

Greenway NEWS



Welcome to our first newsletter of 2023

The start of the New Year has been busy and thankfully the illness levels of staff and children have been low so far! This newsletter gives a round up of news this half term and some diary dates for after half term.



Mental Health Kite Mark

We are very proud to report that Greenway has been awarded the **The Healthy Young Minds in Herts Accreditation for Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Awareness**.

This is a fantastic acknowledgement of all that we do to support the wellbeing of our pupils, their families and staff.

In September 2022, we embarked upon the self-review process with 'Healthy Young Minds in Herts (HYMIH)' to explore and develop further **'A whole school Approach for Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health awareness'**.

The self-reflective document containing 11 key areas, was submitted and reviewed for discussion in a multi-agency panel. The panel consists of representatives from Public Health, Public Health Nursing service, Educational Psychologists, Primary, Secondary, Specialist schools and the Strategic Leads for Mental Health in Schools.

We won't be resting on our laurels - we take emotional wellbeing and mental health very seriously and continually strive to improve outcomes for our pupils.

For wellbeing support and resources visit our website:

<https://www.greenway.herts.sch.uk/parents/wellbeing/>



Based on: Promoting children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing. A whole school and college approach. Public Health England, 2015.





Lunar New Year celebration

Inspired by the good luck symbol of Chinese dragons, Nursery children designed and made a fabulous dragon of their own, to celebrate the Lunar New Year. With support from Mrs Tritton and Mr Burch they paraded the dragon around the school hall. It was a very impressive sight!



Parent Forum

The next virtual Parent Forum meeting is on **Wednesday 8th March** at 7.30pm.

Please let your class reps have your feedback by 3rd March at the latest so that your views can be shared at the meeting.

Free School Meals

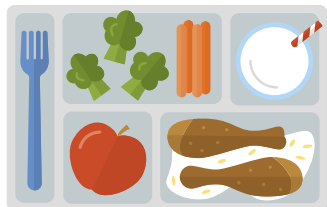
If your circumstances have changed recently you may be entitled to Free School Meals for your children.

To find out more information please check the HCC website for details:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx#extrahelp>

If your child is entitled to the free meals,

the school will also receive extra money (Pupil Premium) for the duration that the child is entitled and for a further six years.



Young Voices at the O2

The Year 5 children had a fantastic time at the Young Voices concert at the O2. It was a very long day but the children rose to the occasion and produced a magnificent concert, as many of you would have seen.

There were many surprises for the children such as Heather Small performing live, the Beat Box Collective with their amazing voices and the talented Anna Phoebe. Thanks go to all the teachers who supported the event and not forgetting our amazing Year 5 choir who were great ambassadors for the school.



Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) - what is it?

Pupil premium is funding to improve education outcomes for disadvantaged pupils in schools in England. Evidence shows that disadvantaged children generally face additional challenges in reaching their potential at school and often do not perform as well as other pupils.

There are several groups of children that are eligible:

- Pupils who are eligible for free school meals, or have been eligible in the past 6 years
- Pupils who have been adopted from care or have left care.
- Children who are looked after by the local authority. (Money goes to the Local Authority)

The school receives the money direct from the Department for Education (DfE).

The school leadership team assess pupils' needs and decide how best to use the funding to improve attainment. Evidence from the DfE and a variety of educational research suggests that the pupil premium funding is most effective when there is a targeted spending across 3 main areas:

Teaching (training, professional development etc), **targeted academic support** and **support for non-academic issues** that impact success in school, such as attendance, behaviour and social and emotional challenges.

Schools do not have to spend pupil premium so it solely benefits eligible pupils. They can use it wherever they identify the greatest need. For example, they might spend it on pupils who do not get free school meals but may benefit from some targeted support.

There is good evidence to suggest that using pupil premium funding to improve teaching quality is the most effective way to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. By doing so, schools will inevitably benefit non-eligible pupils as well.

All schools have to publish how they plan, implement and track the outcomes of all expenditure. This information is available to view on our website: <https://www.greenway.herts.sch.uk/school/pupil-premium/>

Save the date



Year 3/4 Cake Sale
Friday 3rd February at 3.15pm

Half Term holiday
Friday 10th February
School closes at normal time of 3.15pm

School Disco
Friday 24th February
More details to follow...

World Book Day
Thursday 2nd March
More details to follow...

Comic Relief
Friday 17th March
More details to follow...

We are excited to announce that Dacorum schools choir have been asked to attend a Thanksgiving Service at St Albans Cathedral on **Sunday 7th May** for the King's Coronation.
More details to follow...

