

FEBRUARY 2024

# Greenway NEWS



## Welcome to our first newsletter of 2024

The start of the term has been busy. This newsletter gives a round up of news this half term and some diary dates for after half term. Don't forget that we break for half term on Friday 16th February.



## Young Voices at the O2 - January 2024

On Thursday, 18th January, the O2 Arena in London was transformed into a magnificent symphony of youthful voices as the Year 5 children from Greenway took part in the highly anticipated Young Voices concert. With a staggering total of 8,500 children participating, the event was a resounding success, leaving the audience in awe.

The concert, which aims to celebrate the power of music and foster a love for singing among young people, exceeded all expectations. The children from Greenway, brimming with passion and talent, delivered an amazing performance.

The evening was not just about the children; it was also an opportunity for parents, holding their neon green lights so we could see them, to take part and I'm sure that the highlight was a medley of 90s club classics!



### Hertfordshire PE Conference 2024

PE subject leader Kai Lewis and link governor Lou Collins attended this year's conference in January to hear from a wide range of expert guest speakers. Both were reassured to find that Greenway already has in place such a lot of the 'best practice' that was being promoted, though there were still some great new ideas – particularly around Active Playgrounds and on learning about overcoming challenges – that will be worth exploring.

Continued government funding for sport will support new initiatives, though delegates were warned that a new reporting tool comes into use this year and that rules about how 'Sport Premium' is spent by all schools will be monitored much more closely than ever.

In a fun ending to the day, Mr Lewis and Mrs Collins both took part in a gymnastics workshop looking at how to teach somersaults and cartwheels from scratch and were taught by a real expert, none other than multi-GB Olympic champion Max Whitlock OLY.



### Free School Meals

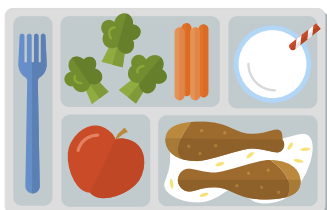
If your circumstances have changed recently you may be entitled to Free School Meals for your children.

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 to and for a further six years.



### Side gate on alleyway from Gilbert Way

Please remember to ensure that the side gate is closed when you enter or leave the site. We have installed a self-closing spring on the gate, so it should close behind you. Please do not force the gate shut as this will damage the self closing mechanism.

### Parent Consultations

These will take place on Tuesday 26 March, 4-8pm and Wednesday 27 March, 3.30-6.30pm. Information will be sent out after half term on how to book your slots.



## Emotion Explorer Drama Workshops

As part of our Mental Health and Wellbeing week, last week Greenway was delighted to host a guest actor from 'West End in Schools' to lead a drama workshop for every class from Reception to Year 6, to explore emotions and how to respond to them.

Workshops were designed around different stories (Daisy's Dragons for Reception/Y1, Ruby's Worry for Y2/Y3 and The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse for Y4/Y5/Y6) with children thinking about how the characters (and they) experience a whole range of emotions and what they can learn from them all.

From breathing exercises to a run in the park, they were encouraged to come up with strategies to help keep themselves mentally healthy. It was a fabulously fun day with lots of engagement from all the children.



## Save the date



### Half Term holiday

**Friday 16th February**

School closes at normal time of 3.20pm

**Monday 26th February**

School re-opens

### World Book Day

**Thursday 7th March**

See details on the next page

### Child shows Parent

**Thursday 7th March**

2.45 - 3.20pm

### GSA Have your cake and eat it!

**Friday 15th March**

2.45 - 3.20pm

More details to follow...

### GSA Easter Egg hunt

**Friday 22nd March**

More details to follow...

## EASTER CAMP - BOOK NOW!

Our Easter camp will be offering fun sports, baking and arts & crafts activities to support families that require childcare over the Easter holidays. It will run **Tuesday 2nd April to Friday 5th April 2024, 9am to 3.30pm** (with the additional option of a late collection of 5pm).

The camp is open to Greenway pupils and only those currently in years Reception to Year 6 (due to staffing ratios).

As usual the camp will be managed by Mr Lewis alongside Mrs Clutson and their team of enthusiastic helpers.

**A £50 deposit payment via Arbor is needed by 12pm on Monday 26 February to secure your place.**

For more information see the letter sent out on 29th January or check the letters page on the website.

