



Children are at the centre of everything we do

Friday 28 February 2025

Dear Parents/carers

I do hope you all had a restful half term break. It feels as if spring has arrived, due to the lovely sunshine! I thought it would be useful to highlight various events taking place soon.

### **Commando Joes – Mrs Valentine**

We welcome Mrs Valentine, who has replaced Mr Moore. She started at Greenway just before half term and is now working with Year 1 – Year 6 classes every week. See below her bio:

*Commando Joes has given me the opportunity to work with a wider range of ages, primary and secondary, whilst still delivering character education, which I am extremely passionate about. I have a degree in fashion design and will always have a love for sewing which I regularly practice. My graduate collection was featured in Vogue, following this I designed fabric for the last remaining linen weaver in Northern Ireland, where I worked for 3 years after graduation. These days, I have a young growing family, interest in gardening, swimming, and enjoying the outdoors.'*

### **World Book Day – Thursday 6 March**

Last year's 'Dress Up As A Word!' was a great success, stimulating lots of enthusiastic discussion about exciting vocabulary from some favourite books and stories... so much so that we would like to do it all over again! We would like all children to get creative and think of exciting ways to become a word... it could be one chosen from a favourite story – or just a word they have heard and like! This is a great opportunity to be creative as well as deepen lexical understanding!

A possible way to approach this – and to really encourage creativity – is to have children close their eyes and select a word at random... Sometimes, the oddest words result in the most exciting costumes! Verbs (bounce, smash, snooze), Adjectives (gorgeous, horrendous, scandalous etc.) and Adverbs (terribly, suddenly, fast) often promote creativity better than nouns...but of course, whatever excites the children is what it's all about. If you are stuck for ideas starting with a costume from the dressing up box and asking children what word it makes them think of might be place to start.

Please can I remind you that sensible footwear and appropriate warm /outdoor clothing still needs to be worn.

### **Drama Workshop – Thursday 6 March**

All children in Year 1 – 6 will have the opportunity to take part in a drama literacy workshop delivered by West End In Schools. The workshop has been especially devised for World Book Day and will explore specially chosen children's books through a range of creative drama activities.

### **Book Fair – Tuesday 4 and Wednesday 5 March 3.20-3.35pm**

Please do come and visit the book fair next week. We accept cash or cheques as payment methods but please note, we will have limited change in our cash float.

### **Mental Health workshop – ‘Know yourself, grow yourself’**

We were delighted that the Happy Human Project visited us for the day before half term to work with Year 1-Year 6 classes. The children were very engaged, focussed and reflective on understanding their emotions and how to use a variety of strategies to support them in managing them.

### **Internet Safety day – Tuesday 11 February -**

#### **'Too good to be true? Keeping yourself and others safe from scams online.'**

During the day the children engaged in a variety of activities to support their understanding how to keep themselves safe from scams. Ms Roe led an assembly on this topic.

Please see attached to this letter a parents Hertfordshire's Parents/Carers termly online safety newsletter, which guides you through some helpful tips, updates and further signposting for more support.

### **Indoor shoes/PE kits**

Please can you make sure that your child/ren have their indoor shoes, that fit them and fasten, in school each day. You will appreciate that at this time of year with the wet weather we want to protect our flooring and carpets!

Please can we also ensure that children in KS2 should have their PE kits in school each day. This is the expectation and we want to support children in taking responsibility for their belongings and being able to participate in the curriculum. It is being noted by class teachers those children who are not regularly bringing in their PE kit. Thank you for your support on both these issues.

### **Parent consultations**

Parent consultations will be taking place on Tuesday 25 March 4-8pm and Wednesday 26 March 3.30 – 6.30pm. Mrs Tritton will be contacting Nursery parents separately to arrange telephone consultations shortly. Face to face consultations will be taking place for Reception, Years 1-4 and Year 6. We will be communicating with you shortly as to how you will be able to book your consultation slots with your Class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support for Easter Camp. Mrs Clutson is delighted that we have 59 children to entertain!

Kind regards,

Mrs Ellwood  
Headteacher

