

GREENFYLDE CHURCH OF ENGLAND FIRST SCHOOL

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Newsletter No: 14 Friday 15th December

Parental Questionnaires

In 2017 we have carried out questionnaires with the families of our Year 4 leavers in the Summer term and our Reception starters in the Autumn term. Results of these are attached to this newsletter along with our 'You said we did...' responses.

Life Education

The Life Education mobile classroom will be visiting again for all classes the first week back next term. This is advance notice that there will be a parent session open to all Tuesday 9th January 2018 3.00pm to 3.30pm, there is no need to book simply come in via the school office.

Cross Country

This half term the school entered a team for the Cross County event at Maiden Beech Academy. This is not a sport where we have previously entered a team and on a very cold day the children performed excellently achieving the following results:
Year 4 boys finished 3rd
Year 4 Girls finished 3rd
Year 3 boys finished 4th I
Year 3 Girls finished 3rd
Well done to all involved in running and arranging this event.

Star of the Week

Congratulations to this week's stars.

RCH	Charlie D & Bruno B
REP	Oscar M & Vinnie C
RCL	Alice H & Beau B
1JH	Isla F & Florence L
1NS	Max W & Jayden L
1/2HE	Alec P & Hunter A
2LA	Jayden N & River A
2AC	Emily D & Zoe B
3SA	Harry G & Evita L
3GM	Sean B & Duncan K
3/4LC	Esme H & Kazuki G
4SN	Ashlee-May L & Ruth L
4JY	Jude W & Amber S

Children will have their stars and certificates presented on **Wednesday 20th December at 9.15am for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and 3.00pm for Years 3 and 4** and families are welcome to attend. **NOTE CHANGE OF DAY**

Ilminster Food Bank

We appreciate that Christmas can be a difficult time for families. Ilminster Food Bank is there to help any family in need and if you feel you need some extra support with food this Christmas please speak to the school office who can arrange some vouchers. The Food Bank is based at Sweet Surprise and is open on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning.



Dates for your diary

Friday 15th December - FrOGs' Bingo, doors open 6pm for 6.15pm start
School closes for the Christmas holidays Thursday 21st December 2017 and re-opens Monday 8th January 2018

Year R Entrance Survey - Autumn Term 2017

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The open mornings or initial opportunities to look around Greenfyde were beneficial in helping me decide to apply for this school.	10	6	8	1	1
The induction night in June was informative and helpful.	15	9	4	0	0
The play visits were successful in helping my child with their transition to school.	18	8	1	0	0
The first week of part time days was helpful in increasing my child's confidence at school.	10	9	8	0	1
The second week of mornings and dinner sessions were useful in helping my child become more confident with lunch times at school.	9	9	10	0	0
Dropping off and collecting my child from Reception is a positive experience and enables me to communicate with my child's class teacher as necessary.	14	13	1	1	0
My child has experienced a positive and successful start to school.	18	8	2	0	0
Questionnaires Received					
RCH	9				
RCL	10				
REP	9				
Total Received	28				
Total Reception Pupils	67				
Percentage received	41.79				

Following the questionnaire - You said, we did...

You wanted a different meet and greet to breakfast club so we have spoken to the staff and now one member will have the designated responsibility for meeting and greeting the children each morning.

You asked for more drop in and play sessions so we will be starting these after January aiming for one session per class per half term.

You asked for more communication with teachers, we do try to have teachers available to see parents at the beginning and end of each day. If however, you are unable to see the teacher then please contact the school office and we can arrange for you to speak to them over the telephone or if required forward an email.

You asked for consistent start of day routines across the classes so all came to the carpet for a calm start, this has now been started and we will monitor the impact of this on the children.

You asked for more phonics sessions for parents for those who missed the last one. There will be another phonics session after Christmas with a focus on Writing and Phonics and we will also be inviting parents in to experience a phonics lesson with their child.