## Reading book lists

The English curriculum lead Miss Dell has put together suggested book lists for each year group

– to find them go to <https://www.greenway.herts.sch.uk/school/our-curriculum/> and scroll to the bottom of the page.



**We are very lucky to still have a library in our town and as well as a good stock of childrens books there are events for children including:**

### **Storytime**

Mondays 2.15 - 2.45pm for children aged 2-5 years.

The current FREE sessions run until 26th February.

(Check their website for later dates)

Stories and rhymes from the BookTrust

Storytime shortlist.

### **Lego Club**

Every Wednesday at 15:45 - 16:45

Suitable for children aged 7 to 12 years old

Places are limited so please book at the library  
£3 per session

### **Baby Rhyme Time**

These fun, half hour sessions of songs and rhymes are perfect for helping your child to learn language skills and are an opportunity for you to meet other families too.

Every Friday at 10:30 - 11:00

FREE no booking required

For more information on other events at the library go to:

[https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/libraries-and-archives.aspx?utm\\_source=homepage&utm\\_medium=top%20task%20tiles&utm\\_campaign=top%20task%20tracking&utm\\_term=libraries%20](https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/libraries-and-archives.aspx?utm_source=homepage&utm_medium=top%20task%20tiles&utm_campaign=top%20task%20tracking&utm_term=libraries%20)



Children aged 0-5 years can now get their first library card.

Featuring the character Tala the Storyteller,

the new library card is part of the My Firsts promotion, helping families to celebrate those first early years milestones.

When your child first joins the library, they will be

presented with a special certificate to mark the occasion.

### **School Disco**

Huge thanks to the GSA for organising the school disco on Friday 9th February.

Over 200 tickets were sold and the DJ did a great job keeping everyone dancing and entertained all evening!

### **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.

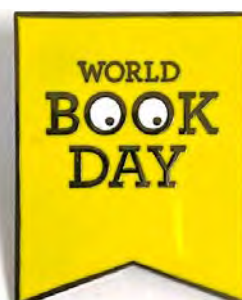
Please can we remind parents and carers to close the pedestrian gate on leaving after drop-off.

### **World Book Day - 7th March 2024**

We have a whole week of exciting book-themed activities to celebrate World Book Day. Each child will receive a Book Token to spend on a book and our after school bookfair will run on **Monday 4th** and **Friday 8th March** (3:15 – 3:45pm).

Our theme running through all the events this year is promoting Vocabulary.

Look out for the letter sent home from Miss Dell for the full timetable.



## **Swing Gate Lane and Chesham Road, Berkhamsted - 20mph proposal.**

Please see the letter below explaining the consultation regarding the reduction in speed limits around schools in Berkhamsted. Your opinion really matters and we urge you to complete the online form at <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/consultations/transport-and-high-ways/swing-gate-lane-and-chesham-road-area-berkhamsted-20mph.aspx>

# ASHLYNS SCHOOL



February 2024

Dear Parent / Carer

### **Traffic Consultation February 2024**

Our collaboration with Hertfordshire County Council to reduce speed limits in the school's immediate and surrounding areas has continued to progress. A consultation to reduce the limits from 60mph to 30mph (from the A41 roundabout to the school gates), as well as the surrounding roads becoming part of the 20mph zone, is now open for public engagement.

Our focus has always been to ensure that students and their families can travel safely to and from school and the proposed speed reductions aim to improve safety for all road users. We have worked with local primary schools, who share our commitment to sustainable school travel, and together we are confident that the council's proposals will enhance the safety of the community.

The consultation runs from Monday 05 February until Monday 04 March and is the first part of a two-stage process. It is intended that the second stage will take place later this year.

Please follow this link to complete the [traffic consultation](#) form. It is a very brief questionnaire where you are able to indicate your support for the proposals and add any comments. The comments section also provides an opportunity to support the addition of pedestrian crossings outside the school. Hertfordshire County Council has further plans to consult on this later in the year. Please may we ask that you complete the section relating to your address (road only) as it informs the council's decision making. All data will be held securely and summarised anonymously.

The views of the community during this process are important. Hertfordshire County Council will respect the views of the majority providing it has a reasonable response rate. Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely