing how your child is taught. Please note the date in your diaries and a letter will be sent separately to book a place.

### **Mr Purton**

It is with great sadness that Mr Purton has informed me that he will not be returning to work at Greenway. He has recently relocated and is now pursuing work closer to his new home. Mr Purton has worked at Greenway for 7 years, as a teaching assistant and managing Breakfast Club and Waccy's. He has made a valuable contribution to the lives of many children and he will be sorely missed. We wish him and his family all the very best in the future.

### **Fund raising for Alopecia**

As you are aware we have been working closely with Sue Hampton the local author this year as part of our school focus on developing children's writing. As the ambassador for Alopecia UK, Sue has organised a fund raising event, which is a quiz called, '**Be a writer**'. If your child is in Year 1-4 and would like to take part and support this charity please print off and complete the quiz which is being emailed or sent out and put this in a sealed envelope labelled '**Sue Hampton competition**' with a **£1 donation** for this charity and return to school by **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March**.

### **Sport Relief- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

To support Sports Relief the children will be running the 'Sport Relief' mile around the school field. Please can they come into school wearing Sports kit e.g. track suit and trainers on this day and bring in a donation of £1 for Sports Relief.

### **Dinner Money Invoices**

Each half term the office staff spend a vast amount of time chasing up late payments for School Dinners.

Please could we ask that you pay all invoices promptly and in future if monies are not received within 7 days of the due date your child will have to swap to a home packed lunch.

### **Congratulations to Dean our cook**

Dean entered the 'School Chef of the Year' competition, where he had to create a new school dish. He was so successful that he came third in the regional finals! His creation was a Thai Turkey Curry. I know that many children are enjoying his school dinners. Well done Dean.

### **Greenway school website**

Please do take a look at the school website, as it is regularly updated with information and photos regarding what the children have been doing in school. We have added a new area called Community Links and this is where we can show you the work we have been doing in creating links in the community to further enrich the experiences planned for the children through the curriculum.

### **Drainage**

Some of you will be aware of the large amount of water that has been collecting around certain areas of school and not draining away. This is in part due to the unusual and prolonged wet weather we have been having. However, the Governors and the Senior Leadership team have requested that this be investigated to ascertain why the drainage is such a problem. A drainage survey has taken place, drains have been cleared and jet washed and we are now in the position to review the current system and highlight how our drains can be improved. We will keep you updated.

### **Running Club – Urgent help required!**

Running Club for Years 3/4 currently takes place on Wednesday 12-12.30, and Thursday 3.10-4.05pm. These are both popular clubs, however unfortunately some of our parent volunteers cannot support any more. Can you help? You do not need to be a runner, but just be supportive, enthusiastic and give positive encouragement to the children. For this club to continue we urgently need more parent volunteers. If you are able to give some of your time to this popular club please contact Sarah Whale on [sarahwhale03@gmail.com](mailto:sarahwhale03@gmail.com).

### **Parent Volunteer help**

Can you spare some time, an hour or two, to support the teaching staff in administrative tasks, for example laminating, mounting work and filing. Please contact Mrs Stace on [suzanne.stace@greenway.herts.sch.uk](mailto:suzanne.stace@greenway.herts.sch.uk).

### **Dates: Spring Term**

Wed 12 Mar.....Willow Sharing Assembly at 9am  
Wed 12 Mar.....Child shows Parent 3.15-3.45pm  
Fri 14 Mar.....Year 1 visit to Sportspace 9 -12pm  
Fri 21 Mar.....Sport Relief Run  
Mon 24-Fri 28 Mar.....Art Week  
Wed 26 Mar.....Maths Workshop Foundation Stage & KS1 7-9pm  
Tues 1 Apr.....Class Photographs  
Fri 4 April **Reception – Year 4 finish at 1.30pm**.....School Ends for Easter Break  
Tues 22 April.....School starts for Summer Term  
Thursday 24 April.....Big Write Curriculum evening at 7pm  
Friday 18 July **Reception – Year 4 finish at 1.30pm**.....School closes for end of term  
Monday 21-Wednesday 23 July.....**INSET – School closed**