



Greenside Primary School
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Thursday 14th November 2024

Newsletter

Remembrance

On Monday morning, the children demonstrated our school value of respect. Our Remembrance Garden was created using a poppy made by each child and children visited this space for some quiet reflection across the day. Year 5 and Year 6 also visited the village war memorial to pay their respects. The Poppy donations have been sent to the Royal British Legion appeal - thank you for your support.



Anti-bullying Week

The children have been thinking about 'Choose Respect' this week, which is the theme of Anti-bullying week. This was launched with an assembly and 'Odd Socks Day' which encourages children to express themselves, celebrate individuality and consider what makes us all unique. Through stories, drama and activities, the children have explored some challenging themes and shared their thinking.

Girls' Football Tournament

Congratulations to our Y5/6 girls' football team who finished second tonight in the Gateshead West District round of the County Cup. This is an amazing achievement and we are very proud of them. An additional shout out to the stand-in coaching team who came to our rescue this evening as well – your support is appreciated!

Children in Need – Friday 15th November

This year, instead of dressing-up, we will create a giant Pudsey face in the school hall to raise funds for Children in Need. If you wish to donate, children can bring coins (any denomination) and they will get the opportunity to place them on the Pudsey face across the morning.

RISE Emotional Regulation Workshop for parents – Thursday 21st November at 2:30pm

The RISE team have been working with children across this term to support their emotional well-being. As part of their work, they will deliver a parent session at 2:30pm next Thursday. All parents are welcome, please sign up on Arbor to let us know that you are coming.



Emotional Regulation Workshop

Information for Parents and Carers

Greenside Primary School

21st November 2024

2.30-3.30pm

Workshop aims:

- What is emotional regulation?
- The stress response
- Co-regulation
- Zones of regulation
- Helping your child cope with emotions



RISE Education Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs) work in schools and colleges across Newcastle and Gateshead to support young people (aged 5-18) with their emotional wellbeing and mental health.

For more information about RISE please visit our website, YouTube channel and social media platforms:



BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE

RESPECT

RESILIENCE

RESPONSIBILITY

Christmas Fair – Wednesday 4th December

The elves have already started their preparation for the Christmas Fair which will take place on Wednesday 4th December. Thank you for the amazing Jolly Jars – they will make a great tombola stall at the event.

On the day of the fair, **children can be collected from 3:20pm from both yards**. If you are unable to get here for this time, we will keep children until you arrive. Doors will open as close to 3:30pm as we can manage, once all children have been safely collected.

Please see the message below from the School Fair Team, detailing how you can support us in the lead up to the fair or at the event.

Christmas Fair – Wednesday 4th December

Our School Fairs (Christmas and Summer) are our biggest fundraiser in the school year and they raise money to support our school fund. This helps us to subsidise visits and extra experiences for all the children such as the Christmas theatre visits to school that we will be having in the lead up to Christmas.



Our very popular children's raffle and main raffle will run as part of our Christmas Fair fundraiser but we need a little help to make them amazing.

On Friday 22nd November it will be non-uniform day. All children in school are invited to come to school in non-uniform, in exchange for an item for the hampers. This can be items such as chocolates/sweets, Christmas food items, wine, toiletries etc. Our hampers are always spectacular due to your generosity! Items should be brought to school on non-uniform day. Any other donations are also welcome. For safety, if the donation contains alcohol or is in a glass jar, please can an adult bring it to the school office.

If anyone has any contacts with local businesses or family that would be willing to donate a prize for our raffle, please collect an official letter to share with them, from the school office. We already have a few great prizes up for grabs including a signed County Durham Cricket Shirt.

Books of raffle tickets will be sent home to each family soon. If you can sell them to friends and family, that would be appreciated and if you require more, these can be obtained from the office. Please return any unsold tickets as we will be able to sell them to others.

The children's raffle is separate. **"Baubles" for the Christmas Tree will be on sale at £1 each from Monday 25th November.** They will be on sale until Friday 13th December when the winners will be drawn in assembly. There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize sweetie hampers as well as multiple smaller prizes up for grabs.

Santa will be visiting the school fair on the 4th December! **Tickets to visit him in the grotto are £3** per child and are available to buy from the school office (**cash only**) from Monday 18th November until Friday 29th December.

As always, if you can help with preparation for the fair e.g. sorting toys, wrapping presents or on the day of the fair itself, please let the office know your availability. We need lots of volunteers to help it run smoothly.

We are always appreciative of your support, as are the children when they participate in the additional experiences school fund enables us to provide.



Thank you!

The Christmas Fair Team

Reminders

Office Contact

At various times during the school day, office staff are also engaged in supporting children, which means that the school office can sometimes be unmanned. Office staff always listen to answer machine messages on return to the office, so please leave a message if there is no one available to take your call.