You asked for children to come full time at the start of the school year. From next September we will be offering the option of immediate full time or an approximately two week staggered start. Response from parents is varied on this as whilst some would like full time from the start others have found positive benefits in the stagger and feel it has helped their child settle in to new routines, friendships etc

You asked about the potential for more home school books, to reassure new Reception parents we do send My Learning Week books home on a termly basis all the way through to Year 4.

You asked for evening Open Days for those parents who work. Our difficulty is we hope to be able to show you our school working as we appreciate that is the most 'normal' representation however we are always willing to try and offer early morning or late afternoon tours to work around timings.

You asked about having more homework in Reception. Whilst we are thrilled the children want to keep learning we are aware that many children take part in a range of out of school activities and that this is also precious time with family. What we are developing are more links to web based resources with the links available via our Maths and English pages on our website.

You asked about Forest School in our classes. We have been trialling a new Forest School Reception session in RCL and this will be rolled out to the other classes. Children will still however have their allocated Forest School Day each term.

You asked about how PE is delivered. In the first half term the children have swimming and in EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) the rest of their physical activity time comes from the sessions planned and delivered through continuous provision including learning outside. During the second part of the term and in the Spring Term there will be one formal lesson each week although sometimes they will not need to full change into PE kit for these e.g. some dance sessions and instead just change their shoes for daps.

You asked about the use of parent notice boards in classrooms. These are not really parent notice boards but more class noticeboards. The main communication to parents will be through the weekly newsletter, the termly curriculum newsletter, the website, emails home and the Owl noticeboards located by each entrance/exit to the site.

You asked about more guidance for reading at home. We've responded to this request by sending home a guide with each child in Reception. If you do not think you have received this please speak to the classteacher.



Sunny-Ile Pre-School



Newsletter - Friday 15 December 2017

This week we celebrated our Christmas singalong in the Minster church. It was a lovely magical event and all the children sang beautifully. Thank you to all of you attended and shared our singalong. We have uploaded some photographs and videos onto your tapestry account for you to look and enjoy.

Policy of the Month

Our December "Policy of the Month" is on our Parent's Noticeboard. Please do take a look at it.

Policy of the Month for January is:

Behaviour management

Tapestry Challenge

The Tapestry Challenge for **January** is: **Your favourite storybook**. Please send us a picture of you with your favourite story.

Copyright

Just a reminder that photographs which are uploaded onto your tapestry journal **MAY NOT** be used on any Social Media. This is to protect all our children following our safeguarding policy. If you would like another member of your family to be added to view your child's journal, please see a member of the team for a form.

STC Signs

Our STC signs week commencing 18 December is **'Christmas' and 'Sing'**.

Last week

Next week is our last week of the year and we will be having a Party Week. We invite the children to wear party clothes, Christmas jumpers or fancy dress if they wish. We will be having a small amount of party food for our snack and enjoying lots of fun and party games.

Half term

Don't forget we break up on Thursday the 21st of December and return on the 8th of January 2018

Facebook

Don't forget to like our page on Facebook. It gives important information on any events coming up for your diaries

Christmas bags

The children will be bringing home their Christmas bags for the next few days. It will contain all their Christmas crafts they have made over the last few weeks. We hope you will enjoy them



Safeguarding

We would like to ask that **ALL** parents carefully supervise your children whilst waiting for the doors to open. During the colder days, our play equipment can be very slippery with ice and we ask for the children to refrain from playing on it whilst waiting. Thank you for your cooperation.



FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2017

9am – 6pm

Complementary – Gents cuts, Shaves, Cuppa and Chats

Appointments Required

Call 01460 52524 to book or call in to schedule

Are you spending Christmas alone and looking for a Hair Cut and a Chat?

Alex Nippard, the Barber is delighted to be taking part in a nationwide campaign where barbers are doing their bit to help the elderly and underprivileged people in the community.

"It's a chance to have a Christmas trim ,nice shave and most of all a good cuppa and a Chat"