Safer Internet Day 2023



Safer Internet Day 2023 will take place on the **7th February 2023**, with celebrations and learning based around the theme '**Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online**'.

Safer Internet Day inspires a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the celebration sees thousands of organisations get involved to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people..

Richard Maskrey (Independent Consultant supporting schools) will be in school all day and working with the children on this topic.

For more information on the day and other online safety advice go to: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2023/parents-and-carers>

REMINDER - parents Safer Internet information evening 7.2.23 at 7.30pm

Housing Developments on Shootersway

We have been made aware of an incident on Shootersway on 12th January involving a large site vehicle and a private vehicle that narrowly avoided knocking down a child on the pavement.

The Dacorum Planning Department have been involved in conversations with developers about site safety.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO BE VIGILANT particularly if you are walking near the site entrance and make your children aware of the possible dangers.



Parking on Crossways.

If parents need to park on Crossways please drive to the gates and turn round so that all cars parking are facing the same way. This ensures that cars do not have to turn in the road when they need to leave – which causes congestion and is dangerous for pedestrians.

Please can we remind parents and carers to close the gate on leaving after drop off.

The Greenway Art Journal Challenge

All staff took part in the launch of the Greenway Art Journal challenge on the inset day at the beginning of January. The afternoon session was led by Mrs Bennett who is the subject lead for Art. Greenway is developing the art curriculum across the school and since September has been using a scheme of work called Access Art. <https://www.accessart.org.uk/>

Access Art is a skills-based programme that builds with each year. It enables progression, allows all children to be exposed to a range of media and to explore and develop their skills. The curriculum is broken down into 3 key areas: Drawing and Sketch Books, Print, Paint and Colour, Working in Three Dimensions

The challenge.

Every child has constructed their own concertina art journal and are then filling a page a day with a 10 minute art challenge chosen by their teacher (either 10, 15 or 20 days depending on the classes). The challenge introduces the children to a wide variety of mediums and materials and techniques.

There are lots more projects planned for the following months, both in dedicated art time and across other subjects, so look out for these in the classrooms.



Examples of the Art journal challenge from the staff inset day.

Hertfordshire PE Conference 2023 – Sustaining Quality through Challenge

Mr Lewis and one of our governors, Lou Collins, attended this busy and informative conference in January, coming away with lots of ideas for boosting, even further, our commitment to delivering a life-long passion for exercise and sport for all our pupils.

National organisations like the Youth Sport Trust gave key note speeches, and supported delegates in finding practical ideas for rising to the challenges that all schools are facing, while life coach Greg Trout led an inspirational presentation on wellbeing. The day also included over 20 workshops to choose from, covering a wide range of topics from how to embed PE and movement right across the curriculum, and how to use it to support mental wellbeing in a post-Covid world, right through to 'introducing Quidditch'. Which we have ready to go this summer.



Asked about their key takeaways from the day, Mr Lewis had been thrilled to see specialist workshops covering Early Years, as this is an area where schools are often left to their own devices. The Early Years session was led by industry specialist, Helen Battelley. Helen is an internationally renowned consultant, trainer, author and speaker in Physical activity/movement in Early and Primary Education.

The session was both, insightful and reassuring. We hope to continue the great work of our Early Years physical activity/movement with new and innovative ideas.

Both Mr Lewis and Mrs Collins also mentioned the Greg Trout presentation. *"His passion for kindness was infectious and the practical steps he encouraged us to explore for delivering that - in our pupils, for us as staff and for our whole school community - were reassuringly sensible and very well aligned with the ethos we already have at Greenway"* said Mr Lewis.

Mrs Collins noted that in addition to the boost that we know mental health and wellbeing get from things like exercise, practicing kindness and limiting/understanding social media, Greg had also raised the, often overlooked but scientifically proven benefits from getting **sufficient sleep** and from a widely varied and **nutritious diet**.

Berkhamsted Raiders FREE Inclusive Football Training

Berkhamsted Raiders offer FREE Inclusive Football training sessions every Saturday morning from 10.30am to 11.30am at Ashlyns School Astro. They cater for boys and girls with any physical and neurological conditions including Cerebral Palsy, ADHD, Autism, Dyspraxia.

The sessions are run by experienced coaches who ensure that the training is adapted to everyone's needs, experience and abilities. They focus on general fitness, ball skills and matches all whilst having fun!

If you are interested in finding out more please email inclusive@berkhamsterraiders.com.

