



**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

### **Thoughts from the Head**

As we head towards our Easter break, I would like to say a huge thank you to staff, pupils and parents for such a fantastic term. This term has been exciting with lots of events and activities including World Book Day, class trips to Tees Barrage, Baydale Farm, Summerhill, STEMFest and lots of sporting events. All of the children have been working extremely hard. I would like to thank parents for their continued support with revision, homework and reading this term, especially as we are approaching another very important term in preparation for SATs and assessment weeks in May. I wish you all an enjoyable and peaceful Easter time and look forward to seeing you on Monday April 16<sup>th</sup> for the start of another eventful term.

### **World Book Day/Scholastic Book Fair**

A big thank you to everyone who purchased books via our scholastic book fair. School receives commission based on your purchases and together we have raised £78.88 for our school to spend on free books via Scholastic book rewards.

### **Key Stage 2 SATS**

This year, KS2 assessment tests (SATS) for year 6 children will take place week beginning Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024. **Children must not be absent during the assessment week.**

### **Accident emails**

If your child has an accident during the school day, a member of staff will complete an online accident report and this will be emailed to the first contact email address held on file for you. If your child has a bumped head, we will endeavour to contact you before the end of the school day and you will also receive an email. Emails will come from an Evolve email address.

### **Notification of Wraparound price increase**

The cost of our wraparound provision for children who are in Nursery but stay for a paid session will increase from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024. The cost is currently £14.40 (£11.87 session & £2.53 lunch) and will now rise to £15.00 (£12.47 session & £2.53 lunch).

### **Private Road opposite the school**

If you drive up the private road opposite the school when dropping off or collecting, please drive carefully and keep your speed to a minimum. We have had several reports of cars being driven erratically and at speed. When bringing children to school, please ensure you use the pedestrian footpath outside of the school grounds – do not cut across the car park. Children should not be in the car park as there are moving vehicles and delivery vans which could pose a risk to life.

### **Safeguarding update**

Thank you to parents and carers who have attended the free webinars on Child Criminal Exploitation, County Lines, Online Exploitation and Child Sexual Exploitation. We hope you found these sessions informative and useful. Remember if you have a concern about a child, you can contact the Children's Hub on 01429 284284. Please see our website for advice about online safety. The safeguarding policy is also available from the website. Mrs. Dunn is the Designated Safeguarding Lead. Miss Finnigan, Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Minton are deputy safeguarding leads.

### **Reporting a child absence**

Please be reminded that if your child is poorly, you must contact school before 8.30am to report the absence. Please telephone the school on 01429 870254 and choose option 1. You will then be prompted to leave a message. Please record the reason for the absence.

### Important dates for your diary

Please find below important dates for your diary. It is imperative that you avoid taking your child/ren on holiday during the dates highlighted below in red.

Please ensure that you make a note of these important dates as it is not always possible to send out reminders. We send newsletters out via email and a paper copy is given to your child to bring home. Copies are always available from the main school office, on the school website at <https://greathamceprimary.org.uk> and information will be available for you to view on our outdoor notice board by the main entrance.

Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Last day – school closes for Easter holidays
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	PD Day - school is closed to children
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Good Friday
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2024	Easter Monday
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	School re-opens
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	School Nurse drop-in session
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Bank holiday – school is closed
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>	<b>KS2 SAT Tests week</b>
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Leavers' photos 9:15am
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2024	Last day – school closes for Whitsun
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2024	PD Day - school is closed to children
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	PD Day - school is closed to children
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024	School re-opens
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024</b>	<b>Multiplications Check Week</b>
<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>	<b>Phonics Screening Check Week</b>
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Sports Day Class 1: 12:45pm – 1:15pm Sports Day Class 2, 3, 4: 1:15pm – 3:15pm
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2024	Feast Church Service - 9.30am
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	School Nurse drop-in session
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024	Class 3 Class Led Worship 9.00am
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Class 2 Class Led Worship 9.00am
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Class 1 Early Years Graduation Worship 9:00am
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	School Nurse drop-in session
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024	Year 6 Leavers' service in Church - 9.30am
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024	Class 4 Year 6 Leavers' Worship 9:00am
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024	Last day – school closes for summer holidays
TBC	Year 6 Transition to Secondary
TBC	KS2 Performance

### Reading at Greatham

Research suggests that children who read regularly outside of school perform significantly better so your support at home is essential to ensure that your child makes the progress they are capable of. You can help your child by listening to them daily for about 15 minutes. To help us track how much reading your child is doing at home, it is important that you sign their reading record every time you have listened to them read. We want to work together with you to ensure your child achieves their potential as a reader. If you require any further guidance regarding reading, please ask your child's class teacher. Thank you for your continued support and happy reading!

## Attendance

Attendance and punctuality are really important. Research shows those children who attend school on time and every day are far more likely to achieve their maximum potential. Please remember the school gates open at 8.40am with lessons starting at 8.45am. Gates close at 8.50am. If your child arrives after this time, they will receive a late mark. **We monitor children who are regularly late to school because our children have told us that they do not like being late.**

Statutory attendance is monitored and categorised as follows:

<b>GREEN</b>	Above 96%
<b>AMBER</b>	Between 95.9% and 94%
<b>RED</b>	Below 94%

Attendance this academic year to date:

<b>Class 1 - Reception</b>	<b>93.20%</b>
<b>Class 2 - Year 1 and Year 2</b>	<b>95.08%</b>
<b>Class 3 - Year 3 and Year 4</b>	<b>95.08%</b>
<b>Class 4 - Year 5 and Year 6</b>	<b>93.54%</b>
<b>Whole School (incl Nursery)</b>	<b>94.10%</b>

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Please find below information about all of our after school clubs.

### Free Activity Clubs

TA led clubs will run from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April until Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024. Letters will be sent out during the first week of term with further information. There is no charge for these clubs.

Healthy Movers	Monday	Early Years – Nursery and Reception
Arts & Crafts	Tuesday	Year 4 and Year 5
Performance Club	Tuesday	Year 5 and Year 6 <b>from 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024</b>
Gardening Club*	Wednesday	Open to all years, limited spaces
Sports (Mr Stabler)	Wednesday	Year 1 and Year 2
Sensory Club	Thursday	Early Years – Nursery and Reception
School Council	Thursday	School Council only (lunchtime)
Football (Mr Rodgers)	Friday	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6

\*Gardening club has 10 spaces available and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. You will be informed if your child has not been allocated a place.

### Phonics Booster

Phonics booster sessions will continue to run from Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024. We would like all of the Year 1 children to attend these sessions in the run up to the Phonics Screening Check.

### Year 6 SATS Booster

Year 6 SATS booster sessions will continue to run from Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April until Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

### Mrs Minton's After School Clubs

The themes for the Summer term will be:

<b>Monday</b>	Arts and crafts (including painting, mosaics, clay, garden crafts)
<b>Tuesday</b>	Drama
<b>Wednesday</b>	Karaoke
<b>Thursday</b>	Disney
<b>Friday</b>	Games/outdoor play

Please remember to book and pay for your sessions on ParentPay by midnight the night before.