If you need to drop something off at the office, please try to do this between 8:30 - 11:00 or 2:00 – 4:00. Even within these times, staff may be away from the office responding to school needs, so we ask for your understanding and patience if this is the case.

All appointments should ideally be made outside of the school day but if this is unavoidable, please let the office know in advance the time you will be picking up and we will endeavour to ensure someone is available to help you at the right time.

Yellow Lines

Can I reinforce the safety message again about our yellow lines. Cars must not park or pull up on them for drop off at the beginning and end of the school day, this includes wrap around and activity club sessions. You are not only risking a fine, but you are compromising the safety of all our children and the wider school community. A number of parents are quite rightly complaining about this.

Drop Off

All children from Nursery to Year 4 must be brought to school by an adult and that adult should remain on the yard until their child has entered the school building. Your children are your responsibility until this point. Children in these year groups should not be left at the main gates on either yard to make their own way into school.

Children arriving at breakfast club must be brought to the door by an adult.

Dogs in School

Dogs are not permitted on school premises. They should not enter the school grounds, walking or being carried, and should not be left unattended tied to school gates or fencing. If you do bring your dog on the school run, can we ask that you are very mindful of others, keep your dog under close supervision and do not block gates or pavements.

Arbor – Photographic Permission Update

Please could parents update their consents in Arbor relating to an additional aspect of photographic permission. We would like to update our publicity materials and need to know whether we have consent for your child to appear in these. Such materials would appear on our website (for which we already have your permission status) but these materials may also appear on local social media channels (such as Facebook or Twitter). On Arbor, you will have the option to consent or decline.

Upcoming Events

School Visits

- Reception and Year 2 will visit the Discovery Museum this Friday morning.
- Year 6 have been invited to support the Community Orchard with willow weaving on Monday 18th November.
- Next week Nursery will enjoy a Welly Walk in the local community.
- Year 3 will visit the Great North Museum on Thursday 28th November.
- Reception will visit St John's Church and the library in the week beginning the 2nd December.

KS1 Christmas Performance – Wednesday 11th December at 2:00pm

The parents of Year 1 and Year 2 children are invited to their performance of 'A Miracle in Town' on Wednesday 11th December at 2:00pm. We have capacity for about two or three guests per child.

Nursery and Reception Christmas Crafts - Thursday 11th December at 2:00pm

Parents are invited to join the Nursery and Reception children for a Christmas Craft session on Thursday 11th December.

KS2 Carol Service – Thursday 19th December at 2:00pm (St John’s Church)

Our KS2 children (Year 3-6) will lead a Christmas Carol Service at St John’s Church on Thursday 19th December at 2:00pm. All are welcome but please be aware that this is always a very popular event and can be a touch crowded!

Christmas Theatre – Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 5th December

We are delighted to be welcoming two theatre groups into school in the week beginning 2nd December. This will provide an opportunity for all children from Nursery to Year 6 to experience interactive live theatre and our school fund will be used to provide this experience for all children.

‘Dip and Dab’s Christmas Theatre’ will take place on the morning of Tuesday 3rd December for children in Year 1 – 6. Nursery and Reception will enjoy ‘The Christmas Animal Story’ on the afternoon of Thursday 5th December.

Nursery children who do not normally attend on Thursday afternoons are invited to return to school on the afternoon of Thursday 5th December to enjoy this experience, the time will be confirmed soon.

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumpers – Thursday 12th December

The school meals team will serve a Christmas lunch on Thursday 12th December. Children are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper or a Christmas outfit for the day.

If you would like your child to stay for lunch that day, please can you sign up for this on Arbor by next Friday (22nd November) to support the kitchen with ordering and preparation. **Even if your child always stays for school lunch, or is eligible for a free or funded lunch, please sign up.** If taken, the meal will be charged to your child’s school meals account on Thursday 12th December. There will be no charge to children in Reception – Year 2 (funded infant meals) or children eligible for free school meals.

Nursery children who usually go home at lunchtime are invited to stay. Any nursery children who only attend at the beginning of the week, can come into school from 11:30 – 12:30 to join us for the lunch if you wish. The cost of a nursery lunch is £2:35 and can be booked as detailed above and paid for in the school meals section of Arbor.

There will be no jacket potatoes served on the day, just the meat or meat-free option shown in the poster.



Christmas Parties – final week of term

The Christmas Party dates are outlined below. Children can come to school in their party outfit on the day. School will provide all party food. For children in Nursery and Reception, we ask that they bring their uniform in a bag to school that day and they can get changed after their party to prevent their party clothes being spoiled by paint or in the garden in the afternoon!

Toddler Party – Monday 16th December

The Toddler Party will take place on the morning of Monday 16th December. Please book with the school office (or in the Toddler session) so that Santa knows that you are coming!

As a reminder, our Toddler session runs every Monday morning from 9:15 – 10:45am. It is a lovely session, with soft play, snack, stories and songs as well as free play for children from babies up to four, all for £1. Come along and meet some new friends.

Community Centre Coffee Morning – Friday 20th December

On the final day of term, our children have been invited to sing at the Community Centre Coffee morning. We will be taking any children from KS2 who are interested to this event. The coffee morning group have said that parents are welcome to attend.

Christmas Jumper / Outfit Day – Friday 20th December

On the final day of term, for a festive finish, we invite the children to dress in a Christmas jumper or outfit. We've seen some very creative approaches to this in the past with baubles attached to plain t-shirts as an alternative to a Christmas jumper.

Diary Dates

Autumn Term		
Friday 15 th November	am	Reception and Year 2 Visit to the Discovery Museum
Friday 15 th November	am	Children in Need – coin donations to create a Pudsey face
Monday 18 th November	am/pm	Y6 Willow Weaving at the Community Orchard
Wed 20 th / Thurs 21 st	am	Nursery Welly Walks
Thursday 21 st November	2:30pm	RISE Parent session – Supporting your child's Emotional Resilience
Friday 22 nd November	All day	Non-uniform for school fair hamper donations
Wednesday 27th November	pm	No after school wrap around or clubs – Staff Safeguarding training
Thursday 28 th November	All day	Year 3 Visit to Great North Museum
Tuesday 3 rd December	am	Year 1-6 Dip and Dab's Christmas Theatre
Wednesday 4 th December	am	Reception Visit to St John's Church
Wednesday 4 th December	3:30pm	Christmas Fair
Thursday 5 th December	am	Reception Visit to Crawcrook Library
Thursday 5 th December	2:00pm	Nursery and Reception Christmas Animal Story
Wednesday 11 th December	2:00	Year 1/2 Christmas Performance (Parents invited)
Thursday 12 th December	lunch	Christmas Lunch + Christmas Jumpers / outfits
Thursday 12 th December	2:00pm	Nursery and Reception Christmas Crafts (Parents invited)
Monday 16 th December	am	Toddler Party
Monday 16 th December	pm	Year 3/4 Christmas Party
Tuesday 17 th December	am	Open the Book group leading assembly
Tuesday 17 th December	pm	Year 5/6 Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 th December	am	Nursery / Reception Christmas Party
Wednesday 18 th December	pm	Year 1/2 Christmas Party
Thursday 19 th December	2:00pm	KS2 Church Service
Friday 20 th December	am	Christmas Jumpers or outfits
Friday 20 th December	am	Coffee Morning Singing at the Community Centre, parents welcome
Mon 23 rd Dec – Fri 3 rd Jan		Christmas Holidays
Monday 6 th January	All day	Staff Training Day - school closed to children
Tuesday 7 th January	All day	Start of term for children

Further dates may be added as the term progresses and more information will be sent as needed. If any dates need to change, we will update them in subsequent newsletters and communications.

Wrap Around – not available after school on Wednesday 27th November

Please note, there is no wrap around child care on the evening of Wednesday 27th November due to staff safeguarding training.

After School Activity Clubs

A reminder of the end dates for activity clubs this term

- Monday: Year 1 – Year 3 Multi-skill (final session 2nd December)
- Tuesday: Year 4 – Year 6 Football (final session 3rd December)
- Wednesday: Year 1 - 3 Hockey (three weeks only – final session 20th November)
- Thursday: Year 4 – Year 6 Basketball (final session 5th December)

School Places

Reception Applications

The deadline for applying for a place to start in Reception in September 2025 is the 15th January. Again, please ensure an application is made, even if your child is already in nursery. Parents of children in Nursery have received a letter from the local authority detailing how to apply online for a Reception school places to start in September 2025. Even if children are already attending our Nursery, you will still need to reapply for a place in the Reception class.

Nursery Applications

Nursery application information is available on our website or from the school office. Applications are now open for places for the academic year 2025-26. Parents can use the same form to make a late application for Nursery places to start within this academic year.

Children attending our nursery receive a teacher-led education that prepares them well for Reception. They are part of our school community and familiar with school routines, making the transition to Reception very natural.

We offer 15 or 30 hour Nursery places. The 15 hours are normally accessed as five mornings but we also have some capacity to offer the 15 hours as 2.5 days (Mon, Tues, Wed am or Wed pm, Thurs, Fri) which some families are finding more flexible. Nursery children are also able to access all our wrap around childcare sessions too. We offer bespoke tours of school for anyone interested in Nursery or Reception places, please contact the school office to arrange this.